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TITLE: **How Do I Choose the Correct Highway Gothic Typestyle?**

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Summary: The Highway Gothic font series has several different variations of the Highway Gothic font to choose from. What are the differences between the various fonts?

The differences between Highway Gothic "B", "C", "D", "E" and "E/M" are in typeface design. This means individual character strokes have been altered from one font to another (in this case, condensed or made bolder). Determining which typeface is required will need to be done by either visually matching the typefaces or adhering to established job specifications.

Since font names are registered trademarks, the typefaces are standardized. Because of the standardization, one can assume two manufacturers' Highway Gothic "B" typestyles will match. What can lead to confusion are the variations based on kern value, or what is meant by "modified". The following offers distinctions between the variations of the Highway Gothic font series.

The GSP Highway Gothic font series is available in three variations based on kerning.

Highway Gothic AK (Highway Gothic Auto Kern)

Highway Gothic non AK (Highway Gothic non Auto Kern)

Highway Gothic Federal Kern

Kern refers to customized reductions in character spacing. It is altered to improve readability or aesthetics. In addition to the different kern, the Highway Gothic series is also available in modified forms.

Highway Gothic Modified AK (Highway Gothic Modified Auto Kern)

Highway Gothic Modified non AK (Highway Gothic Modified non Auto Kern)

Highway Gothic Modified Federal Kern

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The Modified styles have characters whose inside corners have a radius, not sharp angles. (The radius is 4 degrees at a 20 inch character height). For example, the insides of "A" will not have sharp corners. The inside "triangle" shape will have rounded points, as in the example above.

For both the modified and standard varieties of Highway Gothic, kern variations are consistent. Auto Kern indicates that kerning is managed by font definition. No Kern indicates that the font has no preset kern value. No Kern is closest to a mono-spaced type font. The kern values for Auto Kern and No Kern can be modified in GRAPHIX ADVANTAGE.

Federal Kern meets the kern specifications as defined by federal highway standards for Highway Gothic for stroke width and character spacing. The Highway Gothic AK and non AK matches stroke width only. Federal Kern matches both stroke width and kerning. The space bar is 1.5 times the letter height, which also matches federal standards. Federal Kern can be modified in Composer, but doing so defeats it's adherence to federal standards.

Note: These fonts meet federal standards only, not city standards.