

A GRAPHICAL GUIDE TO VTT 6.10 LIGHT LATIN AUTOHINTING

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VTT 6.10 includes an Autohinter for Latin fonts. The Autohinter makes use of a new Lightweight hinting strategy that focuses on grid-fitting common heights, such as x-height, Cap Height, Ascender, Descender using CVT (*Control Value Table*) Heights as reference, and linking across common stems, such as **H** crossbar, **E**, **F**, Horizontals, **O**, **Q**, **C**, **G**, Rounds, etc. This strategy, takes advantage of Windows symmetric rendering modes. These key heights are anchored to the Grid, thereby maintaining consistency in gridfitted Heights of common characters across a font family. This method of grid-fitting helps to reduce blur, and minimizes distortion to the outline when griditted. Only Y-Direction Hinting commands are used in this method.

The following are the basic set of hinting commands that are added automatically by VTT 6.10 Light Latin Autohinter. For this example, I ran the Autohinter Light on the **VTTDemo.ttf font**, that ships with VTT 6.10. The following pages cover these basic set of commands, that are needed to improve how a font will look when rendered in DirectWrite, with some details about each.

ResYanchor & YAnchor ●

Yinterpolate ● *Note: (Basic YInterpolate commands are not currently added by the Autohinter in VTT 6.10. These commands can be added post Autohinting, to fine tune the Autohinting output)*

Yinterpolate followed by Yanchor ●

YShift → ●

ResYDist ↑ ↓

Opposite = VTT High Level Hints, for Cap H in VTTDemo.ttf = (CTRL 5 in VTT)

Control Value Table = (CTRL 4, in VTT)



ResYAnchor(11,8), Anchors point 11 to Grid/Baseline. 11 = point on outline, 8 = Control Value Table (CVT) number reference for Baseline of 0.

ResYAnchor(0,2), Anchors point 0 to Grid/Cap Height. 0 = point on outline, 2 = CVT Table number reference for Cap Height of 1434.

YInterpolate(0,9,11)

Repositions point 9, relative to point 0 & point 11, which now have new gridfitted positions.

YAnchor(9), Anchors point 9 to grid.

ResYDist(9,2), Links across Cap H Crossbar from point 9 to point 2. This command positions point 2, relative to point 9's new position on the grid.

YShift(0,5) Shifts point 4, to a new position on the grid, relative to point 0, ensuring point 4 will also be gridfitted to Cap Height.

YShift(11,7)

Shifts point 7, to a new position on the grid, relative to point 11, ensuring point 7 will also be gridfitted to Baseline Height.



