
To mortise is “to join or fasten securely.” Created by an aspiring furniture-maker and an ageing typographer, Mortise is a solidly constructed new slab serif, and marks Signal’s first collaboration with outside designers. A generous x-height, open counters, wide proportions, and monoline strokes make it readable and practical, while the long, slightly curved vertical serifs give it a raffish, mustache-twirling air. The X-Light is neat and refined and holds the page nicely; the middle weights are sturdy and direct; and the broad, blocky serifs on the X-Bold are exuberant and perhaps a bit rowdy. Available in six carefully crafted weights, Mortise is both a fresh new face and a versatile addition to the venerable slab serif genre. Designed by Seán Mongey at Post and Max Phillips.

Mortise X-Light

Mortise Light

Mortise Regular

Mortise Medium

Mortise Bold

Mortise X-Bold

12pt

I OBSERVED, HERE AND THERE, MANY IN THE HABIT OF SERVANTS, WITH A BLOWN BLADDER, fastened like a flail to the end of a stick, which they carried in their hands. In each bladder was a small quantity of dried peas, or little pebbles, as I was afterwards informed. With these bladders, they now and then flapped the mouths and ears of those who stood near them, of which practice I could not then conceive the meaning. It seems the minds of these people are so taken up with intense speculations, that they neither can speak, nor attend to the discourses of others, without being roused by some external action upon the organs of speech and hearing; for which reason, those persons who are able to afford it always keep a flapper in their family, as one of their domestics; nor ever walk abroad, or make visits, without him. And the business of this officer is, when two, three, or more persons are in company, gently to strike with his bladder the mouth of him who is to speak, and the right ear of him or them to whom the speaker addresses

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Oldstyle Figures 1234567890 → 1234567890

Arbitrary Fractions 1/9 3/5 5/8 → ⅐ ⅔ ⅝

Superiors & Inferiors Estuarial3 H2O → Estuarial³ H₂O

Ordinals 23a 65o → 23^a 65^o

Case-sensitive Forms (NON-COM) «OBOE» → (NON-COM) «OBOE»

Ligatures Define flee office afflict ruff Kafka surfboard fjord
→ Define flee office afflict ruff Kafka surfboard fjord

Stylistic Set 1 Great days → Great days

Stylistic Set 2 Great mirth → Great mirth

Stylistic Set 3 €23.50 → £23.50

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& Max Phillips.

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by Jonathan Swift
First published 1726.

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