
Action Condensed

Action Condensed was designed for the screen by Dutch type design legend Erik van Blokland, who was looking for typefaces for interface design that didn't have an overtly neutral personality. Each of the family's four weights has three grades on the same width, allowing text to change weight on rollover without disrupting the layout.

PUBLISHED
2015

DESIGNED BY
ERIK VAN BLOKLAND

24 STYLES
4 WEIGHTS W/ ITALICS, 3 GRADES PER WEIGHT

FEATURES
GRADED WEIGHTS
FULLY DUPLEXED ROMANS & ITALICS
TABULAR LINING FIGURES
FRACTIONS (PREBUILT AND ARBITRARY)
SUPERSCRIP/T/SUBSCRIPT

Although Action Condensed was designed with interface design in mind, particularly rollovers, it works as well on a poster as it does in a web browser or on a mobile phone. Its casual personality and quirky shapes give a friendliness that is unusual in a straight-sided condensed sans.

Action Condensed Light Grade 1

Action Condensed Light Grade 1 Italic

Action Condensed Light Grade 2

Action Condensed Light Grade 2 Italic

Action Condensed Light Grade 3

Action Condensed Light Grade 3 Italic

Action Condensed Regular Grade 1

Action Condensed Regular Grade 1 Italic

Action Condensed Regular Grade 2

Action Condensed Regular Grade 2 Italic

Action Condensed Regular Grade 3

Action Condensed Regular Grade 3 Italic

Action Condensed Medium Grade 1

Action Condensed Medium Grade 1 Italic

Action Condensed Medium Grade 2

Action Condensed Medium Grade 2 Italic

Action Condensed Medium Grade 3

Action Condensed Medium Grade 3 Italic

Action Condensed Bold Grade 1

Action Condensed Bold Grade 1 Italic

Action Condensed Bold Grade 2

Action Condensed Bold Grade 2 Italic

Action Condensed Bold Grade 3

Action Condensed Bold Grade 3 Italic

COMPARISON OF GRADED WEIGHTS

Fully Duplexed

Within each weight of the Action Condensed family are three different grades, all of which, including the italic styles, have been drawn on the same set of widths. This allows for text to be switched between different grades without any reflowing of text.

Duplexed romans & italics in each weight	£6,273	8 ³ / ₈	1 ⁷ / ₁₆
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ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR & ITALIC, GRADES 1 - 3, 18 PT

Graded Weights

While the grades were initially created for rollovers in on-screen applications, they can also be used to make subtle adjustments to the weight of a piece of text without changing the copyfit.

Distinct Cultural Flavors

Distinct Cultural Flavors

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADES 1 & 3, 50 PT

Mapped Styles

Each weight of Action Condensed is listed as a separate family in the font menu, making it easier to switch between grades on a fully styled block of text via the type palette in most layout applications.

General Election News – Spring 2015
How all the figures stacked up on Election Day

General Election News – Spring 2015
How all the figures stacked up on Election Day

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM & LIGHT, GRADES 1 & 3, 50 PT

OLDER ICE SHELF STUDY
Many Pre-Raphaelites

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 1, 100 PT

THE NEW FRENCH STYLE
Kierkegaardova Teória

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 2, 100 PT

PERCEPTIONSFÖRMÅGA
Individualistisk filosofi

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 3, 100 PT

ANALYTISCHE FILOSOFIE
The Euro 2017 Qualifier

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 1, 100 PT

FRANCESE INFLUENZERA
Sharp sleight-of-hand

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 2, 100 PT

EXPERIMENTAL MARKET
Un carácter biográfico

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 3, 100 PT [ALTERNATE a g]

DOWNTOWN MADISON
L'engagement Social

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, GRADE 1, 100 PT [ALTERNATE a g]

ZAJEDNIČKI UREĐIVAO
Inspiring monologue

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, GRADE 2, 100 PT

NEW IN SUMMER 2018
Arheološka Najdišča

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, GRADE 3, 100 PT [ALTERNATE 1]

ARCHITETTURA GRECA
Tourné aux Pays-Bas

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 1, 100 PT

ABIDING FASCINATION
The evolution of man

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 2, 100 PT

DISTILLED APRIL 1975
Literatura universală

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 3, 100 PT [ALTERNATE a 1]

AMERIKANSK TEATER
Það eru fjórir rauðir

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, GRADE 1, 100 PT

ROMANCE-ERA POEM
Schwarzer Riesling

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, GRADE 2, 100 PT [ALTERNATE a]

DĀRGUMU KRĀJUMS
Haitian Pseudonym

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, GRADE 3, 100 PT

WIEHED JISTA' FORSI
Binära Talsystemet

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 1, 100 PT

PRODUCT CREATORS
Frequently updated

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 2, 100 PT

KONINKLUK MUSEUM
Größten Säugetiere

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 3, 100 PT

TRADIÇÃO POPULAR
Balkānos un Ēģiptē

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, GRADE 1, 100 PT

ARKITETTURA DANIZ
Over 147 storylines

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, GRADE 2, 100 PT

ARTHURIAN HEROES
Jednak zachowała

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, GRADE 3, 100 PT

ESKI BIR BAŞBAKAN
Robust Succulents

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 1, 100 PT

THE CRITICAL ANGLE
Související články

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 2, 100 PT

NEW FOOD MARKETS
Los Cinco Clásicos

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 3, 100 PT

CAMBIA ANCHE LA TIPOLOGIA DEL PERSONAGGIO
Arctangent of the coefficient of static friction
TITANIC PARADIGM SHIFTS IN PERSONAL HEALTH
Prima atestare documentară datează din 751

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, LIGHT ITALIC, GRADE 1, 50 PT

NEW TECHNIQUES FOR PRACTICAL ENGINEERING
The piece was kept secret for over 300 years
SUPERPOSITION DE LA TRAME DE LA CHEMISE ET
Their objective of changing consumer habits

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, LIGHT ITALIC, GRADE 2, 50 PT

PREKRÝVANIE DVOCH PRAVIDELNÝCH OBRAZCOV
Sanatin yaratıcı ve katılımcı bir rol oynayarak
UTILIZADO PARA CONCIERTOS Y OTROS EVENTOS
Opvallend genoeg kreeg Joule dit artikel niet

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, LIGHT ITALIC, GRADE 3, 50 PT

SUBJECTIVITEIT IS WAARHEID BETEKENT NIET
Une innovation majeure de la technologie
L-A#JAR POST LI KISEB FIT-TAZZA TAD-DINJA
Honoré de Balzac visitou São Petersburgo

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 1, 50 PT [ALTERNATE a g]

GLASGOW'S FORTUNES IN THE 17TH CENTURY
Rýchlost' vetra sa klasifikuje buď presným
HIS TREMENDOUS & TENUOUS POSSIBILITIES
El primer académico que prestó atención

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 2, 50 PT

NEW ARTIFICIAL REEFS OF THE HUDSON RIVER
Bis 1928 war der Verband für das gesamte
THE PROJECT WAS NEARLY \$2.4 MILLION FOR
Construction started in 1968 only after his

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 3, 50 PT

WETENSCHAPPELIJKE INSTRUMENTMAKER
Vissulega er orðið notað innan annarra
PRVOTNÍ ROBIN POČÁTKY OSADY NA ŘECE
Ibland har den hålkortstyrda vävstolen

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 1, 50 PT

SHINGONIN HARJOITTAMISEN KESKIÖSSÄ
In 1741, the occupation of silk merchant
CLAIMED TO MATCH THE QUALITY OF MANY
Ayant étudié seul la mécanique—il met

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 2, 50 PT

MEASURING THE MOVEMENTS OF EMOTION
Vzhledem k principu nezávislosti šíření
LUNGO UN TRATTO DI 6.213,8 CHILOMETRI
Bespoke 21 oz. raw Japanese selvedge

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 3, 50 PT

ALE TÝM, ŽE ČLOVEK MÁ SLOBODNÝ VZŤAH
Courting chance & the danger of 'new'
KANALEN ÖPPNADES 1986 OCH HADE SIN
Instinctual practitioners of visual arts

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 1, 50 PT

KIRJA JULKAISTIIN ENNEN ELOKUVAA JA
Hiszen mint Arkhimédész törvényéből
ANCIENT GREEK'S MEDIO-PASSIVE VOICE
Linie na ekranie komputera mogą być

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 2, 50 PT

HIS DEBUT PERFORMANCE PIECE IN 2001
Esta operação é hoje em dia realizada
L'ESPRIT DE LA CHRONOLOGIE FLOTTANTE
Kljásteinsvefstaðir voru með steinum

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 3, 50 PT [ALTERNATE 1]

EARLY-20TH CENTURY COPENHAGEN HAD CROOKED STREETS WHERE CARRIAGES NEVER ROAMED
 A vast cultural stronghold of the cultural revolution & a point of political divergence during
 MILL-GHOXRINIJIET 'IL QUDDIEM IL-MOVIMENT INXTERED MAD-DINJA KOLLHA U EVENTWALMENT
 Město je významný železniční uzel s hlavním nádražím Termini blízko středu města; se 400

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, LIGHT ITALIC, GRADE 1, 25 PT

ROMÂNIA AVEA SĂ REVINĂ LA UN TURNEU FINAL CĂȘTIGÂND GRUPA DE CALIFICARE PENTRU
 Conformément à l'esprit de la "chronologie flottante" de toutes les séries de comic
 SUCH MORPHOLOGICAL CHANGES HAVE MANY OF THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN OLDER SYNTAX
 Temelini, akılcılığı yadsıyan ve karşı-sanat için çalışan ilk dadaistlerin eserlerinden

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 2, 25 PT

KIEDY STWIERDZIŁA, ŻE ZAROBIŁA WYSTARCZAJĄCO DUŻO PIENIĘDZY, POSTANOWIŁA
 In keeping with the university's experimental ethos, new students were asked
 THESE MODERN TIMES OPENED WITH THE CONCEPT OF "THE MEASUREMENT OF RISK"
 Egyiptierna använde det binära talsystemet för att skriva bråktal i decimalform

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 2, 25 PT [ALTERNATE UPRIGHT a g]

DAI RESTI RINVENUTI A CIRCA 5 METRI SOTTO L'EDIFICIO ALLA FINE DEL XIX SECOLO
 Daug senosios graikų kalbos žodžių virto tarptautiniais žodžiais ir terminais
 IN DER SCHENKUNGSURKUNDE WIRD ERSTMALS DIE GRÖSSE DES ORTES GENANNT
 Bajorországot ugyanezen év szeptemberében az ítélet hatályba lépése után

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 2, 25 PT [ALTERNATE ITALIC a g]

Index van de menselijke ontwikkeling

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT, GRADE 1, 60 PT

Nejznámější Starověkou Památkou

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR, GRADE 1, 60 PT

9 Minuten von der Meisterschaft

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM, GRADE 1, 60 PT

Best Napa Valley Wines for 2016

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD, GRADE 1, 60 PT

Lionized Local & National Broadcasts

ACTION CONDENSED LIGHT ITALIC, GRADE 1, 60 PT

Diretoria Financeira Federal Alemã

ACTION CONDENSED REGULAR ITALIC, GRADE 1, 60 PT [ALTERNATE a]

Performans sanatçılarının ortak

ACTION CONDENSED MEDIUM ITALIC, GRADE 1, 60 PT

Den moderna tecknade seriens

ACTION CONDENSED BOLD ITALIC, GRADE 1, 60 PT

OPENTYPE FEATURES
FAMILY WIDEALL CAPS
opens up spacing, moves
punctuation upPROPORTIONAL LINING
default figuresFRACTIONS
ignores numeric date format

SUPERSCRIPT/SUPERIOR

SUBSCRIPT/INFERIOR

DENOMINATOR
for making arbitrary fractionsNUMERATOR
for making arbitrary fractionsLANGUAGE FEATURE
Română (Romanian) s accent**DEACTIVATED**

Quilts & [Covers] for \$24.65

Sale Price: \$3,460 €1,895
Originally: ¥7,031 £9,215

21/03/10 and 2 1/18 460/920

 $x^{158} + y^{23} \times z^{18} - a^{4260}$ $x_{158} \div y_{23} \times z_{18} - a_{4260}$

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0123456789 0123456789

ÎNSUȘI conștiința științifice

ACTIVATED

QUILTS & [COVERS] FOR \$24.65

Sale Price: \$3,460 €1,895
Originally: ¥7,031 £9,21521/03/10 and 2¹/₁₈ ⁴⁶⁰/₉₂₀ $x^{158} + y^{23} \times z^{18} - a^{4260}$ $x_{158} \div y_{23} \times z_{18} - a_{4260}$

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0123456789 0123456789

ÎNSUȘI conștiința științifice

OPENTYPE FEATURES
 ROMAN & ITALIC

 STYLISTIC SET 05
 alternate 1

 STYLISTIC SET 06
 alternate 1 (no flag)

 STYLISTIC ALTERNATES
 Illustrator/Photoshop

 DEACTIVATED

In excess of nearly €170,000
 Last show in the 2015 season
 The #1 most *fascinating* goal

 ACTIVATED

In excess of nearly €170,000
 Last show in the 2015 season
 The #1 most *fascinating* goal

OPENTYPE FEATURES
 ROMAN

 STYLISTIC SET 01
 alternate a

 STYLISTIC SET 02
 alternate g

 DEACTIVATED

Various scales and contexts
 Beginning new documenting

 ACTIVATED

Various scales and contexts
 Beginning new documenting

OPENTYPE FEATURES
 ITALIC

 STYLISTIC SET 03
 alternate a

 STYLISTIC SET 04
 alternate g

 DEACTIVATED

Performance-based artwork
Creating custom film-rigging

 ACTIVATED

Performance-based artwork
Creating custom film-rigging

STYLES INCLUDED IN COMPLETE FAMILY

Action Condensed Light Grade 1
 Action Condensed Light Grade 1 Italic
 Action Condensed Light Grade 2
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 Action Condensed Medium Grade 1
 Action Condensed Medium Grade 1 Italic
 Action Condensed Medium Grade 2
 Action Condensed Medium Grade 2 Italic
 Action Condensed Medium Grade 3
 Action Condensed Medium Grade 3 Italic
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 1
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 1 Italic
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 2
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 2 Italic
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 3
 Action Condensed Bold Grade 3 Italic

SUPPORTED LANGUAGES

Afrikaans, Albanian, Asturian, Basque, Breton, Bosnian, Catalan, Cornish, Croatian, Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Esperanto, Estonian, Faroese, Finnish, French, Galician, German, Greenlandic, Guarani, Hawaiian, Hungarian, Ibo, Icelandic, Indonesian, Irish, Gaelic, Italian, Kurdish, Latin, Latvian, Lithuanian, Livonian, Malagasy, Maltese, Maori, Moldavian, Norwegian, Occitan, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Romansch, Saami, Samoan, Scots, Scottish Gaelic, Serbian (Latin), Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish (Castilian), Swahili, Swedish, Tagalog, Turkish, Walloon, Welsh, Wolof

ABOUT THE DESIGNER

Erik van Blokland (born 1967) could not choose between type design and programming and decided to do both. His work includes randomfont Beowolf¹ (1990, MoMA collection 2011), typewriter Trixie (1991), banknote LTR Federal (1996, TDC 2002) and Eames Century Modern (2009, TDC, Letter.2, 2011).

For many years he has focused on the technical aspects of type design and developed, among other things, the acclaimed type interpolation tools MutatorMath and Superpolator. Erik co-authored the Unified Font Object (UFO) specification and the W3C Web Open Font Format standard.² He, along with Paul van der Laan, is also co-organizer of the triannual Robothon Type & Technology conference.³

Van Blokland is a 1989 graduate of the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague (KABK). He returned in 1999 as a faculty member and teaches at the Type and Media master department. He invented the TypeCooker sketching tool which challenges students to meet ridiculous requirements.

Van Blokland consults on type design tools, logos, lettering and typefaces, with clients including The Government of The Netherlands, Adidas, and Adobe. He can talk endlessly about ancient digital font formats and currently dabbles in research projects on optics, digitisation, drawing and responsive type. More at LettError.com.

¹ with Just van Rossum

² with Tal Leming

³ with Paul van der Laan

CONTACT

Commercial Type
 110 Lafayette Street, #203
 New York, New York 10013

office 212 604-0955
 fax 212 925-2701
www.commercialtype.com

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