Letters you draw yourself

The three marks below are not in any font file. Each one is a drawing this program made, added to the document as a font, and set in a line of text like any other letter. Copy the line out of this file and the marks come back as the characters they stand for.

Marks that paint themselves

✓ Invoice sent ✗ Payment received − Delivery note

Marks that take the colour around them

■ Overdue

■ Settled

A mark of the first kind carries its own colour. A mark of the second kind states a shape and nothing else, so the colour of the words it sits among is the colour it comes out in.

The painted font: glyphs, 3; box, [0 -200 1000 1000]; matrix, [0.001 0 0 0.001 0 0]; ✓ is its glyph 1, 1000 wide.

The shaped font: glyphs, 1; box, [0 -200 1000 1000]; matrix, [0.001 0 0 0.001 0 0]; ■ is its glyph 0, 1000 wide.

Signs a font file paints in colour

Each step is marked: ★ approved, ▣ under review, ▲ awaiting signature.

★ The star from the font’s first palette; ★ the same star from its second.

▥ A square the font fills with colours running from one side to the other, half see-through; ◆ a diamond it fills with colours spreading from its centre.

▪ A sign the font file holds as a picture, shown as it is rather than drawn from an outline.

▞ Two squares the font lays one over the other, their colours multiplied where they overlap; ★ a star taking the colours of a square laid over it, kept only inside its own outline; ▣ a square the font cuts a star out of.

⚑ Overdue ⚑ Settled

This program draws none of these signs: the font file paints each one in layers of colour, and the document sets them like any other letter. The flag’s pole takes the colour of the text around it; its cloth keeps its own.