

Vertical Text

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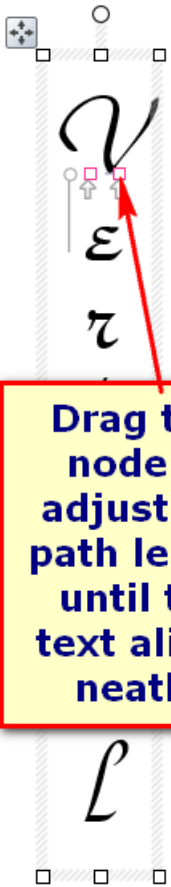
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Creating vertical text that reads downwards as is often used for neon signs is a frequent request. There are three methods that work well for most fonts. The best font is one without much variation between the letter widths. First make sure that Optical Justification is disabled, in Format, Character, Spacing.

1. Use Artistic Text on a straight line path. Select the font, font size, centre justified, and select the straight line path *before typing the text*. Change the path length by dragging the node at the end of the path. Hold down the shift key to keep the path horizontal. Use WritePlus to edit the text (Ctrl E).
2. Use centre justified frame text and insert a paragraph break or line break after each letter. This is rather less convenient to type or edit, but it gives reliable results with any font.
3. For the greatest control, convert the artistic text to curves, then each letter can be moved separately after aligning the whole text horizontally. Keep a copy of the text before converting it to curves if you may want to edit it later. Drag a copy to "My Designs" in the Gallery or to the pasteboard.

In the first two methods, the line-spacing will need to be reduced. Use the "Percentage of point size" setting, and reduce it to suit the type face. Use the character tab, advance slider to adjust the vertical position of individual letters.