

week::one

Introduction to Adobe InDesign

Tools & Features

Quick History

- Aldus PageMaker, QuarkXPress, & Adobe InDesign

Overview

- Pages & the Pasteboard Area
- Tools
 - Keyboard shortcuts
 - Hover tool tips
- Menus
- Panels
 - Use the Tab key to show/hide all tools and panels
 - Application Frame & Application Bar (yuk & yuk)
- Control Panel (Command-Option-6)
- Contextual Task Bar (suggestion: hide it)

Introducing Content Frames

Text, Graphic, and Unassigned Frames

- Change using Object > Content > ... menu

Coloring Fill & Strokes vs. Coloring Text

Content Grabber circle

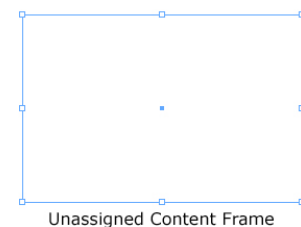
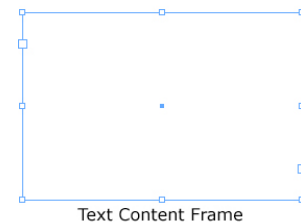
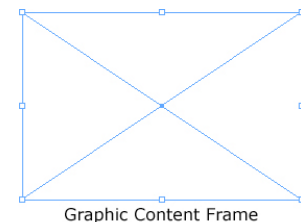
Navigation & Views

Navigation

- Hand Tool (H; spacebar for temporary switch)
- Zoom Shortcuts
 - Fit Page in Window: Command-0
 - Fit Spread in Window: Command-Option-0
 - These zoom commands are “sticky” in InDesign

Views

- Normal, Preview and Presentation Views
 - Press the W key to toggle between Normal and Preview
 - Press Shift-W to enter Presentation view—a full-screen, high-resolution view of your publication.
- Display Performance
 - Fast, Typical, and High-Quality
- Rulers
 - Command-R shows/hides rulers
 - Right-click on a rule to change your document’s unit of measurement.
- Rotate Spread
 - Rotates the appearance of current spread by 90°, -90°, or 180°.
 - Does not affect the printing of the page.



Design Software Overview

Class	VC114 Intro to Digital Graphics 1		VC115 Intro to Digital Graphics 2	
Category	Photo Editing	Illustration	Page Layout	Animation
<i>What we learn</i>	Adobe Photoshop CC 	Adobe Illustrator CC 	Adobe InDesign CC 	Adobe Animate CC 
<i>Competing applications</i>	Still King of the Hill, though there are several strong challengers: Pixelmator Pro; Acorn; Affinity Photo, new tablet apps like Procreate, and changing photography workflows (Adobe's own Lightroom; Capture One, many smartphone and tablet apps, and, of course, AI)	Affinity Designer; Sketch, Figma, & Canva	Affinity Publisher; Canva, QuarkXPress 2025, & Adobe Express	Adobe After Effects, Blackmagic Fusion 16, DaVinci Resolve 18, Blender, Hype for macOS, Apple Motion, Nuke, and many, many others
<i>Primary native image type</i>	Raster	Vector	Vector	Proprietary vector
<i>Page handling</i>	Single	Multiple (kind of)	Multiple	Stages
<i>Can import</i>	Vector and Raster-based imagery; Advanced text support			Simple Vector and Raster-based imagery
<i>Native file type</i>	.psd	.ai	.indd	.fla
<i>Commonly exported as</i>	TIFF (for Print) JPEG; PNG (for Web)	PDF, Encapsulated PostScript (EPS), raster formats	PDF	Video formats (H.264/H.265, etc.); HTML/CSS/JS; and others
<i>Most common output methods</i>	Export for use in other applications; Print; web or digital presentation	Export for use in other applications; Print	Print; PDF for electronic distribution; digital layouts	Video and Web formats