About Meslo LG DZ
Version 1.20

Meslo LG DZ is a customized version of Apple's Menlo-Regular font (which is a customized Bitstream Vera Sans Mono).

In Snow Leopard, Menlo-Regular is now the preferred and default font for Apple's developer tools and also the Terminal (unless you changed the font settings for these apps yourself before upgrading to SL – your changes will stay in place).

I really like Menlo, but I had my nitpicky gripes with it:

1. The default vertical (line) spacing is just way to cramped for me, and also
2. I am not particularily fond of the horizontal baseline alignment of the asterisk.

That's why I decided to customize Menlo, regarding these "issues". The tricky part is keeping all the custom tables, hints, etc. intact when you adjust the globally very affecting stuff that results in vertical spacing.

The LG in Meslo LG stands for Line Gap. The idea behind it is to allow the user to have some control over vertical spacing by choosing one of three line gap variants: small, medium and large (Meslo LG S, Meslo LG M and Meslo LG L respectively). DZ stands for dotted zero. Meslo LG has a slashed zero by default.

If you're interested you can find screenshots showing Menlo and Meslo in comparison below.

This font is a derivative work of an existing font set. I left copyright and trademark information completely untouched. If I it is allowed I'll make it public domain in the sense that you can do what you want with it. However, I can't make it open source, because I don't own any sources.
I just tweaked a few settings, glyph positions and hintings here and there.
And of course it doesn't come with any warranty whatsoever. If you need to have a license find one below. Also at this point, as often required by Apple, Inc., I want to make it clear that I am not affiliated with Apple in any way and any customizations happened purely on my own thought out of personal non-profit interest.

Have Fun!

André Berg

Comparison To Apple's Menlo

Xcode Editor View

This code snippet is taken from Apple's "AnimatedTableView" sample code.
The method is shown cut off in order to keep the example text short.

You can find the full code sample at: AnimatedTableView

Menlo Regular 11pt (Apple)

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```
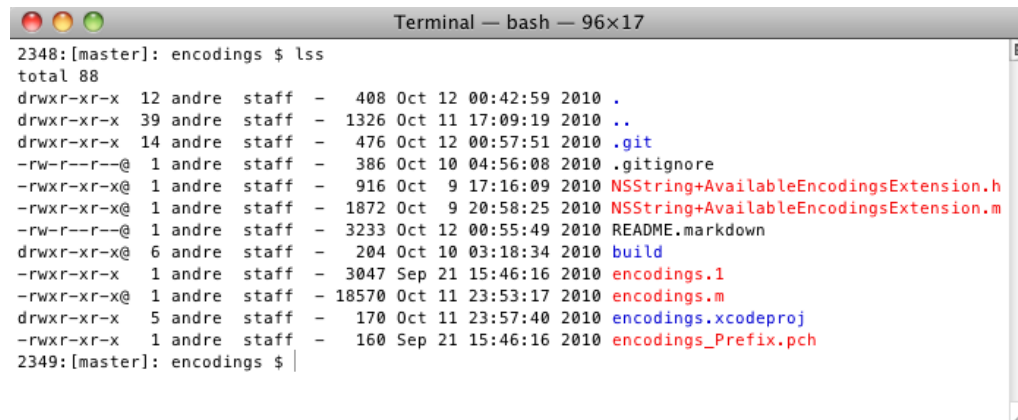
Meslo LG M DZ 11pt

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```

Note the vertical line spacing changes and the re-positioned and re-hinted asterisk.
You can view a comparison between all three Meslo LG DZ variants at the end.
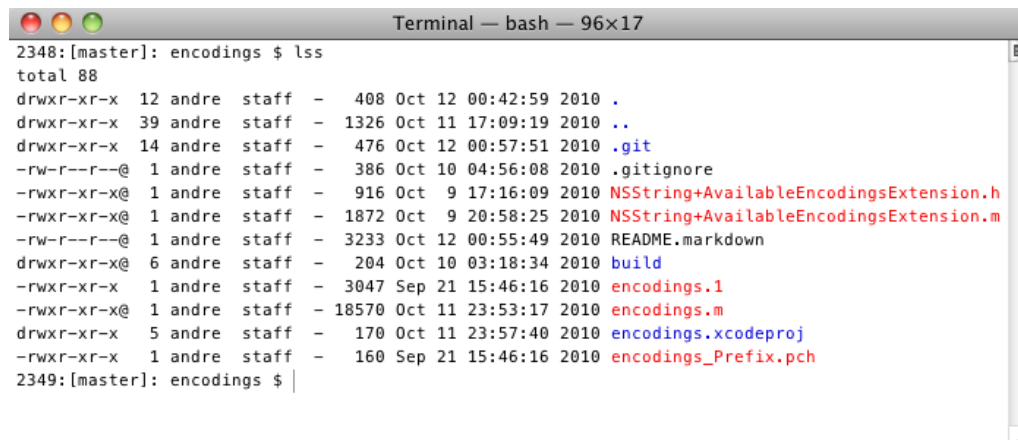
Terminal

These comparisons just show a simple terminal printout. If you think the vertical spacing is a bit too much in the second screenshot, remember: Meslo LG DZ has multiple variants for vertical line spacing. Note: If the images appear a bit blurry, that should come from printing the TextEdit text view to PDF.

Menlo Regular 11pt (Apple)


```
2348:[master]: encodings $ lss
total 88
drwxr-xr-x  12 andre  staff  -   408 Oct 12 00:42:59 2010 .
drwxr-xr-x  39 andre  staff  -  1326 Oct 11 17:09:19 2010 ..
drwxr-xr-x  14 andre  staff  -   476 Oct 12 00:57:51 2010 .git
-rw-r--r--@  1 andre  staff  -   386 Oct 10 04:56:08 2010 .gitignore
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  -   916 Oct  9 17:16:09 2010 NSString+AvailableEncodingsExtension.h
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  -  1872 Oct  9 20:58:25 2010 NSString+AvailableEncodingsExtension.m
-rw-r--r--@  1 andre  staff  -  3233 Oct 12 00:55:49 2010 README.markdown
drwxr-xr-x@  6 andre  staff  -   204 Oct 10 03:18:34 2010 build
-rwxr-xr-x   1 andre  staff  -  3047 Sep 21 15:46:16 2010 encodings.1
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  - 18570 Oct 11 23:53:17 2010 encodings.m
drwxr-xr-x   5 andre  staff  -   170 Oct 11 23:57:40 2010 encodings.xcodeproj
-rwxr-xr-x   1 andre  staff  -   160 Sep 21 15:46:16 2010 encodings_Prefix.pch
2349:[master]: encodings $
```

Meslo LG S DZ 11pt


```
2348:[master]: encodings $ lss
total 88
drwxr-xr-x  12 andre  staff  -   408 Oct 12 00:42:59 2010 .
drwxr-xr-x  39 andre  staff  -  1326 Oct 11 17:09:19 2010 ..
drwxr-xr-x  14 andre  staff  -   476 Oct 12 00:57:51 2010 .git
-rw-r--r--@  1 andre  staff  -   386 Oct 10 04:56:08 2010 .gitignore
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  -   916 Oct  9 17:16:09 2010 NSString+AvailableEncodingsExtension.h
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  -  1872 Oct  9 20:58:25 2010 NSString+AvailableEncodingsExtension.m
-rw-r--r--@  1 andre  staff  -  3233 Oct 12 00:55:49 2010 README.markdown
drwxr-xr-x@  6 andre  staff  -   204 Oct 10 03:18:34 2010 build
-rwxr-xr-x   1 andre  staff  -  3047 Sep 21 15:46:16 2010 encodings.1
-rwxr-xr-x@  1 andre  staff  - 18570 Oct 11 23:53:17 2010 encodings.m
drwxr-xr-x   5 andre  staff  -   170 Oct 11 23:57:40 2010 encodings.xcodeproj
-rwxr-xr-x   1 andre  staff  -   160 Sep 21 15:46:16 2010 encodings_Prefix.pch
2349:[master]: encodings $
```

Using Meslo LG DZ with the Windows Console

If you want to use Meslo LG fonts with the Windows console (cmd.exe) you will have to follow a specific procedure to set a registry value that allows Meslo LG to appear in the Font Settings section of a console window's Properties dialog.

Microsoft has an article about it in it's knowledge base.

I recommend that you follow the instructions outlined in that article, but here's a quick overview of what to do (in case the web page becomes unavailable in the future):

Requirements:
You need a TrueType font which classifies itself as modern.
As required by that article I have set the MS font identification bit to FF_MODERN for all Meslo LG variants.

Procedure:
Using regedit.exe go to the following registry key

`HKLM\Software\Microsoft\WindowsNT\CurrentVersion\Console\TrueTypeFont`

Add a REG_SZ entry with the following contents:

Name = "00"
Value = "Meslo LG M DZ"

the double quotes should not to be entered — they are just for clarification

Actually, the exact font name to enter for the Value still needs to be determined.
It could be **Meslo LG M DZ** or **MesloLGMDZ**).

After you're finished making the Registry changes you need to (at least) log out and back in.
Then fire up a console window and right-click in the title bar and from the context menu choose Properties.

In the dialog that opens find the font settings tab and change the raster font to Meslo LG 11pt.

History

v0.1

Initial release.

v1.0

Meslo has changed it's name to Meslo LG which now includes three variants: small, medium and large.

LG stands for Line Gap, so there's one variant for smaller vertical line spacing, more towards Apple's Menlo, a normal line gap (which equals Meslo v0.1) and a large gap, which is more than twice the space of Apple's Menlo.

In addition to Regular, there's Italic, Bold and Bold Italic font styles included for each LG variant.

Tweaked the ascender/descender/line gap relationship a bit for better layout at smaller font sizes and prominent font styles. Things like underlines should be better to perceive now for the Bold and Bold Italic font styles.

The asterisk (*) was tweaked for all font styles. This includes making it line up with all alignment zones for similar height symbol characters and fixing Menlo's absence of a slanting angle for the italic and bold italic font styles while maintaining the same readability at all sizes.

v1.0

Added a dotted zero version of Meslo LG which is called Meslo LG DZ.

v1.2

– reworked all OS/2 metrics to perform uniformely across platforms...

– ...which should fix issues with monospace layout and line height on Windows.
  (tests in Notepad, Eclipse and Visual Studio 2012 Express on Windows 7 x64 SP1
  look promising).

  *Note: if you are on OS X and are currently happy with Meslo v1.0 there is
  no need to upgrade to v1.2 since this version is just fixes for Windows mostly.
  Also, sorry, no Arabic support yet since I haven't found a Bitstream like font
  that allows extracting portions of arabic code pages to be used in another font.*

Comparison Between LG DZ Small, Medium and Large

Menlo Regular 11pt (Apple) - Baseline

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);
    origin.x += floor(NSWidth(rect) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```

Meslo LG S DZ 11pt

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);
    origin.x += floor(NSWidth(rect) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```

Meslo LG M DZ 11pt

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);
    origin.x += floor(NSWidth(rect) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```

Meslo LG L DZ 11pt

```
- (void)editColor:(NSColor *)color locatedAtScreenRect:(NSRect)rect {
    [self _createWindowIfNeeded];
    [self _selectColor:color];
    NSPoint origin = rect.origin;
    NSRect windowFrame = [_window frame];
    // The origin is the lower left; subtract the window's height
    origin.y -= NSHeight(windowFrame);
    // Center the popup window under the rect
    origin.y += floor(NSHeight(rect) / 3.0);
    origin.x -= floor(NSWidth(windowFrame) / 2.0);
    origin.x += floor(NSWidth(rect) / 2.0);

    [_window setFrameOrigin:origin];
    [_window popup];
}
```

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