

The Inconsolata Package

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The package provides updated PostScript and Opentype versions of Raph Levien’s fine sans serif typewriter font Inconsolata in regular and bold weights, adding some glyphs which may optionally replace existing `quotedbl` and `quotesingle` and lower-case L, along with new slashed zero, `arrowright` and `arrowleft` glyphs. \LaTeX support files are also provided.

\LaTeX usage

To use Inconsolata as your typewriter font, add `\usepackage{zi4}` to your preamble after any other packages that might load another typewriter font. This will change the typewriter font family to `zi4`, the family name used by this package, which replaces the old `inconsolata`, where the family name was `fi4`. (The original `inconsolata` is now obsolete and a new version of `inconsolata.sty` is included in the package, so that `\usepackage{inconsolata}` should have the same effect as `\usepackage{zi4}`, unless you still have the original package somewhere taaking priority over the new one.)

As with Karl Berry’s original `inconsolata` package, the \LaTeX package `zi4` offers four encodings—`T1`, `LY1`, `OT1` and `QX`—and provides the following options which some may find improve its utility for displaying verbatim text such as code fragments.

- The option `scaled=x` allows you to scale all typewriter text and verbatim text by the factor `x`.
- The default zero in `zi4` is now slashed. The unslashed zero may be specified with the option `var0`.
- For those who find the default lower-case L(1) a bit too close to the numeral 1, there is an option `var1` which substitutes a more distinctive shape for all glyphs related to lower-case L.
- The `zi4` package loads the `textcomp` package, which points to a TS1-encoded font that has been modified to have uncurved left and right quotes, especially important in code fragments, by use of `textcomp` glyphs `\textasciigrave` and `\textquotesingle`. The `varqu` option provides further upright quote forms for glyphs that are not part of the `textcomp` package, such as the default double quote glyph `quotedbl` and `quotesingle`, which by default have a small slant. (Note that the latter is not part of all encodings—it is present in `OT1`, `LY1` and `QX`, but not in `T1`.)
- The package loads `upquote` by default, but provides an option `noupquote` to override it.

When used in ordinary typewriter mode (ie, with `\texttt{}` or the deprecated form `{\tt }`), left and right quotes are rendered as in ordinary text. For example,

```
\texttt{'xy' " \textasciigrave \textquotesingle}
```

renders (with option `varqu`) as ‘xy’ " `'. With the `upquote` package, verbatim text, eg:

`\verb|`xy' "|`

renders as you would expect it in code samples: ``xy' "`

Note on the QX encoding: The encoding files used as part of this package, derived from the `inconsolata` package, seem to have some inconsistencies with `qxenc.def` made necessary as a compromise to get text and verbatim modes functioning for a wide class of common characters.

In the following examples, the claim that all encodings render the same applies only to the very limited selection of quote glyphs tested. In practice, QX encoding behaves worse than the others for `zi4`.

Effects of the options `varqu`, `noupquote`

With `varqu`: `upquote` loaded by default—all encodings render the same.

Input	Text mode	Verbatim mode
<code>\textasciigrave</code>	`	
<code>\textquotesingle</code>	'	
"	"	"
,	,	,
`	‘	‘

Without `varqu`: `upquote` loaded by default—all encodings render the same.

Input	Text mode	Verbatim mode
<code>\textasciigrave</code>	`	
<code>\textquotesingle</code>	'	
"	"	"
,	,	,
`	‘	‘

Without `varqu`, `noupquote`: `upquote` NOT loaded—all encodings render the same.

Input	Text mode	Verbatim mode
<code>\textasciigrave</code>	`	
<code>\textquotesingle</code>	'	
"	"	"
,	,	,
`	‘	‘

With `varqu`, `noupquote`: `upquote` NOT loaded—all encodings render the same.

Input	Text mode	Verbatim mode
<code>\textasciigrave</code>	˘	
<code>\textquotesingle</code>	'	
"	"	"
,	,	,
˘	˘	˘

Conclusion: To me, it is overwhelmingly clear that the best results come from specifying the option `varqu`, not specifying `noupquote`, and avoiding the `QX` encoding wherever possible.

A technical note concerning `LY1` or `QX` encodings: These encodings make their own definitions of `\textquotesingle` as glyphs in the main text font. Using the `TS1` glyph with upright shape so that `upquote` works correctly with these encodings requires the incantation:

```
\UndeclareTextCommand{\textquotesingle}{LY1} % or QX
\DeclareTextSymbol{\textquotesingle}{TS1}{39}
\usepackage{upquote}
```

which is built-in to the `zi4.sty` code and need not be repeated.

Opentype issues

The package includes two Opentype fonts named `Inconsolatazi4-Regular` and `Inconsolatazi4-Bold`, which may be loaded with `fontspec`:

```
\fontspec{Inconsolatazi4} %slashed zero, curly quotes, default l
```

The fonts contain three Stylistic Set variants that may be used to control the shape of lower case `l` (`ss01`), the form of zero (`ss02`) and the shape of quotes (`ss03`). One or more of these may be specified using one of the following example lines:

```
\setmonofont[StylisticSet=1]{Inconsolatazi4} % shapely l
\setmonofont[StylisticSet=2]{Inconsolatazi4} % unslashed zero
\setmonofont[StylisticSet=3]{Inconsolatazi4} % straight quotes
\setmonofont[StylisticSet={1,3}]{Inconsolatazi4} % shapely l, upright quotes
```

(Specifying `Inconsolatazi4` as the font name tells `fontspec` to look for the file `Inconsolatazi4.fontspec` which spells out the names of the associated `.otf` files.)

Note that one cannot expect exactly the same rendition from \LaTeX typewriter modes and the `fontspec` typewriter modes. For one thing, in \LaTeX , the typewriter left quote symbol is `quoteleft`, while under `fontspec`, it is the grave symbol.