

Orienteering Control Description TrueType Font
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I see that you have a couple of questions so I'll answer those first.

What are all of these strange symbols?

These symbols are from the booklet "International Orienteering Federation Control Descriptions - 1990". If you are into orienteering, you can use them to create professional looking "clue sheets". If you're not, just think of them as a vaguely cartographic set of dingbats. I'm sure you'll find a use for some of the cuter ones.

What the heck is orienteering, anyway?

Orienteering is a sport that combines cross-country running with navigation. Basically, a course with "control" points is marked on a topographic map and you navigate your way through the forest from control to control so as to minimize your time. What many people find intriguing is that a very delicate balance between mind and body is needed for success: it is very easy to outrun your ability to think. A rough analogy is that it is like running a 10K while playing a game of chess; but that doesn't convey any idea of the beauty of running through the wild forest. The symbols in this font are used to precisely describe where the control points are located in an easy to read and national language independent way.

Packing List

This is the PC TrueType version of Martin Minow's orienteering control description symbol font, originally created on and for the Macintosh in Adobe Type 1 format.

Building Control Description Sheets

The font as it is very usable for building "clue sheets" using a word processor that can produce tables. Any commercial word processor such as Microsoft Word works very well.

You can also use a spreadsheet program, such as Excel, to manage a database of controls. Have a column for each of the clue sheet columns and a column for each course. In the columns for the courses put in the number of the control for that course or a blank if the control is not used for that course. To produce a clue sheet for a particular course simply sort on the column that contains the control numbers for that course.

A Note for Word for Windows Users

WFW seems to want to treat some characters specially. In particular, character 161 is always displayed as a blank. In WFW 2.0 and before, the em dash was displayed as multiple ordinary dashes. If some character won't display properly

for you, try inserting a symbol field with the number of the character you want to display.

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