

# Re: ASCII convention

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- *From:* Miguel Carrasquer <[mcv@xxxxxx](mailto:mcv@xxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Mon, 10 Oct 2005 21:05:39 +0200
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On Mon, 10 Oct 2005 13:54:11 GMT, "Peter T. Daniels" <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

>Miguel Carrasquer wrote:

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>> On Mon, 10 Oct 2005 03:14:18 GMT, "Peter T. Daniels"

>> <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

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>> >Miguel Carrasquer wrote:

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>> >> On Sun, 09 Oct 2005 15:53:38 GMT, "Peter T. Daniels"

>> >> <[grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx](mailto:grammatim@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx)> wrote:

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>> >> >If, however, you refer to typography where special fonts (containing

>> >> >angle brackets) are not available, and if you're clever enough to use a

>> >> >Mac, the Single Guillemets provide a very reasonable substitute (see my

>> >> >chapter in the Blackwell \*Handbook of Linguistics\*. Unfortunately, they

>> >> >turn into Icelandic in Windows: instead of <xyz> write Ðxyzð.

>> >>

>> >> The problem is not with Windows, it's with your browser

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>It's with Windows fonts, which put different characters in the same

>codepoints as Mac fonts. Mac fonts don't have all those silly

>box-drawing characters, freeing up lots of space for useful stuff in

>128-255.

You're stuck in 1984, it seems.

When the Macintosh came out, there was no standard to extend ASCII beyond 7 bits, so they made up their own scheme, "Mac Roman".

Windows fonts (except the ones made to emulate MS-DOS ["OEM"] character sets) do not have and never have had box-drawing characters. Because Windows came later than the Mac, it had support for the ANSI draft standard (later ISO-8859-1) built in from the start, albeit in the Microsoft way. The problem with the Windows "Latin-1" encoding is that it illegally sticks characters in the 80-9F area (so

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does Mac Roman).

Mac Roman is now utterly obsolete, as is Monsieur Pirard's MacRoman to ISO-8859-1 abomination. OS X (2001) is based on Unicode, as Windows has been since Windows NT (1993).

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Miguel Carrasquer Vidal  
mcv@xxxxxx

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