FF PicLig

Lesson 1

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the idea

FF PicLig is a smart OpenType font that makes it possible to create symbols out of typed characters.

While OpenType's 'discretionary ligatures' usually connect two or more characters to create a typographic ligature, FF PicLig uses this feature to combine several characters into an icon, a 'picture ligature'.

fi → fi

typographic ligature

8j8 → ⊞

picture ligature

☺ b☼, with lots of ✉, ♫, 🎁,
↑   ↑   ↑   ↑   ↑
:-)   =o=   [>]   d》   [+]e

⇕⇕⇕ & good ⊞ in the coming
↑   ↑
*->   8j8

year. Don't ⏳ 2 much! ♡, P.
                ↑   ↑
   I>-I   <3

the magic of substitution

The automatic substitution of certain character combinations allows the direct integration of PicLig symbols into text.

OpenType's automatic substitution is supported by Adobe CS applications, e. g. InDesign CS and Photoshop CS. You just have to activate OpenType's 'discretionary ligatures' in the extra options of the character palette of the application. The 'discretionary ligatures' features are not activated by default.

Some Mac OS X (10.4 and later) applications, e.g. TextEdit, support 'advanced typographic features'. In this case, you have to activate 'rare ligatures' in the typographic palette from the font panel's gear menu.
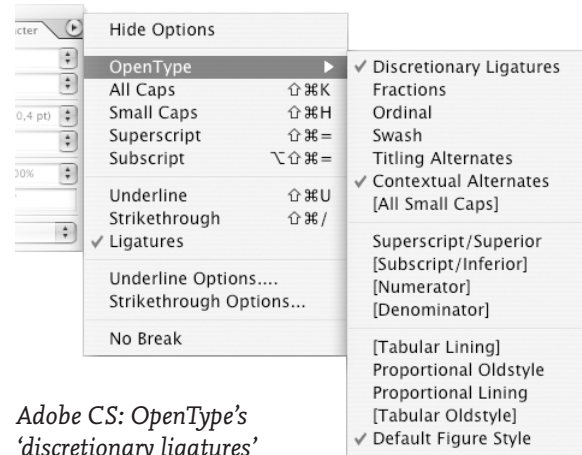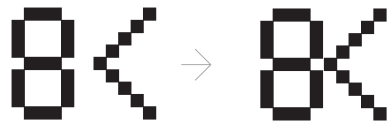
Adobe CS: OpenType's 'discretionary ligatures'
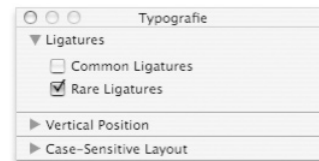
Some Mac OS X (10.4 and later) applications: 'rare ligatures'

basic principle

horizontal picture ligatures
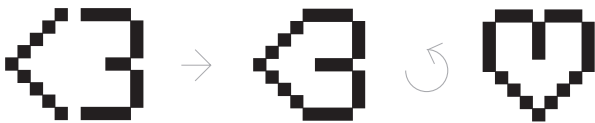
rotated picture ligatures

character combinations

@ + _ + ; = @;

8 + j + 8 = ⚘

(+ , + _ +) = ⬭

< + 3 = ♡

* + - + > = ⚓

~ + | = ⌐

exercise 1: fill in the gaps!

horizontal picture ligatures

⟨ + e + ⟩ + ▢ = 🐟

▢ + _ + ; = @

⟨ + , + _ + ▢ = 💬

⟩ + - + ▢ + - = ✈

= + o + ▢ = ✳

○ + ▢ = ☁

rotated picture ligatures

⟨ + ▢ = ♡

* + - + ▢ = ⚓

~ + ▢ = ⌐

○ + ▢ + | = ♀

[+ ⟩ + ▢ = ✉

⟩ + [+ ▢ = 📺

horizontal picture ligatures

rotated picture ligatures

keep it in 💬!

The different meanings of the PicLig symbols listed here are merely suggestions and not fixed at all.

For example, the symbol 🕐 can mean hour, time, or clock, depending on its context.

😊 🕐 → happy hour

around the 🕐 → around the clock

🕐 is ↑ → time is up

time of day/weather

sun	moon	cloud	rain
sub =o=	sub 《	sub ☁〉	sub ☁〉"

😊 birth☀ → happy birthday
2🌙 → tonight
a ☁ of ∟ → a cloud of smoke
as → as 🌧 → as right as rain

directions

up	down	left	right
sub ^|	sub v|	sub <-	sub ->

what's ↑? → what's up?
↑ side ↓ → upside down
all → → all right
← handed → left handed

animals

fish
sub <e><

snail
sub @_;

chicken
sub ;0=l

dog
sub P`h

><ing 4	→	fishing for
@_; ✉	→	snail mail
♟ ⊜	→	chicken burger
☹ ⊹	→	sad dog

food/drinks

cherries
sub o/\o

burger
sub (I)

wine
sub I>-I

coffee
sub ~b

♠ ⚘	→	cherry blossom
♂ ⊜	→	veggie burger
☿ & dine	→	wine and dine
☕ ☺	→	tea time

plants

clover leaf
sub 8j8

flower
sub *->

tree
sub O-I

apple
sub ()

good ⅜	→	good luck
thank u ⚘⚘	→	thank you
2 ✄ ↓ a ♀	→	to cut down a tree
♂ ☐	→	apple computer

emotions

happy
sub :-)

confused
sub :-s

sleepy
sub I-)

heart
sub <3

☺ go ⅜y	→	happy go lucky
dazed & ☺	→	dazed and confused
2 ☺ away	→	to dream away
I ♡ U	→	I love you

💬 it with a ☺

Image-based symbols, for example emoticons, are increasingly becoming integrated into text.

FF PicLig uses its own letters to create text-based symbols, to integrate them into text. The symbols can replace words while the syntax persists.

exercise 2 : reading

Do you want to learn FF PicLig

by ♡? Just 👓 this 📖, then

memorize, practise and don't

✂ class.

Did you understand the sentence above? Please translate the PicLig symbols into words!

♡ → _____   📖 → _____
👓 → _____   ✂ → _____

exercise_3 : reading

Salut mon ☺! Les ⚓⚓ que je t'✉

sont l'expression de mon ♡.

Que dirais-tu de sortir boire un

♒ avec moi ce ☾? On s'☺»! Je

t'♡, je t'♡!

Can you guess what this message is about?

exercise_4 : writing

♟'s custard ___ is ⌂ to the ___

'___ type, ___ type' conference.

Over 3 ___ s people ___ at, ⌒ &

___ about design.

The following symbols are missing in the gaps above. Please fill in the blanks!

1	🗩	→	talk	4	☼	→	day
2	👓	→	look	5	🏭	→	factory
3	🐌	→	slow	6	✈	→	fast

exercise 5: writing

I am a happy duck. I've been

flying on Cloud 9 and I have

not come down yet.

Please translate as many words as possible into PicLig symbols.

send a ✉!

to

key to the exercises

unit 1

exercise 1: ⟨, @, ⟩, ⟩, =, ⟩, 3, ⟩, l, –,],]

unit 3

exercise 2: heart, read, book, cut

exercise 4: ⌨'s custard ⌸ is ⌂ to the '✈ type, @, type' conference. Over 3 ✳s people 👀 at, ☊ & 💬 about design.

exercise 5: I am a ☺ ⌨. I've been ✈ on ⏰ 9 and I have not come ↓ yet.
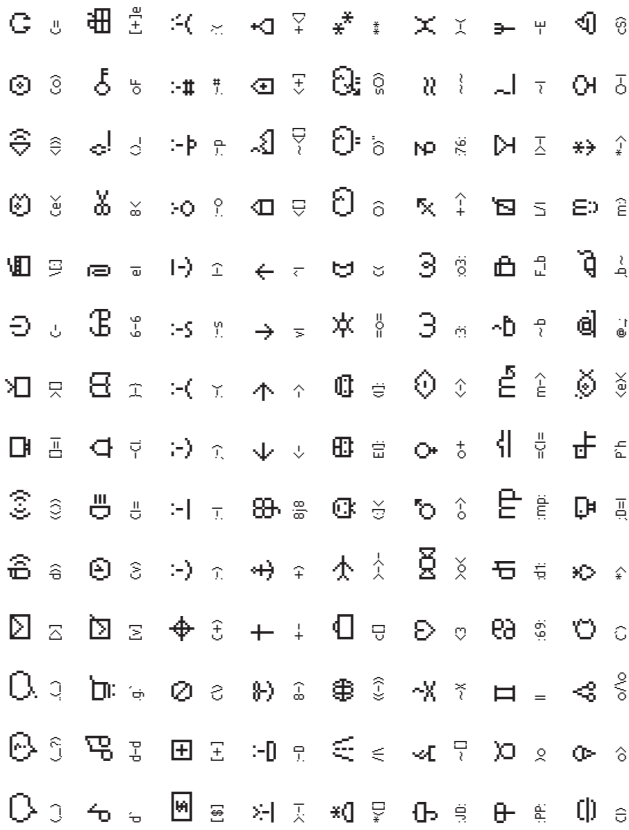
dictionary piclig – english

↑, ^| [ascicircum bar] **prep. up;** ↑ side ↓, up side down; what's ↑? what's up? 2 get ↑, to get up; 2 ᧐ ↑, to queue up; 2 ≈ ↑, to wash up;

*⁎, ** [asterisk asterisk] **n snow, snowfall;** *⁎ flake, snow flake; a *⁎ job, a snow job. **v** 2*⁎; 2 *⁎ under, to snow under.

⚘, *–> [asterisk hyphen greater] **n flower, blossom;** ✳ ⚘, sun flower; ✂ ⚘⚘⚘, cut flowers; ⚘ ☯, flower power; ◯ it with ⚘⚘⚘, say it with flowers. **v** 2⚘; 2 ⚘ out into; 2 blossom out into; 2 thrive & ⚘; to thrive and flower; **adj.** ⚘ing; ⚘ing ☺, flowering time. ⚘y, bloomy.

♉, *> [asterisk less] **n carrot, root;** ♉ & stick, carrot and stick; 2 get 2 the ♉ of, to get to the root of; ♉ ℞, root beer.

⛪, *([] [asterisk parenleft bracketleft bracketright] **n synagogue.**

🐌, @_; [at underscore semicolon] **n snail.** at 🐌's pace, at snail's pace; 🐌 ✉, snail mail.

🎞, \[:] [backslash bracketleft colon bracketright] **n film, movie;** 2 👀 a 🎞, to watch a film; 🎞 *, movie star. **v** 2 🎞; to film;

Ⅱ, || [bar bar] **n gemini, twins;** pair of Ⅱ, pair of twins. **adj.** Ⅱ; Ⅱ towers, twin towers.

⅄, |>–| [bar greater hyphen bar] **n wine;** ⅄ & dine, wine and dine.

☋, |–) [bar hyphen parenright] **adj. sleepy, tired;** ☋ 2 death, tired to death. **n** ☋; dream ; ☋ 🏭, dream factory. **v** 2☋; to dream ; 2 ☋ away, to dream away.

📖, }–} [braceright hyphen braceright] **n book;** in my bad 📖s, in my bad books; 📖 worm, book worm; 2 ◯ like a 📖, to talk like a book. **v** 2 📖; to book; 2 📖 in advance, to book in advance.

⊠, [>] [bracketleft greater bracketright] **n mail, message, letter;** ✈ ⊠, air mail; 🐌 ⊠, snail mail; junk ⊠, junk mail; ♡ ⊠, love letter; 2 leave a ⊠, to leave a message; **v** 2 ⊠; to send ; 2 ⊠ ←, to send back.

🖥, []=I [bracketleft bracketright equal bar] **n computer;** 🖥 ⊛, computer game; 🖥 code, computer code; ♆ 🖥, apple computer; 🖥 virus, computer virus; 2 ⚡ something into the 🖥, to feed something into the computer; 🖥 ☕, computer nerd.

☑, [v] [bracketleft v bracketright] **n task;** ☀ly ☑, daily task. 2 take somebody 2 ☑, to take somebody to task. **adj.** ☑; done; well ☑! well done; 2B not hard ☑ by, to be not hard done by.

🎁, [+]e [bracketleft plus bracketright e] **n present, gift, box;** bday 🎁, birthday present; **v** 2 make a 🎁; to make a gift.

⊞, [+] [bracketleft plus bracketright] **n first aid;** ⊞ kit, first aid kit.

⊘, C\) [C backslash parenright] **adj. forbidden;**
⊘ ♡, forbidden love; ⌐ ⊘, smoking forbidden; ⊘ fruit is ⋈est, forbidden fruit is sweetest; ⊘ 💬s, forbidden thoughts; 🚗 ⊘, no parking.

▯=, C|= [C bar equal] **n light;** ray of ▯=, ray of light. 2 throw ▯= on sth, to throw light on something. **v** 2 ▯=; to light; 2 ▯= a ⌐, to light a cigarette.

🍔, C|) [C bar parenright] **n burger.** 🐟 🍔, fish burger; 🥕 🍔, veggie burger; 🐔 🍔, chicken burger.

👜, c[] [c bracketleft bracketright] **n suitcase, travel;** live out of a 👜, live out of a suitcase; ⊕ 👜, time travel. **v** 2 👜; to travel.

⊛, Ce< [C e less] **n game.** 🖥 ⊛, computer game; cat & 🐭 ⊛, cat and mouse game.

🎧, C= [C equal] **n earphones. v** 2 🎧; to listen; 🎧ing 2 my i-🎵, listening to my iTunes.

🍎, C`) [C grave parenright] **n apple.** 🍎 🖥, apple computer. 🍎 🌳, apple tree.

⏻, C− [C hyphen] **n power;** ⏻ ✂, power cut; ✿ ⏻, flower power; ⏻s that B, powers that be; ⏻ play power play; **v** 2 ⏻; to power ; 2 ⏻ ↑, to power up.

💿, C∘) [C o parenright] **n cd;** 💿 player, cd player; 2 🔥 a 💿, to burn a cd.

☾, C([C parenleft] **n moon, night;** 2 promise so. the ☾, to promise someone the moon; 2 🏹 4 the ☾, to shoot for the moon; over the ☾, over the moon; the ♂ in the ☾, the man in the moon; 1-☾ stand, one- night stand; ☾-⊕, night-time; 🐔 ☾, hen night; ☾&☀, night and day; 1/2☾, half-moon; 2☾, tonight.

✛, C+) [C plus parenright] **n focus;** out of ✛, out of focus.

💩, cS) [c S parenright] **n shit.** 💩 happens! shit happens! 🔥 💩, hot shit; 💩 😶ed, shit faced; **v to shit.** 2 💩 bricks, 2 shit bricks;

🕐, C∨) [C v parenright] **n clock, time;** around the 🕐, around the clock; its 🕐 of ✿, its time of prosperity; 🕐 is ↑, time is up; 🕐 [ ], time frame; 🍵 🕐, tea time; 2 take some 🕐 off, to take some time of; 😊 🕐, happy hour.

d1, :d1: [colon d one colon] **n leo.**

😢, :`([colon grave pareleft] **adj. crying.**

😐, :−I [colon hyphen bar] **adj. moody;** 😐 🎷, moody blues.

😃, :−D [colon hyphen D] **adj. laughing;** rolling on the floor 😂, rolling on the floor laughing. **n** 😄; laugh; 2B a good 😄, to be a good laugh.

☂, :JD: [colon J D colon] **n umbrella;** under the ☂ of..., under the umbrella of...; ☀ ☂, sun shade.

🤐, :−# [colon hyphen numbersign] **adj. secret;** top 🤐, top secret.

😮, :−o [colon hyphen o] **adj. surprised;** 😮 @, surprised at; **n** 😮; surprise; 😮 😮, surprise, surprise!

˘, :-p [colon hyphen p] **adj. cheeky;** ˘ brat, cheeky brat.

˘, :-([colon hyphen parenleft] **adj. sad;** ˘ ⌐, sad dog; ˘ 2 ♡, sad to say.

˘, :-) [colon hyphen parenright] **adj. happy;** ˘ ⌚, happy hour; ˘ go ⌘y, happy go lucky; ˘ b☀, happy birthday;

˘, :-s [colon hyphen s] **adj. confused;** dazed & ˘, dazed & confused. **v** 2 ˘; to confuse.

ℼp, :mp [colon m p colon] **n virgo.**

ω, :o3: [colon o three colon] **n arsehole.**

Ϙ, :PP: [colon P P colon] **n aries.**

♋, :76: [colon seven six colon] **n capricorn.**

♋, :69: [colon six nine colon] **n cancer.**

ω, :3: [colon three colon] **n arse;** the ☀ shines out of sb's ω, the sun shines out of somebody's arse. pain in the ω, pain in the arse.

🐁, ,b~ [comma b tilde] **n mouse.** 🖥 🐁, computer mouse; 🐁 trap, mouse trap; quiet as a 🐁, quiet as a mouse; as poor as a 🐁 🐁, as poor as a church mouse;

♪, d` [d grave] **n music;** ⌂ ♪, house music.

♫, d-d [d hyphen d] **n tunes;** out of ♫, out of tune; loony ♫, loony tunes; i♫, iTunes.

📞, d)) [d parenright parenright] **n phone, call;** 📞---, phone line; wake-up 📞, wake-up call; **v** 2 📞; to phone, to call; 📞 me! call me! 2 📞 ↑, to call up; 2 📞 ←, to call back; I 📞 it a ☀, I call it a day.

📎, eI [e bar] **n paper clip, attachment; v to attach;** 2 📎 a copy, to attach a copy; 2B 📎ed 2 so, to be attached to somone.

🚌, EI]: [E bar bracketright colon] **n bus;**

♋, 8-) [eight hyphen parenright] **n nerd;** 🖥 ♋, computer nerd.

🍀, 8j8 [eight j eight] **n clover leaf, luck;** good 🍀! good luck! **adj** 🍀y; lucky; a 🎴 of 🍀 ⌐, a packet of lucky strikes;

✂, 8< [eight less] **n scissors;** short ✂, short cut; he's a ✂ ↑, he's a cut up; **v** 2 ✂; to cut; 2B ✂ off, to be cut off; extremely ✂ prices, extremely cut prices; 2 ✂ U ↓ 2 size, to cut you down to size.

♎, =CI=. [equal C bar equal] **n libra.**

☀, =o= [equal o equal] **n day, sun;** ☺ ☀, happy day; ☀ 👓s, sun shades; ☀ ↑, ☀↓, sun rise, sundown; 2 ☾ away the ☀, to sleep away the day; another ☀, another 💵, another day, another dollar; 2☀, today;

🍺, F_b [F underscore b] **n beer;** 1 🍺 short of a 6pack, one beer short of a six-pack; 🍺 belly, beer belly.

📺, >[] [greater bracketleft bracketright] **n television;** on 📺 2⍦, on tele tonight; 2 👀 📺, to watch tele.

☹, >:-I [greater colon hyphen bar] **n anger;** red with ☹, red with anger. **adj.** ☹y; angry; ☹ young ♂, angry young man.

✈, >->- [greater hyphen greater hyphen] **n airplane, fly;** ✈ ✉, air mail; 2 do sth. on the ✈, to do something on the fly. **v** 2 ✈; to fly.

🍬, >o< [greater o less] **n sweet. adj.** 🍬; sweet; 🍬 tooth, sweet tooth. 🍬 ♡, sweet talk.

⏰, -CI. [hyphen C bar period] **n alarm.** ⏰ ⌚, alarm clock; 2 set off a 🔥 ⏰, to set off an fire alarm. **v** 2 ⏰, to alarm.

🍴, -E. [hyphen E] **n fork;** ♫ing 🍴, tuning fork. **v** 🍴; eat; 🍴 sb out of ⌂ & ⌂, eat somebody out of house and home. ⌐🍴⌐, dog eat dog.

→, -> [hyphen greater] **n right;** exclusive →, exclusive right. **adj.** →; right; → hand, right hand; all →, all right. **adv.** →; forward; 2 look →, to look forward. **v** 2 →; to forward; 2 → ✉, to forward mail.

Ø, L/I [L slash bar] **n drink;** take a Ø, take a drink; 2 knock ← a Ø, to knock down a drink. **v** 2 Ø; to drink; 2 Ø ↓, to drink down; 2 Ø the ≈s, to drink the waters; 2 Ø like a 🐟, to drink like a fish.

◁》, ◁I》 [less bar parenright parenright] **n sound;** the ◁》 of 🎵, the sound of music.

⌂, <[] [less bracketleft bracketright] **n house, home;** ⌂ page, home page; ⌂ ♪, house music; ⛾s ℞ on the ⌂, drinks are on the house; 🐕⌂, dog house.

🐟, <e> [less e parenright less] **n fish;** 2 have other 🐟 2 fry, to have other fish to fry. neither 🐟 nor fowl, neither fish nor fowl. **v** 2 🐟; to fish; 2 🐟 4 compliments, to fish for compliments.

←, <- [less hyphen] **adv. left;** ← handed, left handed.

◇, <-> [less hyphen greater] **n kiss; v** 2 ◇; to kiss.

⌂, <+] [less plus bracketright] **n hospital.**

♡, <3 [less three] **n heart, love;** 2 know sth. of by ♡, to know something of by heart; my ♡, my love; lots of ♡, lots of love; **v** 2 ♡; to love; I ♡ U, I love you; I would ♡ 2, I would love to; ♡ me, ♡ my 🐕, love me, love my dog;

🐰, m:> [m colon parenright] **n rabbit.**

♏, m-> [m hyphen greater] **n scorpio.**

⚷, oF [o F] **n key;** 🔥 ⚷, hot key; ⚷ word, key word; ⚷ 2 my ♡, key to my heart. **v** 2 ⚷; to lock.

☁, O) [O parenright] **n cloud;** under a ☁, under a cloud; on ☁ 9, on cloud 9; a ☁ of 🚬, a cloud of smoke. **adj.** ☁y; cloudy; **v** 2 ☁; to cloud; 2 ☁ an issue, to cloud an issue.

☂, O)" [O parenright quotedbl] **n rain;** as → as ☂, as right as rain; **adj.** ☂y; rainy; **v** 2 ☂; to rain; 2 ☂ cats & 🐕s, to rain cats and dogs; ☂ ♂, raining man;

♂, o-> [o hyphen greater] **n man;** it's a ♂ thing, it's a man thing; **adj.** ♂; male.

♀, o+ [o plus] **n woman;** ♀ of 1's ⌐s, woman of one's dreams; **adj.** ♀; female.

❄, o> [o greater] **n ice;** 2 skate on thin ❄, to skate on thin ice; **adj.** ❄; cold.

🍒, o/\o [o slash backslash o] **n cherries;** 2 lose one's 🍒, to lose one's cherries; 🍒 ⚘, cherry blossom; life is a bowl full of 🍒, live is a bowl full of cherries;

🌲, O-I [O hyphen bar] **n tree;** 2 ✂ ↓ a 🌲, to cut down a tree.

🐕, P'h [P grave h] **n dog;** 😢 🐕, sad dog; 2B done ↑ like a 🐕's dinner, to be done up like dog's dinner; 🐕 🍴 🐕, dog eat dog; 🐕's life, dogs life. 🌭🐕, hot dog.

🚗, <I]: [parenleft bar bracketright colon] **n car;** 🚗 ≈, car wash;

💬, (_) [parenleft comma underscore parenright] **n chat.** 2B all 💬, to be all talk. **v** 2 💬; to talk, to chat; 2 💬 her ↑, to chat her up; 💬 ↑ ---, chat up line; 2 💬 💩, to talk shit.

💬, (_?) [parenleft comma underscore question parenright] **n question;** 2 pop a 💬, to pop a question; **v** 2 💬; to ask; 2 💬 4 the ☾, to ask for the moon; 2 💬 4 a favor, to ask for a favor.

🌐, ((-)) [parenleft parenleft hyphen parenright parenright] **n globe, world;** 🌐 💬, global language. 🌐 wide, world wide.

(•), ((•)) [parenleft parenleft period parenright parenright] **n reception, signal;** sorry, no (•), sorry, no reception.

🚂, (.]< [parenleft period bracketright less] **n train;** in ☻ 2 catch the 🚂, in time to catch the train; 2 lose my 🚂 of 💬s, to lose my train of thoughts.

ᔕ, ()_ [parenleft period parenright underscore] **n match; v** 2 ᔕ up; to light up; **adj.** ᔕing; burning; the ᔕ ☿, the burning question; my ears were ᔕ, my ears were burning.

Ж,)-([parenright hyphen parenleft] **n pisces;**

ŏ,)o [parenright o] **n taurus;**

ᗐ, .g` [period g period grave] **n shopping cart; v** 2 ᗐ; to shop; window ᗐ, window shopping; ☀ly ᗐ, daily shopping; ᗐ /!\, shopping street; ᗐ until U drop! shop until you drop!

♡, ..(_) [period period parenleft underscore parenright] **n thoughts, mind;** 2 keep it in ♡, to keep it in mind. **v** 2 ♡; to think; 2 ♡ outside the ⊞, to think outside the box; I can't ♡ straight, I can't think straight; ♡ tank, think tank; I ♡ he's out of the ♀♀♀s now... I think he's out of the woods now...

⌂, +<] [plus less bracketright] **n church.**

†, +- [plus hyphen] **n cross; v** 2 †; to cross. fingers †ed! fingers crossed! 2 † my ♡, to cross my love.

↗, +-> [plus hyphen greater] **n sagittarius.**

⚓, +) [plus parenright] **n anchor, hope;** † ♡ ⚓, believe, love and hope.

☈, sO) [s O parenright] **n thunder;** ☺ like ☈, happy like thunder; 2 steal so.'s ☈, to steal someone's thunder.

☺, ;-) [semicolon hyphen parenright] **n wink; v** ☺; to wink.

♀, ;D=l [semicolon D equal bar] **n chicken;** ♀s on speed, chicks on speed; ♀ flick, chick flick; ♀ ☾, hens night.

⊖⊖, 6-6 [six hyphen six] **n glasses, shades;** 2 look through rose-colored ⊖⊖s, to look through rose-colored glasses; 2 keep the ⊖⊖s on, to keep the shades on; ⍧ ⊖⊖, beer goggles. **v** 2 ⊖⊖; to read, to watch; 2 ⊖⊖ ☐, to watch televison.

/!\, /!\ [slash bar backslash] **n street;** /!\ live, street life; /!\ wise, street wise.

☕, ~b [tilde b] **n coffee, tea;** not my cup of ☕, not my cup of tea.

ᘂ, ~l [tilde bar] **n cigarette, smoke;** ☁ of ᘂ, clouds of smoke. **v** 2 ᘂ, to smoke.

♨, ~[] [tilde bracketleft bracketright] **n candle;** ♨ dinner, candlelight dinner.

≈, ~~ [tilde tilde] **n aquarius, water, sea;** ☀ & ≈, sun and sea.

☼, ~Ж [tilde X] **n fire;** 2B on ☼, to be on fire; ᔕ my ☼! light my fire! **v** 2 ☼; to burn; 2 ☼ out, to burn out.

↓, vl [v bar] **adj. down; v** 2 ↓; to down; 2 ↓ a ⍭, to down a drink.

FF PicLig is available at www.fontfont.com.

Other fonts used in this booklet:
FF Nexus, FF Schulschrift, published by FSI FontShop
International.