Arial was developed to be free of licensing fees, especially important for widespread distribution in software like Microsoft Windows and Office.

A typeface that is widely used and a default font on many computer systems, Arial, was designed in 1982 by Robin Nicholas and Patricia Saunders. It was intended to be a go-to font for everyday purposes from om word processing and presentations to signage and UI design. Providing readers with clarity and easy reading and the ability to maintain consistent appearance across different systems and platforms. Its simplicity is what makes it timeless: a quiet hero in the background of everyday communication.



1982

Arial consists of soft and full curves, with more open counters. The ends of the strokes on letters such as c, e, g and s, rather than being cut off on the horizontal, are terminated at the more natural angle in relation to the stroke direction.

Robin Nicholas