How to import files

In Adobe InDesign CS6, you use the Place command to add files to your layout. When using the Place command, you can specify import options to manage special types of files. For example, if you import an Adobe Photoshop CS6 file into InDesign, you can maintain layers as you import the file.

After you import a Photoshop PSD file, you can open that file from within an InDesign page and edit it in Photoshop. Changes are automatically updated to the image on the page after you close Photoshop.

This kind of *round-trip editing* can speed up your work.

Note: This guide focuses on Photoshop files. The options for importing Adobe Illustrator CS6 files are similar.

Importing files

The options for importing graphics vary depending on the type of image being imported. You can manipulate the import options in the Image Import Options dialog box.

To import a file:

1. Start InDesign and create a new document.
2. Choose File > Place.

   The Place dialog box appears (**Figure 1**).
3. Make sure the Show Import Options option is selected.

   This option lets you specify how the file imports.
4. Select the Preview option (Windows).

   When the Preview option is selected, a thumbnail of a selected image appears in the lower-right corner of the Place dialog box.
5. Browse to the location of a Photoshop PSD file.
6. Select the file and click Open.

   The Image Import Options dialog box appears (**Figure 2**).
7. If the Layers tab is not selected, click it to select it.
8. Under Show Layers, click to deselect layers you do not want to show or to select layers you do want to show.

   In the example (**Figure 2**), the background layer of the image has been deselected.
9. Under Update Link options, choose Keep Layer Visibility Overrides.

   Now you can manage layer visibility through InDesign even if you change layer visibility in the Photoshop file

   Note: When you import an image file into InDesign, you are actually creating a link to the file. You can still update the file in Photoshop after you create the link.

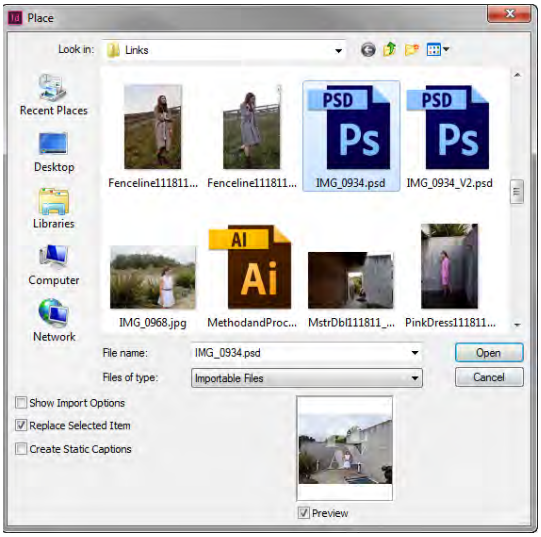

Figure 1 Place dialog box

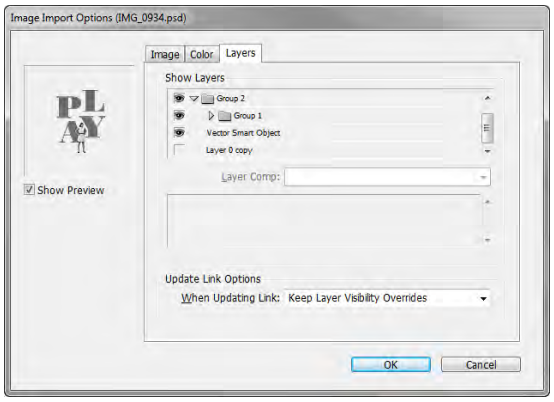

Figure 2 Image Import Options dialog box

10. Click OK to close the Image Import Options dialog box.

The Place dialog box closes. The pointer changes to a loaded graphics icon, with a thumbnail of the image.

11. Click the page where you want to place the image.

The image appears on the page, at its current size (**Figure 3**).

The image is placed with the same layers visible that you set in the Import Image Options dialog box.

To minimize RAM use, InDesign displays images at a minimal quality by default.

12. To display the image at full quality, choose View > Display Performance > High Quality Display.

The image's quality changes.

Note: This setting does not change how the image appears when printed.

Figure 3 Object placed on page

Editing the original

When you import a Photoshop file into InDesign, you can open the original file through InDesign.

To edit an original image:

1. Select a Photoshop file you have imported into InDesign.

2. Choose Edit > Edit Original.

The original image opens in Photoshop (**Figure 4**).

3. Make changes to the image in Photoshop.

In the example (**Figure 4**), the color of the text has changed.

4. When you have finished, save your edits and close Photoshop.

5. Return to InDesign.

The object has changed (**Figure 5**).

Note: The background in Photoshop (**Figure 4**) is still absent from the imported image (**Figure 5**). This is because you selected the Keep Layer Visibility Overrides option when you imported the image.

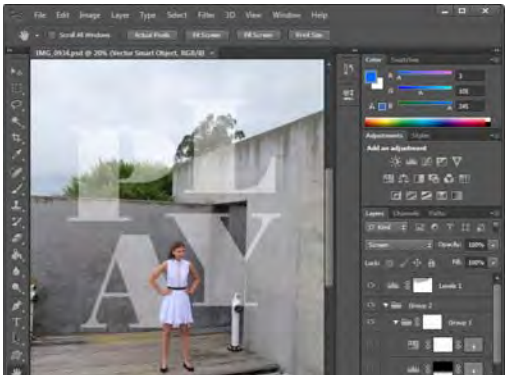

Figure 4 Original image in Photoshop

Figure 5 Edited image in InDesign

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