The Principles Behind Perfect Type Face Combinations

Typography is an art form that can make or break a design. The right typeface can convey a message, set a tone, and create a lasting impression. But with so many typefaces to choose from, it can be difficult to know where to start.

That's where the principles of type face combination come in. By following these principles, you can create harmonious and visually appealing type combinations that will elevate your designs.



Type Teams: The Principles Behind Perfect Type Face

Combinations by Bob Rohm

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Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled

Print length



: 224 pages

1. Contrast

Contrast is one of the most important principles of type face combination. It refers to the difference between two typefaces in terms of weight, size, shape, and color. By using contrasting typefaces, you can create a sense of hierarchy and visual interest.

For example, you could use a bold headline to draw attention to a key point, and then use a lighter body copy to provide more detail. Or, you could use a serif typeface for your headlines and a sans-serif typeface for your body copy to create a more formal look.

2. Harmony

Harmony is the opposite of contrast. It refers to the use of typefaces that have similar visual characteristics. By using harmonious typefaces, you can create a sense of unity and cohesion.

For example, you could use two typefaces from the same family, or two typefaces that have similar weights, shapes, and colors. Or, you could use a serif typeface for both your headlines and body copy to create a more traditional look.

3. Balance

Balance is the principle of distributing visual weight evenly throughout a design. When it comes to type face combination, balance refers to the way that you distribute the weight of your typefaces.

For example, you could use a large headline to balance out a smaller body copy, or you could use a bold typeface to balance out a lighter typeface. Or, you could use a serif typeface for your headlines and a sans-serif typeface for your body copy to create a more balanced look.

4. Legibility

Legibility is the principle of making sure that your type is easy to read. This is especially important for body copy, which should be easy to read even at small sizes.

When choosing typefaces for body copy, it's important to consider the following factors:

- Font size: The size of the font should be large enough to be easily read, but not so large that it becomes overwhelming.
- Line length: The length of the lines of text should be short enough to be easy to read, but not so short that it becomes choppy.
- Leading: The leading is the space between the lines of text. It should be large enough to make the text easy to read, but not so large that it becomes difficult to follow.
- Font color: The color of the font should be dark enough to be easily read, but not so dark that it becomes difficult to see.

5. Personality

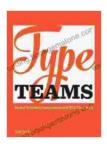
Personality is the principle of using typefaces that reflect the tone and style of your design. This is especially important for headlines, which should be attention-grabbing and memorable.

When choosing typefaces for headlines, it's important to consider the following factors:

- The tone of your design: The tone of your design can be serious, playful, elegant, or anything in between. Choose a typeface that reflects the tone of your design.
- The style of your design: The style of your design can be modern, traditional, whimsical, or anything in between. Choose a typeface that reflects the style of your design.

The target audience of your design: The target audience of your design will influence the type of typeface you choose. For example, if your target audience is young people, you might choose a more playful typeface.

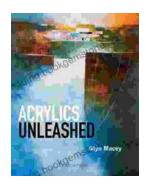
By following these principles, you can create harmonious and visually appealing type combinations that will elevate your designs. Remember to experiment with different typefaces and combinations until you find the perfect fit for your project.



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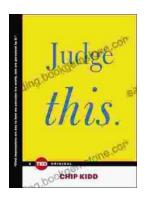
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