

Taisean • Tairean

a typeface by Feòrag Nicbhrìde

This is an original typeface inspired by the idea “what if scribes had technical pens?” The forms are based on half-uncials, but the strokes are of constant width. The name is Gaelic for “skeleton” or more generally “remains of the dead”.

The character set includes support for virtually every language which can be written in Latin script and includes a selection of ligatures. These characters can be accessed by either choosing an appropriate keyboard layout in the International preferences panel, or via the Special Characters.../Glyphs menu option (the name seems to vary depending on the application).

Insular characters, used in Irish language typography, were added to Unicode 5.1 and *Taisean* includes these characters. Unfortunately, the Irish Extended keyboard layout on MacOS hasn't kept up, so I have created an Irish Insular one which will enable you to type these characters. The sentences below should give you an idea how the different characters look:

Here's an English language sentence typed using the British keyboard. Irish Extended looks the same.

Here's an English language sentence typed using the Irish Insular keyboard.

This archive contains the TTF version of the font, which can be used on MacOS X, Linux and Windows. It includes the following files:

- **About Taisean TTF.pdf** - this file.
- **Taisean.ttf** - the font file. In MacOS X, double click on this to see a preview. Click on the “Install Font” button to install. For earlier versions of Mac OS, this file should go in the ‘Fonts’ folder in the System Folder. For other platforms, please refer to the documentation.
- **Irish Insular.bundle** - the Irish Insular keyboard. This file can only be used on MacOS X.
- **About the Irish Insular Keyboard.pdf** - how to use the Irish Insular keyboard.

A Postscript flavoured OpenType version, suitable for use with Classic MacOS, is also available.

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