

Pageflex DesignOut Plug-in for Adobe InDesign

Introduction

The Pageflex DesignOut Plug-in for Adobe® InDesign® exports documents from InDesign into the Pageflex document format.

A document exported by the plug-in, when viewed with a Pageflex application, closely resembles the original InDesign document. The plug-in preserves text, text composition, images, graphics, and layout positions as accurately as possible while converting InDesign properties to corresponding Pageflex properties. Not all InDesign features and properties can be exported.

Each export creates an .xdt file containing the document content and layout information in XML format, and a .tsl file containing the document models and styles. Exported documents can be opened by current Pageflex applications.

You can download the plug-in from the Pageflex Support website:

<http://www.pageflex.com/downloads/designout>

New and updated builds of the plug-in are periodically posted at this site.

Software Requirements

Different versions of the plug-in are available for the following versions of InDesign:

- Adobe InDesign v2.x for Microsoft Windows
- Adobe InDesign CS, CS2 and CS3 for Microsoft Windows
- Adobe InDesign CS, CS2 and CS3 for Macintosh

Note that all Pageflex applications run on Windows systems.

Documents generated by the plug-in can be opened by Pageflex Studio and Persona Studio applications.

Installation

The Pageflex DesignOut plug-in file PFExport.apln should first be extracted from its compressed .zip file (for Windows) or .sit(x) file (for Macintosh).

To install the plug-in

1. Exit Adobe InDesign if the application is running.
2. Copy PFExport.apln into the Adobe InDesign CS\Plug-Ins\Filters folder.
3. Restart InDesign.
4. To view details about the plug-in, choose Help > Configure Plug-ins (Windows) or InDesign > Configure Plug-ins (Macintosh) and look for PFEXPORT.APLN in the All Plug-ins list.

Using the plug-in

The plug-in exports InDesign documents in their current state, whether saved or not.

Exporting InDesign Documents

1. Make a document active in InDesign and choose File > Export. This opens an Export dialog box.
2. In the dialog box, choose Pageflex Template from the Save As Type menu.
3. Enter a name for the exported document. The file extension “.xdt” will be automatically applied by the plug-in if you do not type it yourself.
4. Click Save. The document is saved as an .xdt file with an associated .tsl file in the Pageflex format.

Opening a Pageflex Template in Studio or Persona

To open a Pageflex template with Studio, choose File > Open and browse to the template. Carefully examine the exported document. While the plug-in attempts to export all properties as accurately as possible, you may see some unavoidable differences in areas such as text composition or color management.

Notes on Supported and Unsupported Features

Whenever possible, the plug-in exports all features of an InDesign document. However, since not all InDesign features have equivalent features in Pageflex applications, your new template may not exactly match the original document. You should examine exported documents carefully and make any necessary corrections. Following are some of the known InDesign feature and attribute areas that do not have exact equivalents in Pageflex applications.

Document Properties

- Long document properties (master pages, automatic page numbers, sections, and so on) are not exported to their equivalent Pageflex properties. Long document features are fully available in Pageflex Studio, and these features can be applied to exported documents.
- The plug-in exports only the first 250 pages of an InDesign document. Pageflex Studio and .EDIT projects can open documents of any page length. Pageflex Designer and Persona do not support documents over 250 pages.
- Named layers are not converted, but the relationships among layers are preserved.
- Paper color in InDesign is not converted to page color in Pageflex documents.
- Baseline grids are not converted.

Layout Objects

- Object corner effects are not converted.
- Open and compound paths are not exported.
- Dashed and dotted lines are converted into solid lines.
- Dashed and dotted borders are converted into solid borders.
- Locked groups are converted, and include their individual objects.
- Trapping information is not converted.
- Bezier paths are converted, but paths can be incorrect

Images

In exports from Macintosh InDesign, image pathnames are truncated to the image names alone. This is because Macintosh syntax for pathnames is quite different from the Windows syntax. As long as the images are copied to an Images subfolder in the same folder as the document, the Pageflex application will automatically find the images. If they are located elsewhere, the Pageflex application will offer you the chance to locate the missing images when you open the document.

Colors

- Pantone colors are converted to CMYK colors.

- Graduated fills are converted to solid black fills.
- Graduated borders are converted to solid borders.
- Type characters that have any kind of stroke and the fill set to “None” are exported as solid type using the color of the stroke.

Text

- Pageflex applications do not support multiple master fonts. Convert any multiple master fonts you use in InDesign to PostScript Type 1 fonts before exporting the document with the plug-in.
- Some PostScript Type 1 font families may have font styles, such as bold, extra bold, medium, or oblique, that cannot be accurately referenced in Pageflex applications. Check the usage of an exported document’s Type 1 fonts in the Pageflex application and change font style assignments as needed in the Paragraph Style Properties dialog or the Properties palette.
- All Wrap Around options are converted as text runarounds; text will run only around boxes, not around their content.
- Pageflex applications do not support the InDesign composition preference “Text wrap only affects text beneath”. Text will runaround objects regardless of whether they are above or beneath the text. If possible, avoid checking this preference in InDesign when creating templates for Pageflex applications.
- The Invert option is converted to a regular runaround.
- Although named Character styles are not converted, the properties of text with assigned character styles are preserved as overrides.
- Individual character leading is not converted. Pageflex applications apply leading values only as a paragraph format property.
- Tracking is not converted.
- Vertical Scale, Horizontal Scale, and Skew are not converted.
- If a number begins a paragraph style name, the number is converted to an underscore (“_”). Spaces in the names are also converted as underscores.
- Language settings are converted, except for Swahili and Icelandic.
- The Justify Last Line Center, Right, and Left settings are converted to Justify.
- The Align Center, Bottom, and Justify settings are converted to Justify Top.
- The Align to Baseline Grid property is not applied to converted text.
- Glyph Scaling is not converted.
- Text is exported without these features: Small Caps, All Caps, Strikethrough, and Old Style.
- Ligatures may not be converted in all cases.
- Paragraph Rules are converted in most cases. Paragraph rules with Text width are converted to paragraph rules with Column width.
- Tabs set using the default tab stops are not converted. However, tabs that you set yourself are converted.
- Hair spaces are not converted.
- Discretionary hyphens are not converted.
- Section markers are not converted.
- New text column special characters should be carefully checked

Thank you for choosing Pageflex!

Pageflex

A division of Bitstream, Inc.

245 First Street, 17th Floor

Cambridge, MA 02142

<http://www.pageflex.com/>

Support e-mails: support@pageflex.com

Sales e-mails: sales@pageflex.com

All product or company names are used for identification purposes only, and may be registered trademarks or trademarks of their respective owners.

© 1998–2008 Bitstream Inc. and Pageflex, Cambridge, MA. All rights reserved.