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Arboreal font for drawing tree diagrams on a Macintosh computer.

Software house: Cascadilla Press, P.O. Box 440355, Somerville, MA

02144. e-mail: sales@cascadilla.com.

Price: US\$20, plus US\$4 for air mail shipping outside the US. Cascadilla accepts Visa and MasterCard. Shipping time is generally 7-10 days to New Zealand.

Arboreal font for Macintosh computers is a simple way to draw tree diagrams without having to acquire a graphics capability or even if you have used graphics or are using graphics to draw tree diagrams you may find Arboreal more to your liking. Since Arboreal is a font various keys on the keyboard will draw the lines and triangles you need to draw trees. The letters are done by using whatever font you prefer.

So how does Arboreal work? A variety of keys will draw single, binary or nary branches at a variety of angles. Take your pick. Other keys draw triangles, again of various inclinations. For dashed lines you use the upper case versions of the key.

For lines to indicate syntactic movements Arboreal has vertical lines with or without arrows, horizontal lines with or without crosses (to indicate in the case of the crosses that movement should not occur) and corners to link horizontal and vertical lines. Positioning of the lines is done by tabbing and the text characters can be pushed into place by using the spacebar. Since Arboreal is a font all the characters are able to be enlarged by changing to a larger point size.

Arboreal is available in both Truetype and Postscript versions. Unlike many graphics implementations for drawing trees which require them to be cut and pasted into other applications and where alterations require toggeling back and forth between applications to make changes, because Arboreal is a font it can be used in any application and no toggeling is required. So you can draw tree diagrams in data bases of syntactic constructions or even a spreadsheet of syntax (although it is hard to see what use one might have for a spreadsheet of trees). Arboreal takes a little

while to get used to but is easy to use and the keys for various kinds of lines are set out well on the keyboard so that they are easy to use. Arboreal comes with a card indicating what each keystroke will do. Using Popchar enables one to get around without using keys at all.

Given how cheap it is and that it integrates into any application Arboreal can be recommended for anyone wanting an easy way to draw tree diagrams with a professional look to them on a Macintosh.

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