

# Auriocus Kalligraphicus

## – a decorative font in T<sub>1</sub> encoding –

This package implements a font I created for fun in April 2004. In fact I needed an absolutely free font that I could change (i.e. add all accent marks necessary to write Czech) and distribute. The font has been created in the following manner:

First, I drew all characters on paper with a calligraphic pen. These images have been scanned as a truecolor bitmap using *sane*. The image has been further processed with GIMP to extract the foreground characters. The image has then been broken up into its individual characters, which have been named according to their unicode value like *uni0074.png*.

These images can be imported to fontforge<sup>1</sup>. Then I ran “Autotrace” from fontforge’s menu, which started Peter Selingers potrace on the scanned images to produce the first, raw outlines. Potrace does a very good job, so despite the bad quality of the scanned images the first version of the font has been done within a few hours.

*Despite the fact, that the font is meant to be decorative, it is quite good readable even for longer texts, though not at small point sizes (I recommend a minimum of 12pt).*

Usage is very simple: Just include `\usepackage{aurical}` into the preamble of your document, then you can use `\Fontauri` to switch to the calligraphic font and `\normalfont` to switch back. Of course the mapfile and the fontfiles need to be installed in the usual places, so that T<sub>E</sub>X can find them. Alternatively you can copy all of the files into the same directory where your document is, and dvips it with the command

```
dvips -u+./aurical.map yourdocument.dvi
```

Some characters are still missing, because I have no clue what they should look like, or just because I was too lazy to implement them. These are: compwordmark, perthousandzero, @, Eng, Thorn, eth, thorn. The numbers should look like old style figures, the drawback is that they don’t look good in calculations: *150-927=1057*

And now enjoy the font!

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<sup>1</sup>a very good, free font editor, formerly known as pfaedit