How to wrap text around objects

You've probably seen documents with a picture set within a long text block, or with a "pull out quote" positioned in the middle of a text block. Designers create this effect by wrapping text around these objects. In Adobe InDesign CS6, you can add shapes or frames within text frames and wrap text around them.

Wrapping text around a simple shape

In the steps that follow, you fill a text block with placeholder text, then draw a rectangle over the text. You then select the Wrap Around Object shape option to rearrange the text around the rectangle.

You might use this technique to add a small graphic to the middle of a text block, or to illustrate something described in the text block.

To wrap text around a simple shape:

1. Start InDesign and create a new document. Create a text frame by using the Type tool.
2. Choose Type > Fill With Placeholder Text to fill the frame with placeholder text.
3. Choose the Rectangle tool in the Tools panel (**Figure 1**) and drag the pointer *over* the text to draw a rectangle (**Figure 2**).

   The rectangle appears over the text.
4. Make sure the rectangle is still selected. On the right side of the Control panel, click the Wrap Around Object Shape button (**Figure 3**).

   Observe that the text now wraps around the rectangle (**Figure 4**).

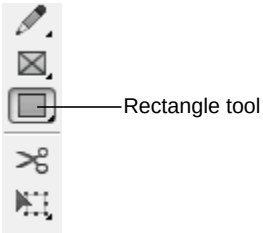

Figure 1 Tools panel

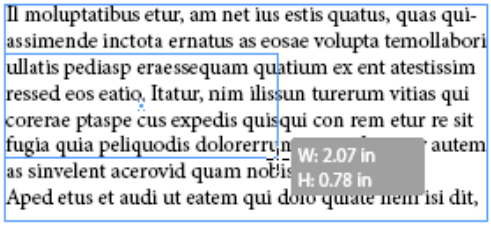

Figure 2 Rectangle drawn over text

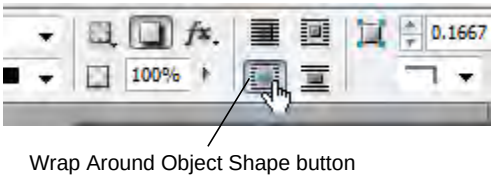

Figure 3 Control panel

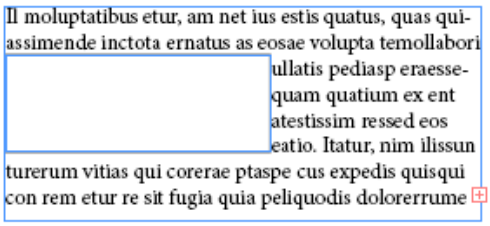

Figure 4 Text wrapped around object

Using text wrap to add a pullout quotation

Publications often include *pullout quotations* to add interest. These key quotations are highlighted in a text box and placed in the middle of a text block.

To wrap text for a pullout quotation:

1. Choose the Rectangle Frame tool in the Tools panel.
2. Drag the pointer *over* the text to draw a rectangle (**Figure 5**).

   The rectangle appears over the text.
3. Make sure the rectangle is still selected. On the right side of the Control panel, click the Wrap Around Object Shape button (**Figure 6**).
4. Choose the Selection tool in the Tools panel.
5. Click the edge of the frame to select it.
6. Choose Object > Content > Text to change the frame to a text frame.
7. Add text to the text frame to complete the pullout quotation (**Figure 7**).

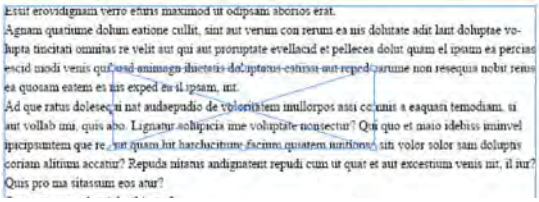

Figure 5 Frame in the middle of a text block

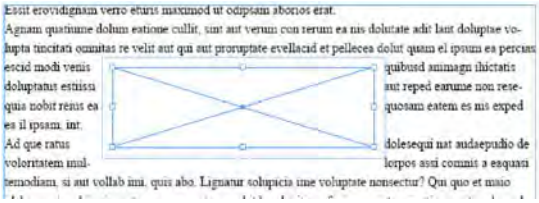

Figure 6 Wrap Around Object Shape applied

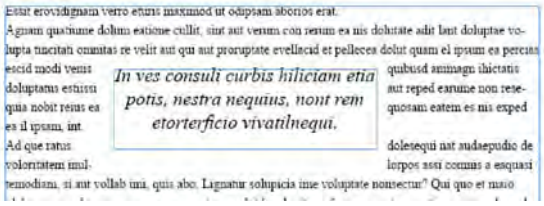

Figure 7 Pullout quotation complete

Spread Rotation

Now you no longer need to rotate your monitor when designing a publication with both horizontal and vertical pages. The Rotate Spread command enables you to temporarily turn your document in 90-degree increments so you can easily work on text and images that are not right-side-up relative to the rest of the document.

To rotate a spread:

1. Start InDesign and choose File > New to display the New Document dialog box (**Figure 8**).
2. In the Number of Pages box, enter **3**.

   You can enter a higher number, but make it at least 3. You want at least 3 pages because InDesign places the first page by itself, the way the first page of a magazine or book usually appears on the right side by itself. When you select 3 pages, you ensure you'll get at least one facing page spread.
3. Click OK to close the New Document dialog box and create the document.

   The document opens on the first page.

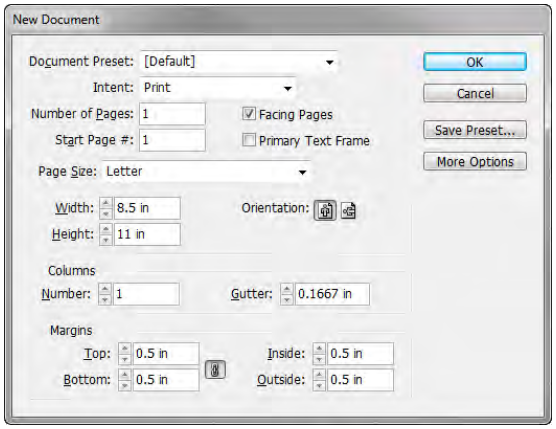

Figure 8 New Document dialog box

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4. Choose View > Rotate Spread > 90° CW.

   The first page of the layout rotates one-quarter turn clockwise relative to the other pages in the document (**Figure 9**).

5. Choose Window > Pages to display the Pages panel.

   Beside page 1 the View Is Rotated -90˚ icon indicates that the representation of the page in the Pages panel is rotated 90° counterclockwise (**Figure 10**). (This may seem a bit confusing, but you rotated the page clockwise, and what you see in the Pages panel has not changed, so it's as if the representation had been rotated back 90˚ from the actual position of the page.)

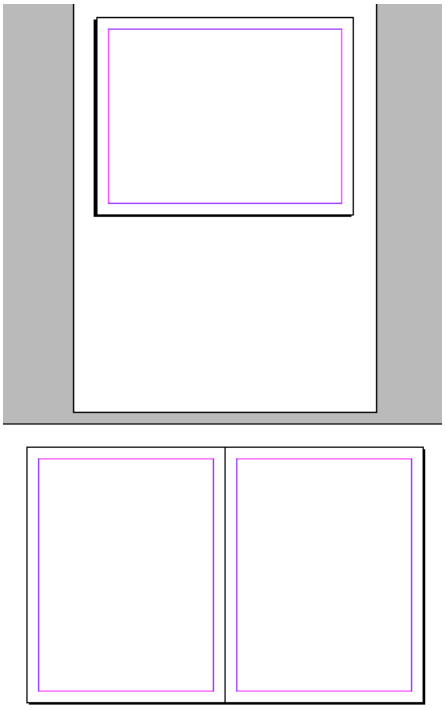

Figure 9 Three-page layout showing first page rotated 90°

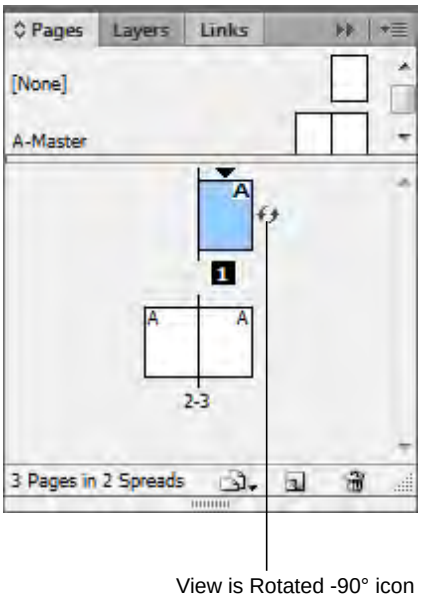

Figure 10 Pages panel