

Traditional American Type Body Size Names and Approximate American Point System Equivalents

American Name	points	Source
American	1	1
German	1 1/2	1
Saxon	2	1
Norse	2 1/2	1
Brilliant	3	1
Excelsior	3	2
Ruby	3 1/2	1
Excelsior	4	1
Brilliant	4	2
Diamond	4 1/2	1, 2
Pearl	5	1, 2
Agate	5 1/2	1, 2
Nonpareil	6	1, 2
Minion	7	1, 2
Brevier	8	1, 2
Bourgeois	9	1, 2
Long Primer	10	1, 2
Small Pica	11	1, 2
Pica	12	1, 2

American Name	points	Source
English	14	1, 2
Columbian	16	1, 2
Great Primer	18	1, 2
Three-Line Nonpareil	18	2
Paragon	20	1, 2
Two-Line Small Pica	22	2
Double Small Pica	22	1
Two-Line Pica	24	2
Double Pica	24	1
Two-Line English	28	2
Double English	28	1
[none]	30	
Two-Line Columbian	32	2
Two-Line Great Primer	36	2
Two-Line Paragon	40	2
Meridian	44	2
Canon	48	2
Four-Line Pica	48	2

Note: These names apply primarily to metal type. Wood type, which typically was larger, was usually measured in "lines," where one line was one Pica.

Sources:

1. Marder, Luse & Co.'s announcement of what became the American Point System, in *The Chicago Specimen* (Winter, 1879). Reproduced in Richard L. Hopkins. *The Origin of The American Point System for Printers' Type Measurement*. (Terra Alta, WV: Hill & Dale Press, 1976). p. 88.
2. Stewart, A. A. *Type: A Primer of Information about the Mechanical Features of Printing Types*. (Chicago, IL: United Typothetae of America, 1918). p. 15.