

Interface and Program

Basics

This section gives you a basic introduction to InDesign itself, showing the interface and tools that you'll use everyday and how they equate to their counterparts in QuarkXPress. InDesign and QuarkXPress have very different interface approaches, and understanding the differences is key to becoming comfortable in InDesign.

This section makes it easy to match up differing elements by showing a visual translation between the interfaces. You'll also see what interface elements are not the same, even though they may at first appear to be, so you don't mistakenly use an inappropriate element.

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Controlling What You See 20 Onscreen)

Translating Basic Terms

QuarkXPress

N	lajor	Termino	logy	Differences
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QuarkXPress	InDesign	Meaning
Anchored item	inline frame	An object placed within text that flows with the text as it is edited
Background color	Fill	Color applied to an object's background
Blend	Gradient	Gradation of one color to another
Box	Frame	Container for text or graphic
Color	Swatch	A defined color that can be separated onto its own plate (for printing)
Frame	Stroke	Outline of an object, graphic, or text character
Get or Import	Place	Bring an outside element into the layout
ltem	Object	Something you can select, such as a line, picture, or text box
Link	Thread	Connection between text boxes to control text flow
Picture	Graphic	An image or drawing, usually created in another application
Runaround	Text wrap	Having text follow closely around another object's shape
Shade	Tint	A color with less than complete saturation
Style	Character format	A single text attribute, such as italics or boldface
Style sheet	Style	Collection of text attributes that are saved and can be applied all at once
XTension	Plug-in	Optional program that adds features to QuarkXPress or InDesign





Keep in Mind

QuarkXPress and InDesign use different terms for the same things, which can be confusing. This book uses QuarkXPress terms on QuarkXPress pages and InDesign terms on InDesign pages, to highlight the differences as if they were two languages. The table at left highlights the major terminology differences. The screen shots show the terms applied to actual interface elements. R

Comparing Palettes and Panes

Note These Differences

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InDesign has lots of palettes, which often contain multiple panes. QuarkXPress has a fair number of self-contained palettes but not as many as InDesign, since QuarkXPress leaves many detailed actions to its dialog boxes.

Because it has so many palettes, the transition to InDesign can be bewildering. On this spread, I've indicated the InDesign panes that correspond to QuarkXPress palettes by giving them the same numerical labels. Note that, in some cases, a pane or palette may contain functions covered in more than one pane or palette in the other program.

All palettes and panes are available in the Window menu (for QuarkXPress 5 or earlier, in the View menu). Note that InDesign groups its text-oriented panes under the Type & Tables submenu. I've indicated keyboard shortcuts for those that have them. In one case, InDesign uses a dialog box where QuarkXPress has a palette (the Lists palette), so I've also shown the menu path for that dialog box.



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QuarkXPress



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Comparing Dialog Boxes, part one QuarkXPress

Note These Differences

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Both InDesign and QuarkXPress use dialog boxes accessed from their menu bars, but the interfaces are quite different. On this and the next spread, I've indicated the InDesign dialog boxes (and sometimes panes) that correspond to QuarkXPress dialog boxes by giving them the same numerical labels. I've also shown the menu sequence and, if it exists, the keyboard shortcut.

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Comparing Dialog Boxes, part two QuarkXPress



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Comparing the Measurements and Control Palettes

QuarkXPress

Note These Differences

The QuarkXPress Measurements palette was a breakthrough innovation in its time, and put many commonly used capabilities within quick reach. Even better, the palette changed its options based on what was selected, minimizing space on the screen and presenting only relevant options.

InDesign CS finally introduced an equivalent feature, called the Control palette, that offers more controls, both in the palette itself and through its palette menu.

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S For a text box selected with the Content tool

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5 For a Bézier line's node selected with the Content tool

Go Further: The InDesign Control palette can be docked to the top or bottom of the screen, so it is always visible but away from the layout you're working on. Just choose Dock at Top or Dock at Bottom from the Control palette's palette menu. To have the Control palette float à la QuarkXPress's Measurements palette, choose Float from the palette menu.

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Watch Out: When you resize a frame or its content by entering a specific percentage in InDesign, such a in the Control palette or Transform pane, the percent age will change back to 100% in the pane or palette after the frame or content is resized — if you use the Selection tool. To see the actual percentage in InDesign, you must use the Direct Selection tool to select the object. (In QuarkXPress, the percent age value is displayed accurately in the Measurements palette whether you use the Item or Content tool.)	

Comparing Tools

Note These Differences

At the heart of the interface of both QuarkXPress and InDesign is the Tools palette. This floating palette contains the tools that you use to work with objects.

Both programs' palettes have tools that are invisible by default. In both cases, look for the tiny triangle on the right side of a tool's icon; that triangle means more related tools are available by clicking and holding the mouse button. If you choose an alternative tool, it then becomes visible in the Tools palette.

As is the case with the Control palette versus Measurements palette, the InDesign Tools palette offers more functions than the QuarkXPress Tools palette. Furthermore, you can more easily customize tool settings in the InDesign Tools palette by double-clicking some of the tools, as shown on this spread. (QuarkXPress lets you customize a few tools, also as shown here.)

Note that the InDesign Selection and Direct Selection tools are not always equivalent to the QuarkXPress Item and Content tools, as the "Comparing Selection Tools" section on page 16 explains.

Another common tool that can confuse QuarkXPress veterans is the InDesign Type tool. It's best to think of the Type tool as a combination of the QuarkXPress Rectangle Text Box tool and the Content tool for text. In InDesign, you use the Type tool to create text frames and then use it to edit and format the text. But you can't move or resize text frames with the Type tool as you can with the QuarkXPress Content tool.

For some QuarkXPress tools, InDesign lacks equivalent tools:

- Link and Unlink: InDesign handles these functions by having you click on thread handles in text frames.
- Table (QuarkXPress 5 and later): InDesign handles tables through the Table pane (Windows the Tables the Table, or Shift+F9.
- Starburst (QuarkXPress 5 and later): InDesign handles this capability through the Polygon and Polygon Frame tools
- Web-publishing tools (QuarkXPress 5 and later): InDesign has no equivalents to the Web-publishing tools — except for the button tool used for interactive documents exported as PDF files — since InDesign CS and C2 do not offer the Web-page creation capabilities that were part of InDesign 2.





Double-click a tool to open the General Preferences dialog box, which has a pane that lets you change the default settings for each of the tools. You can also access this dialog box as follows:

- Version 6 on Mac: QuarkXPress ⇔ Preferences, or Option+Shift+೫+Y
- Version 6 in Windows: Edit
 ^C Preferences, or Ctrl+Alt+Shift+Y
- Version 5: Edit
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 ^t→ Preferences, or Option+Shift+೫+Y or Ctrl+Alt+Shift+Y
- Version 4: Edit ▷ Preferences ▷ Document, or %+Y or Ctrl+Y

QuarkXPress





Comparing the Selection Tools

Note These Differences

One of the most confusing changes for a veteran QuarkXPress user switching to InDesign is the set of InDesign selection tools. Although both programs have two selection tools, they are not the same.

The two QuarkXPress tools have a clear separation: The Item tool works on items such as boxes and lines and their attributes, while the Content tool works on item contents such as text or pictures. The distinction used to be ironclad, but as QuarkXPress has evolved, Quark has let users select either tool when an action, such as reshaping a line, doesn't differentiate between the content and the container.

InDesign's two tools have strict but muddy distinctions: The Selection tool by and large works on the container. The Direct Selection tool by and large works on the contents, but not always. So QuarkXPress veterans need to forget about the QuarkXPress way of working entirely. And the truth is that the difference between the InDesign Selection tool and Direct Selection tool takes some getting used to.

In InDesign, you'll be switching tools constantly. When you create an object, its tool remains selected so you can't move or resize the objects immediately after you create them - unlike in QuarkXPress. The Selection tool only lets you move and resize objects, while the Direct Selection tool lets you reshape objects and work with graphics.

In terms of working with content, the Direct Selection tool is much like the QuarkXPress Content tool, but it also lets you edit the frame as if it were a Bézier object. For example, if the Direct Selection tool is selected and you drag a point on the frame, you'll move that point and thus change the shape of the object - a rectangle is converted into a polygon, since the lines immediately adjacent to the moved point will move with the point, while the rest of the frame will not be affected. In QuarkXPress, if the Content tool is selected and you drag a point on the frame, you'll resize the frame (perhaps nonproportionally) but the entire side(s) adjacent to the point will move with the point, so a rectangle will still be a rectangle. To change a frame in the way that QuarkXPress does with both the Content and Item tools, use the Selection tool in InDesign.

Some functions in the QuarkXPress Item and Content tools cannot be achieved through the InDesign Selection and Direct Selection tools. For example, to edit text in InDesign, you use the Type tool, not the Direct Selection tool. (You can quickly switch to the Type tool by double-clicking in a text frame.)

At right, I show the QuarkXPress Item and Content tools used for various actions, then the InDesign Selection and Direct Selection tools that are equivalent. To help you match actions across the two programs, like actions have like numbers.

Dragging a corner or side handle with the Item tool resizes the box.



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Dragging a corner or side handle with the Content tool also resizes the box.

> 2 You could also edit or format the text

Oragging anywhere inside with the Item tool moves the box.

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4 After selecting a picture with the Content tool, you can change the X% or Y% field in the Measurements palette to resize a picture but not its box (not shown).

5 Dragging anywhere inside the box with the Content tool moves the picture within the box.

6 To edit a box's shape, first change the box shape to a Bézier box by choosing Item 다 Shape 다 Bézier shape icon. You can then reshape the box by dragging the handles with the Content tool.





Keep in Mind

InDesign CS2 introduces the Position tool, a renamed version of PageMaker's Crop tool. You access it from the pop-out menu in the Direct Selection tool. The Position tool combines some aspects of the Selection tool with some aspects of the Direct Selection tool:

- As with the Selection tool, you can resize an object's frame by dragging its handles.
- As with the Direct Selection tool, you can click on a graphic and reposition it (crop it) within the frame by dragging.

Click an image with the Direct Selection tool, then clickand-drag to move the graphic within its frame.

In InDesign CS2, you can also choose Object ⇔ Convert Shape.





B

Using the Contextual Menus

QuarkXPress

Keep in Mind

Contextual menus are a great way to avoid interface clutter, and can ease your need to remember how to find needed panes and dialog boxes. This is especially true for InDesign, which has an unwieldy number of panes that are a challenge to keep track of and for which it is difficult to remember their functionality. Contextual menus are also a great way to learn what you can do with an object, even understanding that additional obscure or specialized functions may be available that don't show up in a contextual menu.

In each new version, QuarkXPress has added more and more contextual-menu options, though InDesign still offers far more. Veteran QuarkXPress users are not in the habit of using contextual menus, so many InDesign converts ignore this very convenient way to work with objects. Note that the options displayed in each program's contextual menus will vary based on which version you are using; the screenshots here are for QuarkXPress 6 and InDesign CS2.

Because contextual menus are, well, contextual, it's impossible to show every possible contextual menu available. I've highlighted the contextual menus from the objects you'll use the most.

A final note: QuarkXPress 6 brought contextual menus to many palettes (Colors, Style Sheets, Layers, Page Layout, Synchronized Text, Index, and Lists). InDesign offers contextual menus in two panes (Paragraph Styles and Character Styles), but it offers the palette menu, which opens a pane-specific set of options in every pane. It's best to think of the palette menu as a hard-wired contextual menu for each pane.

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Contextual menu for the Colors palette

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Contextual menu for a box via the Item tool

Contextual menu for a picture via the Content tool

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Contextual menu for table text via the Content tool

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Contextual menu for the Paragraph Styles pane; the Character Styles and Object Styles panes have similar contextual menus

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Contextual menu for a text frame via the Selection or **Direct Selection tool**

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Contextual menu for a text path via the Type tool

Controlling What You See Onscreen QuarkXPress

Keep in Mind

InDesign has many panes — 28 in Indesign 2, 35 in Indesign CS, and 39 in InDesign CS2 — so it's very easy to get overwhelmed. QuarkXPress has seven to 14 panes, depending on what version you use, and relies more on dialog boxes, particularly the Modify dialog box, to handle key layout settings in one place.

In both programs, you can choose which panes and palettes to display via the Window menu (the View menu in Quark-XPress 5 or earlier). And you can double-click a palette's title bar to minimize it. But InDesign offers several more options to manage what you see onscreen:

- A pane can be combined with other panes into palettes, simply by dragging the pane by the title bar into another pane's palette. This lets you logically group panes.
- In InDesign CS and later, palettes can be docked to either side of the screen, so they are visible but not in the way. (InDesign 2 does not support palette docking.) Double-click the palette title to open it. (Palettes that are not docked will appear as floating palettes when you open them from the Window menu; they will appear at their last location.)
- Some palettes can be expanded to display additional controls; keep them in their basic view to minimize screen usage until you need those additional features.
- You can dock the Control palette which consolidates several features into one place — at the top or bottom of the screen. This keeps the palette conveniently available without it getting in the way of your document.
- You can save your interface settings as workspaces (in the Window menu) so you can easily change from, for example, a designer's set of palettes to a copy editor's set.

Both QuarkXPress and InDesign have similar View menu controls, managing how guides and rulers are displayed. And both let you customize such elements in their Preferences dialog boxes. InDesign can also highlight onscreen any text that violates various hyphenation and justification rules, as well as text using an unavailable font.



Doubleclick a palette title bar to minimize it The Window menu in QuarkXPress 6 controls placement of document windows and palettes. (The View menu does this in earlier versions.)

In all versions, the View menu also manages magnification and display of rulers and guides, as well of preview settings.



The Display and General panes (above), as well as the Interactive pane (not shown) of the Preferences dialog box control view preferences.

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The Window menu controls placement of document windows and palettes. The View menu manages magnification and display of rulers and guides, as well of preview settings. The Display Performance, Grids, and Guides & Pasteboard panes (above) of the Preferences dialog box control view preferences, as does the Units & Increments pane (not shown).