



Open Dyslexic Type Font



Tool Description

Open Dyslexic is a typeface designed to address some common symptoms of dyslexia. Open Dyslexic is using the SIL-OFL license, providing freedom to use it for personal use, business use, education, commercial, books, eBook readers, applications, websites, and any other project or purpose.

Open Dyslexic is intended to address: contrast/blindness, letter confusion or rotation, and crowding. What fonts are best for dys readers affect the overall readability of texts and therefore speed, accuracy and potentially persistence of the reader. Children are known to find larger fonts easier to read than smaller ones, and as a group, dyslexic readers are more likely to read words by shape than non-dyslexic ones, making certain fonts like the one we propose, more readable.

What is the challenge the tool can solve?

Pupils may also be making a leap too far about other research that connects reading performance to how letters appear to readers. For example, research (The effect of a specialized dyslexia font, OpenDyslexic, on reading rate and accuracy, 2016) has shown a link between reading speed and the spacing of letters. That's because the presence of objects, including letters, can sometimes make it hard to see some aspects of what we're looking at. This is called crowding, and it's a normal function of our vision system. This just shows that the way letters are positioned can impact what a dyslexic pupil sees.

What are the benefits for Dys persons?

Many people use specific fonts which they prefer over time and select to use. It might however, be that people with SLDs prefer these suggested dys-friendly fonts. They may find them to be more appealing and easier to read. Dys-friendly fonts use thicker lines in parts of letters. The letters are slanted a bit. And letters that have sticks and tails (b, d and p) vary in length. But there's no evidence that these features improve reading performance. Studies have also found that adjusting letter-spacing increased reading speeds and decreased errors in children with SLDs. (Good Fonts for Dyslexia – An Experimental Study, 2019) While speed is an important factor, so is accuracy and reading comfort. If a dys-friendly font can make the process of reading more enjoyable, it will help children stay motivated when reading is a struggle.

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Example of use in daily life

This Is an
example of
the Open Dyslexic
Typeface

<https://mypad.northampton.ac.uk/cmcdonald/2012/10/21/dyslexic-friendly-fonts/>

A B C D E F G H I J K L M
N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
a b c d e f g h i j k l m
n o p q r s t u v w x y z
0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 ! ? #

<https://www.dyslexia-reading-well.com/dyslexia-font.html>