

Word Processing with Bembino

This document is produced in Microsoft Word from Microsoft Office Professional 2016 version 2410.

Text Processing

The RGME Bembino font family comprises 16 fonts: 5 weights each of Regular, Italic, and Cursive and one weight of Fraktur. Together they support multi-lingual typographic layout in a wide variety of languages both Western and Eastern. However, these fonts do not work correctly with Microsoft Word, either all of the italic fonts are missing, or only Regular Bold appears. The cause of this behavior is not known, and all attempts to produce a working font family have failed, even using only the basic four styles and weights. The so-called ‘alternative’ text processors (FreeOffice, LibreOffice etc.) appear to work with the basic four-font subset of Bembino, but they do not always produce the expected output.

To address this issue, a new font family has been created, called BembinoWP (for Word Processing), containing *only* the subset of glyphs that appear to be compatible with Word. The four fonts are:

BembinoWP.otf	Regular
BembinoWP-It.otf	<i>Italic</i>
BembinoWP-Bd.otf	Bold
BembinoWP-BdIt.otf	<i>Bold Italic</i>

These four fonts are suitable for basic word processing for most Latin-based languages, Greek and Cyrillic. The glyphs are identical to those in the full Multi-lingual version, as are the various layout tables.

Installation (for Windows)

If any of the Bembino full font family has been installed, the installed fonts should be removed. For each of the four WP fonts, right-click on the font file and select ‘Install’ or ‘Install for all Users’. The second option requires administrator rights on the machine. Now, when opening, or creating, a document in Word, the family “BembinoWP” should appear in the pull-down list of fonts on the “Home” tab.

Font Characters

BembinoWP includes the following sets of characters (glyphs):

Basic Latin	U+0000 to U+00FF	also with proper small-caps forms (i.e. ABCD etc.)
Extended Latin	U+0100 to U+024F	some small-caps are included
Additional Latin	U+1E00 to U+1EFF	(not all glyphs are present)
Phonetics	U+0250 to U+02FF	includes the spacing modifiers
Combining Marks	U+0300 to U+036F	

Basic Greek	U+0370 to U+03FF	
Extended Greek	U+1F00 to U+1FFF	
Cyrillic	U+0400 to U+04FF	(not all glyphs are present)
General Punctuation	U+2000 to U+206F	
Various Forms	U+2070 to U+218F	Sub- and super-scripts and letter-like forms
Arrows and Math	U+2190 to U+23FF	(not all glyphs are present)
Presentation Forms	U+FB00 to U+FB04	

The fonts also contain the typographic tables for ligatures and kerning, allowing Word automatically to generate ffl from ffl, and to space VA rather than VA. The combining marks allow accents to be placed on base glyphs (usually) in the correct position, š, for example by ‘s’ and ‘combining-dieresis’.

WP Extensions

The remaining multi-lingual glyphs, in only the Regular weight and style, are encoded in a single font BembinoWPE.otf (Word Processing Extended). This font is not suitable for typesetting systems (for that use the full Bembino family), but can be used within Word to insert a small number of glyphs from another language, for example: كتاب (‘kitab’, book in Arabic), or 書 (‘shū’, book in Traditional Chinese). Attempting to change the weight or style will either produce an approximation generated by Word, or (silently) change to another font.



Brought to you by the RGME Font Furry,
Willam Angus Piper, known to his Gaelic friends
as “Wullie Piobaireachd”.
(pronounced “Wooly Pibroch”)