

The Type Scale

Art & Design

Sizing type by ratio, so a hierarchy holds across a whole document.

Each step multiplies the one below it. Base size 16 px.

Ratio	Name	Steps from 16
1.125	Major second	16, 18, 20, 23, 26
1.200	Minor third	16, 19, 23, 28, 33
1.250	Major third	16, 20, 25, 31, 39
1.333	Perfect fourth	16, 21, 28, 38, 50
1.500	Perfect fifth	16, 24, 36, 54, 81
1.618	Golden section	16, 26, 42, 68, 110

A wider ratio gives fewer, more distinct levels. A narrow one gives many levels that are hard to tell apart.