2026 ADOBE INDESIGN QUICKSTART

Welcome to Adobe InDesign 2026. Get started with essential foundational tools and techniques used in desktop publishing. Ready to take the next step in your skillset?

Lesson 1: Getting Started with Adobe InDesign

Learn the basics of navigating the InDesign interface & understanding how professional layout documents are built.

- Lecture: Raster versus Vector in layout workflows
- Lecture: Handling placed media and linked assets
- Lecture: Artificial Intelligence features currently available
- Creating & managing new docs, presets, workspaces
- Interface essentials and key panels
- Anatomy of frames, placeholder text, & Properties panel

Lesson 2: Working with Text and Images

Combine formatted text and images into cohesive layouts using modern InDesign workflows.

- Creating professional-looking text quickly
- How frames and images interact and update dynamically
- Working with swatches & color extraction to build themes
- Exporting clean, presentation-ready documents efficiently

Lesson 3: Focusing on Raster Images

Understand image formats, resolution, and quality management inside InDesign.

- Common image formats used in layout projects
- Resizing, cropping, and positioning images correctly
- Using the Properties panel for image control
- Understanding fitting options and best practices

Lesson 4: Fundamental Layout Workflows

Learn core layout techniques used in real-world publishing projects.

- Typography fundamentals in InDesign and Adobe Fonts
- Creating and managing text columns
- Styling pull quotes, captions, and credits
- Creative typography techniques without breaking structure

Lesson 5: Pages and Spreads Essentials

Master page management and document structure.

- Pages versus Parent Pages and their modern usage
- Navigating and customizing the Pages panel
- Working with facing-page spreads
- Creating automatic page numbers
- Working with layer effects and object effects

Lesson 6: Packaging and Export

Prepare documents for delivery, archiving, and collaboration.

- Export options available in InDesign
- Creating professional PDF exports
- Templates, IDML workflows, and backward compatibility
- Packaging projects for transfer or long-term storage

This outline represents a general overview of topics covered in class. Lesson order and content may be adjusted or combined as needed to create the most effective learning experience. Due to frequent application updates, provided books and materials may not always reflect every feature discussed in class, including Adobe's own documentation, which can occasionally lag behind current versions. We will always strive to provide the most accurate and up-to-date information available. Students are encouraged to take notes during class and to take full advantage of Training Connection's audit option, which allows you to retake the course at your convenience.