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Format characters

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Text

Select an article:



You can set type attributes before you enter characters or reset them to change the appearance of selected characters in a type layer.

Before you can format individual characters, select them. You can select one character, a range of characters, or all characters in a type layer.

Note:

To quickly get up to speed with text-related Photoshop features, see [Add words to your picture](#).

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Select characters

- 1 Select the Horizontal Type tool **T** or the Vertical Type tool **↓T**.
- 2 Select the type layer in the Layers panel, or click in the text to automatically select a type layer.
- 3 Position the insertion point in the text, and do one of the following:
 - Drag to select one or more characters.
 - Click in the text, and then Shift-click to select a range of characters.
 - Choose **Select > All** to select all the characters in the layer.
 - Double-click a word to select it. Triple-click a line to select it. Quadruple-click a paragraph to select it. Quintuple-click anywhere in the text flow to select all characters in a bounding box.
 - To use the arrow keys to select characters, click

in the text, and then hold down Shift and press the Right Arrow or Left Arrow key. To use the keys to select words, hold down Shift+Ctrl (Windows) or Shift+Command (Mac OS) and press the Right Arrow or Left Arrow key.

- 4 To select all the characters in a layer without positioning the insertion point in the text flow, select the type layer in the Layers panel, and then double-click the layer's type icon.


Note:

Selecting and formatting characters in a type layer puts the Type tool into edit mode.

Character panel and dynamic shortcuts overview

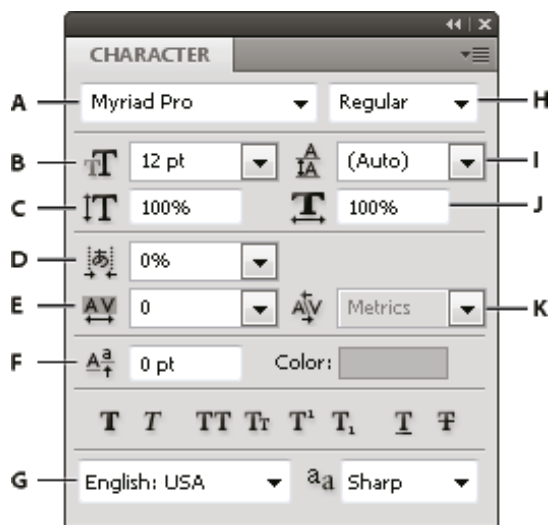
The Character panel provides options for formatting characters. Some formatting options are also available from the options bar.

You can display the Character panel by doing one of the following:

- Choose Window > Character, or click the Character panel tab if the panel is visible but not active.
- With a type tool selected, click the Panel button  in the options bar.

To set an option in the Character panel, choose a value from the pop-up menu on the right side of the option. For options with numeric values, you can also use the up

and down arrows to set the value, or you can edit the value directly in the text box. When you edit a value directly, press Enter or Return to apply a value, Shift+Enter or Shift+Return to apply a value and then highlight the value just edited, or Tab to apply a value and move to the next text box in the panel.



Character panel

A. Font Family **B.** Font Size **C.** Vertical Scale **D.** Set Tsume option **E.** Tracking **F.** Baseline Shift **G.** Language **H.** Font Style **I.** Leading **J.** Horizontal Scale **K.** Kerning

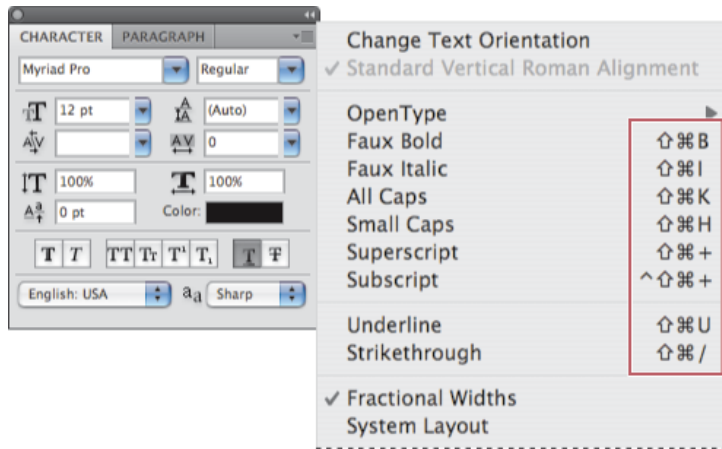
Note:

Select Show Asian Text Options in the Type preferences for the Set Tsume option to appear in the Character panel.

You can access additional commands and options in the Character panel menu. To use this menu, click the triangle in the upper right corner of the panel.

Dynamic shortcuts are keyboard shortcuts accessible from the Character panel menu only when you are entering point or paragraph type, when type is selected, or when the

I-beam is in text. Dynamic shortcuts are available for type options such as Faux Bold, Faux Italic, All Caps, Small Caps, Superscript, Subscript, Underline, and Strikethrough.



Dynamic shortcuts appear in the Character panel menu only when you are entering point or paragraph type, when type is selected, or when the I-beam is in text.


Specify type size and color

The *type size* determines how large the type appears in the image.

The default unit of measurement for type is *points*. One PostScript point is equal to 1/72 of an inch in a 72-ppi image; however, you can switch between using the PostScript and traditional definitions of point size. You can change the default unit of measurement for type in the Units & Rulers area of the Preferences dialog box.

The type you enter is rendered in the current foreground color; however, you can change the color before or after you enter type. When editing existing type layers, you can change the color of individual, selected characters or of all type in a layer.

Choose a type size

- 1 In the Character panel or options bar, enter or select a new value for Size . To use an alternate unit of measurement, enter the unit (in, cm, mm, pt, px, or pica) after the value in the Font Size text box.

Note:

To change the unit of measurement for type, choose Edit > Preferences > Units & Rulers (Windows) or Photoshop > Preferences > Units & Rulers (Mac OS), and choose a unit of measurement from the Type menu.

Define the point size unit

- 1 Choose Edit > Preferences > Units & Rulers (Windows) or Photoshop > Preferences > Units & Rulers (Mac OS).
- 2 For Point/Pica Size, select from the following options:


PostScript (72 points/inch) Sets a unit size compatible for printing to a PostScript device.

Traditional (72.27 points/inch) Uses 72.27 points per inch, as traditionally used in printing.
- 3 Click OK.

Change the type color

- 1 Do one of the following:
 - Click the Color selection box in the options bar or Character panel, and select a color using the Adobe Color Picker.
 - Use fill shortcuts. To fill with the foreground color, press Alt+Backspace (Windows) or Option+Delete (Mac OS); to fill with the background color, press Ctrl+Backspace (Windows) or Command+Delete (Mac OS).
 - Apply an overlay layer style to the type layer to apply a color, gradient, or pattern on top of the existing color. You can't apply an overlay layer style selectively; it affects all characters in the type layer.
 - Click the foreground color selection box in the toolbox, and select a color using the Adobe Color Picker. Alternatively, click a color in the Color panel, or the Swatches panel. If you use this method to change the color of an existing type layer, you must first select characters on that layer.

Change the color of individual letters

- 1 Select the Horizontal Type tool .
- 2 In the Layers panel, select the layer containing the type.
- 3 In the document window, select the characters you want to change.

- 4 In the options bar at the top of the work area, click the color swatch.
- 5 In the Adobe Color Picker, locate the color range you want using the triangle sliders on the color spectrum bar, and then click the desired color in the color field. The color you select appears in the top half of the color swatch in the Adobe Color Picker. The original color remains in the bottom half.
- 6 Click OK. The new color replaces the original color in the options bar and in the selected characters.

Note:

You won't see the new color in the characters until you deselect them or select something else.

Text treatments in the Character panel

Underline or strike through text

You can place a line under horizontal type, or to the left or right of vertical type. You can also place a line through horizontal or vertical type. The line is always the same color as the type color.

- 1 Select the type you want to underline or strike through.
 - To underline horizontal type, click the Underline button **T** in the Character panel.
 - To apply an underline to the left or right of vertical type, choose Underline Left or Underline


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