

# Pirouette Com

## General Information

Pirouette is based on a logotype that Japanese designer Ryuichi Tateno created for a packaging design project in 1999—a shampoo container, at that! Already Tateno’s original design experimented with overlapping swash italic letterforms. These experiments grew outside out their initial packaging project, taking on a life of their own. Eventually, they developed into the Pirouette typefaces, which were honored with a first place finish in the 2003 International Type Design Contest, sponsored by Linotype GmbH.

The original Pirouette family contained six different elements. Now all of these elements have been merged together into one font with contextual OpenType features.

The Pirouette type family, which represents Tanteno’s first commercial font design, is greatly influenced by the calligraphic and typographic work of the master German designer, Prof. Hermann Zapf, especially his recent Zapfino collection.

## Explanation the OpenType Features

The main function of the Contextual Alternates feature in Pirouette is to undo collisions and awkward combinations. Therefore it should normally be left on by default. In some of these examples, we turn it off to keep it from suppressing certain extenders across word spaces. You must use Adobe InDesign CS2 or later to take full advantage of all the features. Microsoft’s WinFX applications also give access to advanced features.

Stylistic Sets 1 through 4 each turn on related groups of lowercase alternates. See the chart beginning on page 4 for more details about these sets, and all other sets listed below.

**Stylistic Set 1** (pictured to the right) turns on all non-colliding lowercase alternates.

*b d f g h v w y z*

**Stylistic Set 2** turns on final alternates for titlings and headings that would collide inside a run of text.

*e f g h m n*

**Stylistic Set 3** turns on a slightly shorter form of final e and final n.

*e n*

**Stylistic Set 4** activates yet another version of final e.

*e*

Stylistic Sets 1 through 4 apply cumulatively. For example, if you turn them all on...

Before: *efghmn* After: *e f g h m n*

Cyan = 1; Magenta = 2; Green = 3; Violet = 4

**Stylistic Set 5** turns on tall versions of capital I, V and X (for Roman numerals; only the glyphs I, V, and X have this feature, so this height change should not be applied to numerals above 39).

*XVIII to XVIII*

Caps turn into swash caps via the **Swash** and **Titling** features.

Before: *ABCD...XYZ&*

Swash: *ABCD...XYZ&*

Titling: *ABCD...XYZ&*

**Stylistic Set 6** activates the same Swash caps in the Swash feature, but with metrics designed to match up with the separate filigree strokes for two-color caps. They automatically kern together to overlap correctly.

*ABYZ*

Before: *ABCD...XYZ&*

Stylistic Set 6: *A B C D...XYZ&*

## Pirouette Com Application Sample

*Pirouette, from Linotype*

**Step 1:** Type in your text.

*PPirouette, from LLinotype*

**Step 2:** For each two-color capital letter you would like to set, the letter must be typed out twice!

*PPirouette, from LLinotype*

**Step 3:** Define the colors you would like to use. The first letter will be the filigree in the background, the second will be the highlight that overlaps on top.

*Pirouette, from Linotype*

**Step 4:** Highlight the first letter with the text cursor. Select the "Inferiors" feature from the OpenType menu in Adobe InDesign CS2. The form of the letter will change.

*Pirouette, from Linotype*

**Step 5:** Highlight the second letter with the text cursor. Select Set 6 from the Stylistic Sets fly-out menu in the Adobe CS 2's OpenType menu.

*Pirouette, from Linotype*

**Step 6:** The form of the letter will change, and automatically overlap itself on top of the filigree beneath it!

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## Pirouette Com OpenType Feature Chart

**Base Lowercase** (before)

*b d g h v w y z*

**Stylistic Set 1** (more curves)

*b d f g h v w y z*

**Stylistic Set 2** (long endings)

*e f g h m n*

**Stylistic Set 3** (rounder endings)

*e n*

**Stylistic Set 4** (alternate e)

*e*

**Stylistic Set 5** (alternate I,V,X)

*IVX* → *IVX*

**Base Uppercase** (before)

*ABC...XYZ*

**Swash**

*ABC...XYZ*

**Titling**

*ABC...XYZ*

**Inferiors** (filigree)

*ABC...XYZ*

**Stylistic Set 6** (highlight)

*A B C...XYZ*

**Ligatures** (all available)

*et fi ffi ff fl ffl gy ll st*

**Ornaments** (all available)

*— ~ ~ ~ ~ ~*  
*~ ~ ~ ~ ~*  
*— ~ ~ ~ ~*

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## Document ID code:

Info Pirouette Com\_E