

Re: ASCII convention

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.lang/2005-10/msg00417.html>

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 - *Date:* Tue, 11 Oct 2005 15:28:22 -0400
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Peter T. Daniels wrote:

Peter Daniels is not interested in coding. Peter Daniels is talking about the fonts on desktop computers -- the fonts that ordinary scholars, not up-to-the-minute tech gurus like yourself, use in preparing their scholarly manuscripts. If any portion of the "coding" process is visible to the end user, then the coding process is a failure. Just as no one using a typewriter needed to know anything about its innards other than changing the ribbon (though presumably they had their secretary do that).

Cars are carefully made to all work basically the same way. This "same way" does differ from country to country -- e.g., right-hand vs left-hand driving -- but in any one place, they all do basically the same thing (with some differences in controls such as wipers, etc.).

Typewriters or computer keyboards are much the same as cars. Choose either QWERTY or Dvorak (or ...) as your locale warrants, and forget it.

Much computer software is deliberately made not to work like other software. Microsoft has made most of its billions because they do not follow standards. They successfully forced other companies to chase their changes. And they have obstructed the growth of standards.

Jonathan Buss

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