



NYLON & DRAYLON  
HAVE BEEN DRAWN  
SO THAT YOU  
CAN PLUNDER  
LETTERFORMS  
FROM DIFFERENT  
CENTURIES AND MIX  
IN THE SAME WORD

# NYLON Æ DRAYLON

## NYLON REGULAR DRAYLON REGULAR

ABOUT

Nylon is an interpretation of pre-16th century letterforms, in particular those found in mediaeval portraits at the National Gallery, London. The source material contains many unusual and manic shapes—it appears as if these classical forms have, over time, become perverted, almost demonic. Draylon is the more restrained counterpart to Nylon; it is based on letterforms found on 18th century ceramics—some 200 years after the source material of Nylon. Nylon and Draylon have been designed so that they can be mixed together with ease. Both typefaces have been drawn with a kind of crude digital awkwardness—acknowledging the tool of the present moment, the computer, in the design process.

In spite of the source material that influenced the letterforms, the typeface names are 20th century in origin—two synthetic materials with man-made names. Nylon's name is subject to an urban myth that manufacturers DuPont were trying to imbue their new wonder polymer with a transatlantic sophistication; using a conflation of New York and London (NY-Lon) as their inspiration. But the reality is more boring: Nylon's original name was No-Run (signifying that it wouldn't unravel), but the name couldn't be justified, so it was changed and iterated through 'nuron' and 'nilon' before arriving at 'nylon'. To mid-century consumers, the name Nylon epitomised the excitement about synthetic fabrics that were strong, long-lasting and consistent in quality. Nylon, decades on, became a byword for cheap, tacky versions of natural fabrics because, well, fashions change. Draylon's name comes from a misspelling of 'Dralon', the acrylic fibre-based soft furnishing material.

SUPPORTED  
LANGUAGES

Afar / Afrikaans / Albanian / Basque / Bosnian / Breton / Catalan / Crimean Tatar (Latin) / Croatian / Czech / Danish / Dutch / English / Esperanto / Estonian / Faroese / Finnish / French / Frisian / Friulian / German / Greenlandic / Hawaiian / Hungarian / Icelandic / Indonesian / Interlingua / Irish Gaelic / Italian / Karelian / Kirundi / Kurdish (Latin) / Ladin / Latvian / Lithuanian / Luxemburgish / Malagasy / Malay / Maltese / Māori Norn / Norwegian (Bokmål) / Norwegian (Nynorsk) / Occitan / Palauan / Polish / Portuguese / Rhaeto-Romance / Romani / Romanian / Sango / Sámi (Northern) / Scottish Gaelic / Serbian (Latin) / Shona / Slovak / Slovene / Sorbian / Spanish / Swahili / Swati / Swedish / Tagalog (Filipino) / Tahitian / Tokelauan / Tsonga / Turkish / Umbundu / Veps / Welsh / Wolof / Zulu

UNICODE RANGES

Complete: Basic Latin / Latin-1 Supplement / Latin Extended-A  
Parts of: Mathematical Operators / Latin Extended-B / Latin Extended Additional / Spacing Modifier Letters / General Punctuation / Currency Symbols / Letterlike Symbols

WEB FONT FEATURES

frac / liga / salt / ss01

CREDITS

Designed by Jonathan Barnbrook  
First published in 1997  
Revised and expanded character set published in 2016

ÀBCDEFGHIJKLMN  
OPQRSTUVWXYZ

ACCENTED UPPERCASE

ÀÁÂÃÄÅĀĂĄÆÇĆĈČĎĐ  
ÈÉÊËĒĔĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖĖ  
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ALTERNATE

ÀCKOQSTUXŸ

ACCENTED ALTERNATE

ÀÁÂÃÄÅĀĂĄÆÇĆĈČĎĐ  
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PUNCTUATION

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LIGATURES

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SYMBOLS

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CURRENCY

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STANDARD FIGURES

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FRACTIONS

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ORDINALS

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ACCENTED UPPERCASE

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ALTERNATE

A C K O Q S T U X Y

ACCENTED ALTERNATE

À Á Â Ã Ä Å Æ Ç È É Ê Ë Ì Í Î Ï Ñ  
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PUNCTUATION

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LIGATURES

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CURRENCY

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STANDARD FIGURES

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FRACTIONS

1/4 1/2 3/4 123

ORDINALS

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MATHEMATICAL

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— NAIVE —

86 PT

IN ÆRMERIK

64 PT

THAT CALLED IS

107 PT

BRITÆYNE

86 PT

THER WAS A

124 PT

KNYGH

60 PT

THAT LOVED AND  
DIDE HIS PAYNE

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114 PT

TO SERVE

---

146 PT

A LADY

---

59 PT

IN HIS BESTE WISE

---

80 PT

AND MANY A

---

134 PT

LABOUR

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78 PT

MANY A GREET  
EMPRISE



