

## *Motivation*

One of the most fascinating aspects in the work of Tolkien undoubtedly are the languages that he created along his life. Tolkien devoted the most attention to the languages spoken by the elves. Among them, Quenya and Sindarin are the most important ones and for them he created a written support: the Tengwar alphabet. Tolkien wrote several documents in different languages, including English, using the Tengwar alphabet. A detailed list of these documents can be found in the [Forodrim](#) site, where the listed documents, called DTS, are ordered numerically. One of these documents, DTS9, is the Tengwar character chart that Tolkien published in *The Lord of the Rings*, Appendix E.

I began developing a new True Type font in April 2002 having the style of the Tengwar characters drawn by Tolkien in DTS9. Although Tengwar Elfica is inspired in this document (and not in other ones where Tolkien varies his style), it was necessary to introduce more definition in the forms, since the original document has not a high definition and the features of the characters give place to different "interpretations", especially regarding serifs. It was also necessary to take some decisions in relation to the dimensions and forms of the different characters so that the complete font can work correctly and the characters can be compatible to each other. Also the details of the stems and bows required a personal touch. I should deeply thank the advice of Dan Smith who guided me in the process of creation of Tengwar Elfica, and also to the constructive criticism of some members of the Elfscript Forum.

At the end of 2002 the first version of the font Tengwar Elfica was ready. The keyboard layout of that version is exactly the one used by Dan Smith, as it will be in future versions, so that this font can be used by all software developed based on that layout.