Week::two Working with Image Links & Color

Managing Image Links

The Links Panel

- Window > Links (Command-Shift-D)
- The Links panel displays a list of all images contained in the current document.
- The panel display both images that are linked to and images that are embedded.
- All placed imagery is *linked* by default.
 - Linking to an image is almost always preferred over embedding an image.
- Linking allows you to update an image outside of InDesign without re-placing it into your layout.
- The Links panel also displays the page number where that instance of a graphic is used.
 - Click on the Go To Link... icon () to jump to that image within the document.

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Updating Links

- The Links panel displays a **yellow caution icon** when an image has been updated outside of InDesign.
- To update the link, select it from the Links panel, then select Update Link from the panel submenu (or click on the Update Link icon [🖘 🖹]) The caution icon should disappear.
- When you open a document, InDesign will check the document links and ask you if you want to update any links that are out-of-date.

Fixing Broken Links

- A **red stop icon** indicates that InDesign cannot find the linked graphic.
- The linked graphic is required for the image to print at a high resolution.
- To find the missing image, select it from the Links panel, then select Relink... from the panel submenu (or click on the Relink... icon () in the bottom of the panel). Navigate to and select the correct linked image.



- When opening a document, InDesign will check the document links and ask you if you want to find any missing images.
- When you point InDesign to one missing file, all other missing files located in that directory will be automatically updated.

Embedding Images

- There are certain, rare circumstances that you might embed an image in InDesign.
- \circ An embedded image is displayed with this icon (\square) in the Links panel.
- To embed an image, open the Links panel, select the image you wish to embed, and select Embed File from the panel submenu.

Color Systems Basics

Additive System

- o RGB (Red, Green, Blue)
 - Used in photography, computer imagery, TV, theater lighting, video
- Light + Light + Light = White
- o "Off" color is black (absence of light)

Subtractive Systems

- **CMYK** (Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, blacK)
 - Used for professional printing
- o RYB (Red, Yellow, Blue)
 - Used in paints and pigments
- Color + Color + Color = Black (but not always)
- "Off" color is the color of the printed-upon medium.

Working with Color in InDesign

Panels

- Window > Color (F6)
 - Use for "casual" color selection. Try to *not* use this method.
- Window > Swatches (F5)
 - Used for more "formal, methodical" color selections. This is the place to define and manage your colors in InDesign.

Swatch Panel Iconography

- Swatches are either Process () or Spot () colors.
- They can be defined using the CMYK (▲), RGB () or LAB () color models.
- o 99% of the time, **use CMYK**.
- \circ The Φ indicates the Registration color.

Special Swatch Entries

- These swatches have special functions within InDesign, and are denoted by the square brackets [].
- o [None]
 - No fill or stroke applied.
- o [Paper]
 - Note that by double-clicking on the [Paper] swatch, you can change the color of the paper as it appears in InDesign. Note that the color you pick will NOT print, however.
- o [Black]
 - Just black ink.
 - You can control the appearance of black by selecting InDesign > Preferences > Appearance of Black
- o [Registration]
 - All inks are outputted at the time of printing.
 - Do NOT used for artwork or text—only use for registration marks used to align printed artwork.





Color Types & Tools

Swatch Behavior

- Always apply color using defined swatches.
 - Do not use the color picker in the toolbar, nor the Color panel *without* defining created color first as swatches.
- Swatches are **automatically updated** throughout your artwork when you edit them.

Process Color

- This type of printing uses four standard inks: cyan, magenta, yellow and black.
- Colors defined in CMYK are called *Process colors*.

Tints

- A tint is a lighter version of an existing color.
- o It's not transparent—it completely blocks out any objects beneath it.
- Tints are the best way to apply variations of an existing color swatch.
- Only use *Opacity* if you want an object to appear transparent; to see through it.

Spot Color

- Spot colors are inks tinted to a specific color.
- This allows for a designer to add color to a document without using full-color offset printing.
 - For example, a newsletter might us black ink plus one Spot color (blue, dark green, etc.)
 - Spot colors also allow for the use of specialty inks, like metallic and fluorescent colors that cannot be re-created using Process colors.
- o In the U.S., the primary color standard used for inks is the Pantone Color System.
 - Alas, due to a contract dispute Panton color are no longer included by default (and free) within Adobe's programs—it's yet another subscription to add them back.

Gradients

- o Types:
 - Radial
 - Linear
- To add a color to a gradient, simply drag it from the Swatches panel onto a location along the sample in the Gradient panel.
- To modify the color of an existing stopper point using the Gradient panel, select the color point, then drag a new color from the Swatches panel onto it, or adjust it in the Color panel.



- You can apply and alter gradients using the Gradient Swatch (E); G) tool.
- Gradients can be saved as swatches for application to other objects.
 - Drag the gradient from the panel to the Swatches panel, or right-click on the gradient preview and select Add to Swatches.
- You can also make an object fade from a solid to transparent using the Gradient Feather (i); shift-G) tool.

Color Theme Tool (22; Shift-I)

- Creates a color palette from the five most-frequently occurring colors in an image.
- Colors can be added to the Swatches panel individually or as a group.

Adobe Color Themes

- Window > Color> Adobe Color Themes
- Provides a sophisticated (but sometimes clunky) color scheme creator, as well as connections to Adobe's online color community.

