

Bringing It All Together: CC Workflows

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Bringing It All Together: CC Workflows

This session uncovers the secrets to maximizing your design prowess by highlighting the power of Creative Cloud's online services. Adobe's Bart Van de Wiele will teach you how to work faster, collaborate with others, and say goodbye to email reviews using a variety of possibilities.

Topics include:

- Ideate and collaborate using generative AI with Adobe Firefly
- Streamline your workflow using CC Libraries and Adobe Stock
- Set up approval workflows using cloud documents and even Adobe Frame io (yes, you have this!)
- Bring everything together as part of Adobe's eco-system

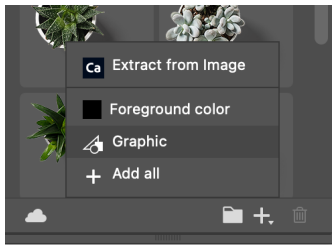


Bringing Photoshop content into Illustrator

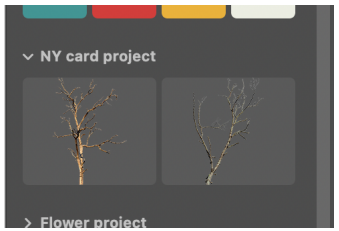
This project explains the flexibility of using Photoshop content in Illustrator, and why CC Libraries are the best choice for these types of projects.

Saving your layers

1. Open your file in Photoshop.
2. Choose Window > Libraries to display the Libraries panel (if it isn't already active).
3. In the Layers panel, select your layer.
4. In the Libraries panel, click the + symbol and choose Graphic add to add the individual layer to the current library.

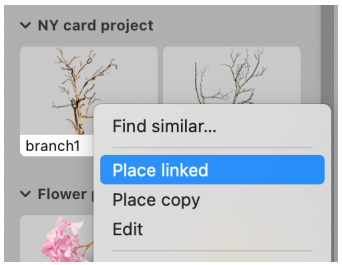


5. Repeat this process for all other layers



Placing and positioning

1. Go to Illustrator.
2. Choose File > Libraries to display the Libraries panel.
3. Find the two layers you have just added in the Libraries panel.
4. Click the first branch, then right-click and choose Place Linked.



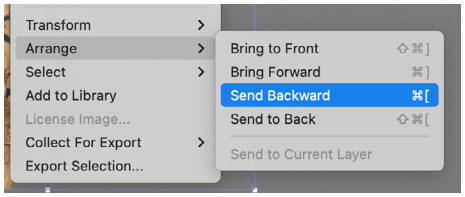
5. With the loaded cursor, drag to place the image on the place. Let it overlap with the edge of the card.



6. Do the same with the other branch. Place it on the approximate size and position as you see in the screen-shot below.



7. Select the first branch, right-click it and choose Arrange > Send to Back to position it behind the white text.



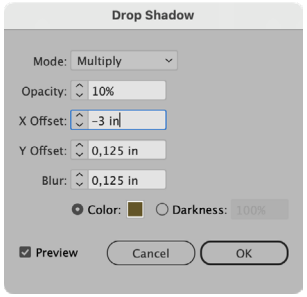


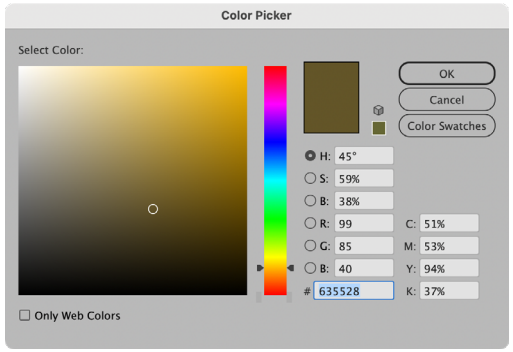
8. Keep the branch selected and choose Effect > Blur > Gaussian Blur. Enter a value of 8, then press OK to close.



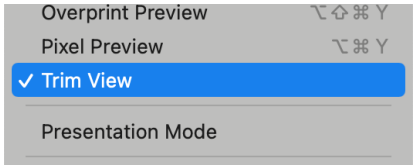
9. Select the left branch.

10. Choose Effect > Stylize > Drop Shadow and enter the values below. Click OK to close.





11. Choose View > Trim View to hide all elements beyond the artboard trim line.

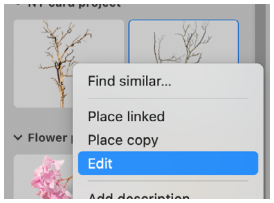


12. Save the file but keep it open.

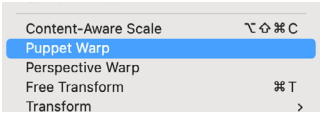
Updating placed graphics

1. Select the element named “branch2” in the CC Library.

2. Right-click it and choose “Edit”. This will open it in Photoshop for editing.



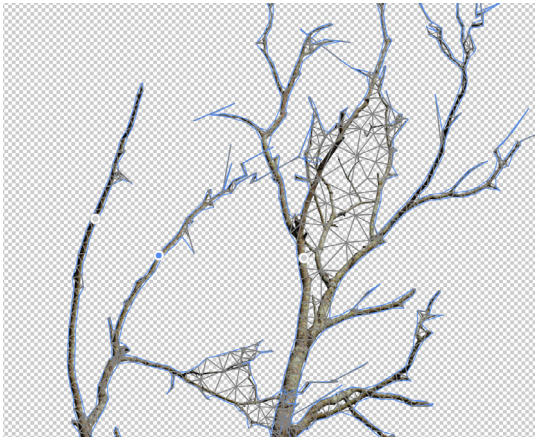
3. In Photoshop, choose Edit > Puppet Warp.



4. Click on a few strategic places on the branch image. As you see as red highlights in the screenshot below.



5. Now drag the top left points towards the right to move the branches inward.



6. Press Enter/Return to confirm.
7. Save and close the file, then return to Illustrator.
8. In Illustrator, notice how the branch (with added effect) has updated.



9. Save and close the file.

Adobe Illustrator techniques

Here are a few examples on how to best combine Illustrator with InDesign.

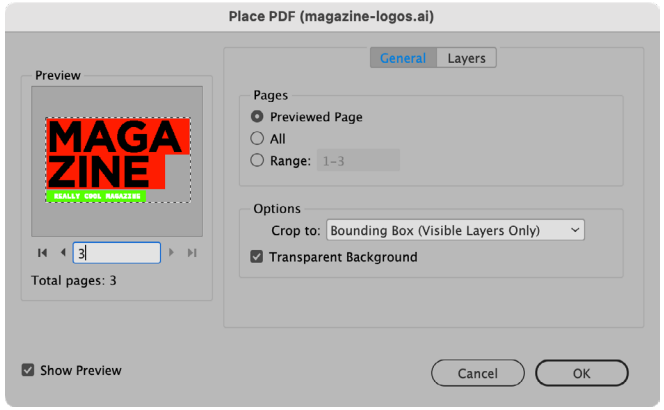
Working with multiple artboards

I can't stress enough how using multiple artboards can help you with your workflow. Not only does it offer you many advantages when working in Adobe Illustrator alone. You can also use and update these artboards when placing a native .AI document in Adobe Illustrator.

Never forget that an .AI document is basically a PDF file. So when you're using multiple artboards in Adobe Illustrator, you're basically placing a multi-page PDF document in Adobe InDesign. Thanks to multiple artboards, you can place illustrations on separate artboards and later choose which one to place in Adobe InDesign. This is easy because this way you can save a whole series of illustrations in just one file. This makes managing, sharing and updating assets easy. You can even save multiple color versions of a logo in one Illustrator document. For example save a CMYK and a Pantone version of the same logo, but on a separate artboard. Here is how you place a multi-artboard Illustrator document in Adobe InDesign:

1. In Adobe InDesign, choose File > Place.
2. Select the .AI file you wish to place and make sure import options are active before placing.
3. From the Import Options dialog box, choose the

appropriate page and set the cropping options (if needed).



4. Place the graphic.



5. Notice that it is not really possible to switch PDF pages after the file has been placed. So in order to replace the graphic with a different page from the same file, select the graphic first and go through the same steps to replace the graphic.
6. Notice that the links panel will show you which page was placed.

Changing to a different artboard after placing

1. Select the placed graphic.
2. Choose File > Place and select the same Illustrator file, make sure “Show Import Options” is still activated.
3. Choose a different artboard and choose OK to place.
4. Alternatively, you can relink the file using the Links panel.

Advantages of placing Artboards

- It’s very easy to view and choose the artboard you want during placing in InDesign.
- The “Crop to” option during placing allows you to either place the artwork or use the artboard as a bounding box (e.g. as padding around a logo or icon).
- The Links panel in InDesign will always show you the artboard# as well.
- Updating any of the artboards in Illustrator by directly editing the artwork, adding/removing/renaming artboards will not confuse InDesign when updating.
- Artboards are a great way to organize your artwork in Illustrator and even enables:
  - The ability to save every artboard as a separate AI file.
  - The ability to export as files, using the artboard names

as file names.

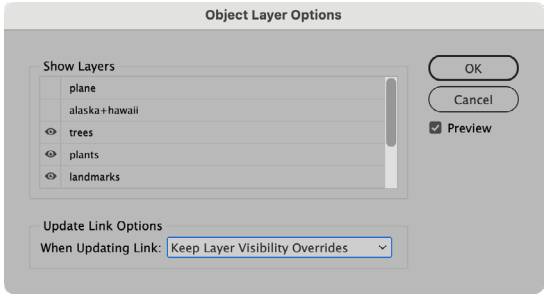
- The ability to nest a specific artboard into another Illustrator file.
- The ability to place a specific artboard into a Photoshop document.

Disadvantages of placing Artboards

- You can't see the artboard names when placing in InDesign or Photoshop.
- Changing to a different artboard in InDesign requires you to re-place the original file. Which is not the greatest experience.

Advantages of overriding layers

- You can see the name of the Illustrator layers while placing.
- Changing to a different layer can be easily done from within InDesign.
- Since layers are often used during the design process of artwork in Illustrator anyway, there are often no extra steps required to make the file "InDesign-ready".



Disadvantages of overriding layers

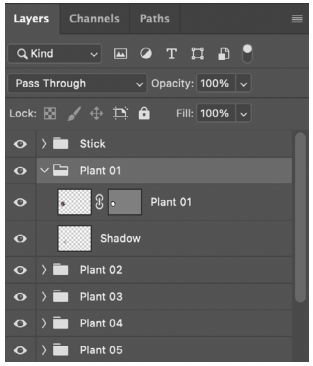
- You can only access the top-level layers from InDesign, no sub-layers.
- Altering the layer structure of an Illustrator document after placing in InDesign (with overwritten layers) will cause your file to reset in InDesign. This happens when you change layer order, add, rename or remove a layer in Illustrator. This means that you sometimes unknowingly introduce problems in InDesign.
  E.g.: you have an Illustrator file with a layer called "blue" and a layer called "green" and place that file in InDesign with only the blue layer visible. You then add a layer called "red" in Illustrator and save the file. Upon returning to InDesign you'll be greeted with a message that explains that the layer structure has changed since placing the file, and so InDesign will revert the file back to the original layers.
  This is exactly why I used logos in this exercise for layers, since those don't tend to change once created.

Converting a PSD to CC Library

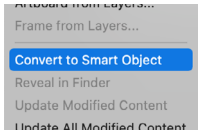
This project will show you a hidden way of converting all layers in a Photoshop document into a Creative Cloud Library. This allows you to easily save assets and then re-use them in Adobe InDesign and other Adobe applications.

Converting layers into Smart Objects

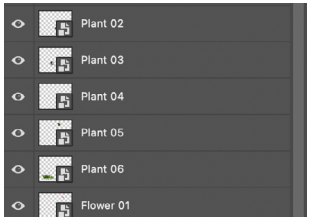
1. Open your Photoshop document.
2. Expand any of the layer groups in the Layers panel, notice how every flower or plant consists of multiple layers. We need to add these groups as separate files into a CC Library.



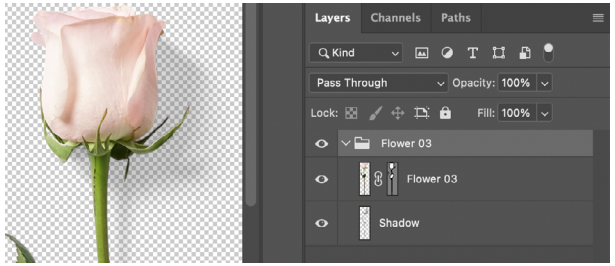
3. Click to highlight the layer group at the top of the layer stack.
4. Right-click the layer group and choose Convert To Smart Object. (Tip: it is recommended to set a keyboard shortcut for this command via Edit > Keyboard Shortcuts if you need to use this command frequently).



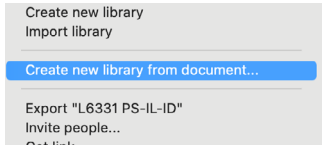
5. Repeat the same process for 5 other layer groups. Feel free to choose which plants or flowers you wish to convert. The flowers and plants you choose here are the ones we want to save in the CC Library. (Tip: within “05 Flower set”, a document named flower-set-smart.psd has been provided that already has all layer groups converted into Smart Objects. Feel free to use this document to continue to the next steps).



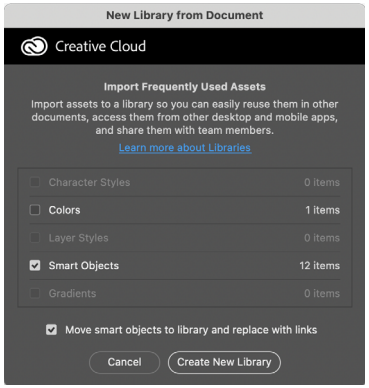
6. When done, double-click the thumbnail of one of your newly created Smart Objects to open it in Photoshop.



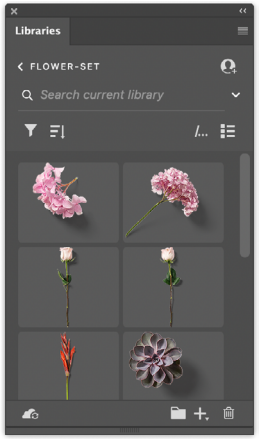
7. Notice how the layer group and its layers have been pre-served in every individual Smart Object.
8. Close the Smart Object document.
9. Converting a Photoshop document to a library
10. Choose Window > Libraries.
11. Click the Libraries panel menu and choose New Library from Document.



12. From the dialog box, deselect all object categories, except for Smart Objects.

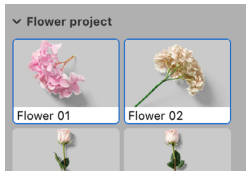


13. Click Create Library to create a new library, upload all Smart Objects, and relink all original Smart Objects to their library instances. This process might take a while, however, we can continue this exercise by using the CC Library that has been provided in this course.



Using CC Library assets in InDesign

1. Go to Adobe InDesign.
2. Choose Window > CC Libraries.
3. Navigate to your library.
4. Scroll through the library until you see the Flower Project group that holds all of the flowers and plants of flower-set.psd.
5. Select the first flower you wish to place, then use Shift or Cmd/Ctrl to add additional elements to your selection.



6. Drag the selected elements from the CC Library onto the page.
7. With the loaded cursor, click (or drag) to place the flowers onto the page.

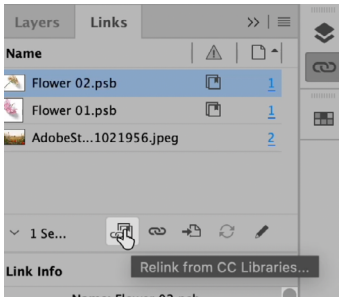




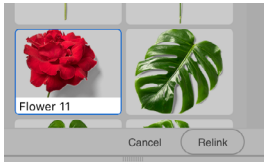
8. Save the file and keep it open.

Relinking placed graphics

1. Choose Window > Links.
2. Click the name of the placed library graphic you wish to replace.
3. Click the Relink From CC Libraries button.



4. From the CC Library, choose the replacement graphic and click Relink at the bottom of the panel.



5. You will probably need to change the size of the graphics frame to make it match the size of the replacement graphics. To achieve this, simply double-click any of the corner handles of the graphics frame.
6. Optionally, move or scale the new graphic in the layout.



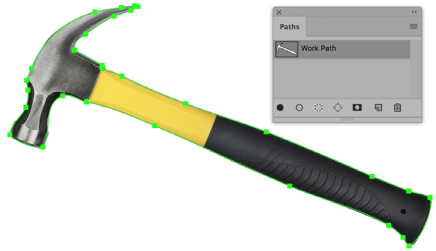
7. Save and close your file.

Reusing paths from Adobe Photoshop

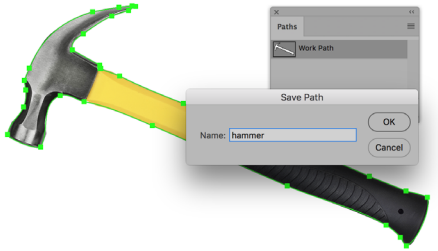
I'm sure every designer has used clipping paths before in Adobe Photoshop. These are commonly used to isolate objects from an image. E.g. for product catalogs. There's a specific option in Photoshop called "clipping path" which will be applied by default to isolate the layer when placing in InDesign. However, InDesign users can access and use ANY saved path from a placed PSD, without having to save the path as a clipping path in Photoshop first. This is great since every Photoshop document can only hold a single clipping path at a time.

To create a path in Photoshop

1. Create a path using the Pen tool.
2. Choose Window > Paths to view your path.



3. Double click the path in Photoshop to save and name it.

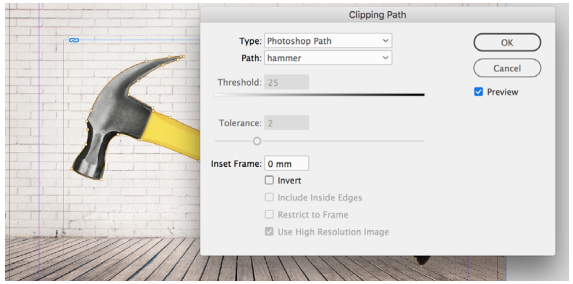


To use a path in InDesign

1. Place the Photoshop document into your layout.



2. Select the placed image using the Selection tool.
3. Choose Object > Clipping Path > Options.
4. From the options, choose the Photoshop path you'd like to use.



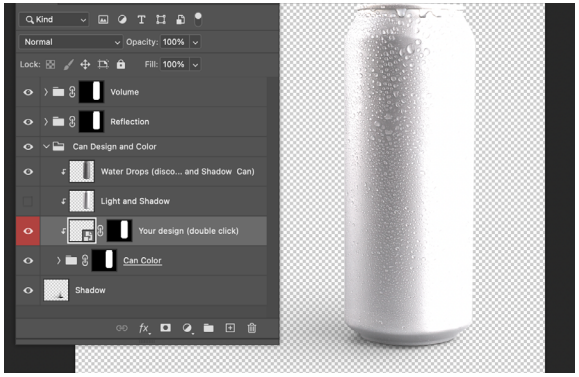
5. Optionally, you can also use the path when applying Text Wrap.
6. Optionally, you can also convert the clipping path into a graphics frame by choosing Object > Clipping Path > Convert Clipping Path to Frame.

Creating complex compositions

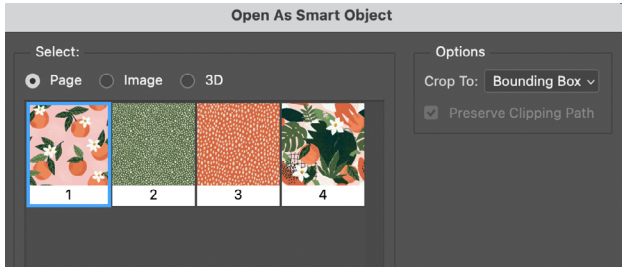
This exercise uses all three design apps to build multiple versions of a print add. In this specific scenario, we'll build variations of an ad for a fictional soda brand. It features 4 variations of artwork (created in Illustrator), which is then placed into a Photoshop document. Afterwards, this Photoshop document is placed into Adobe InDesign. And thanks to the Layer Comps features in Photoshop it will be easy to swap versions directly from within Adobe InDesign.

Bringing Illustrator artwork into Photoshop

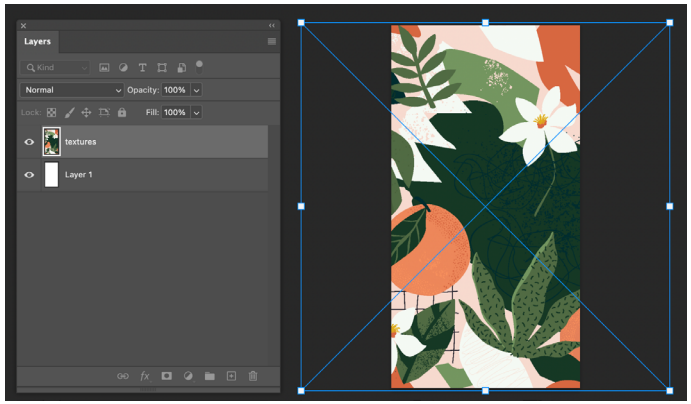
1. Start by opening your design in Adobe Photoshop. For this example, I have prepared a Smart Object beforehand which wraps the soda label around the can (template courtesy of Adobe Stock).
2. Double-click the Smart Object to open its canvas.



3. Choose File > Place Linked and navigate to your Illustrator document. Double-click it.
4. Notice how the import options allows us to choose which Artboard to place first. Choose an artboard by double-clicking it.



5. Scale the artwork to fit and press Enter (Return) to confirm.



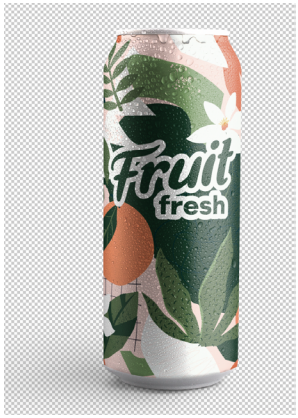
6. Go to Adobe Illustrator.
7. Open the logo artwork.
8. Select and copy the logo.



9. Return to Photoshop.
10. Paste the artwork and choose “Shape Layer” from the available options. This will allow us to change the logo color afterwards directly in Photoshop.
11. Use Photoshop’s shape settings to add a white stroke and change the logo to dark green (the same green from your can label).

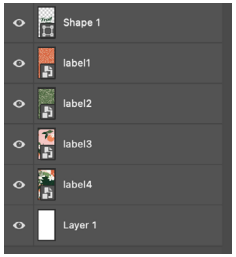


12. Save the document and return to Photoshop to see the result (don't close the file).

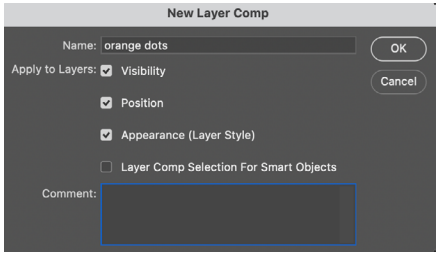


Creating a Layer Comp per version

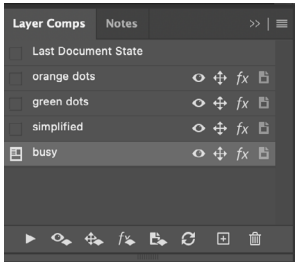
1. Double-click the Smart Object again to return to the label.
2. Repeat the same steps to place the 3 other versions of the label. Do these one by one by choosing File > Place Linked and repositioning each individual label. You should end up with something like this (also rename them):



3. Choose Window > Layer Comps.
4. Click the New Layer Comp button.
5. Name it and select the following options:

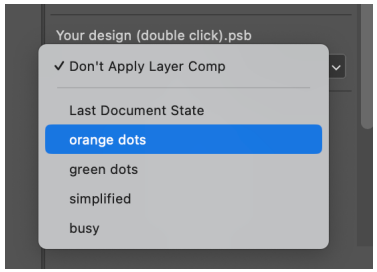


6. Click OK to close.
7. Hide your top-most label to reveal the next one. Then repeat the same steps 3 times to create 3 additional Layer Comps.



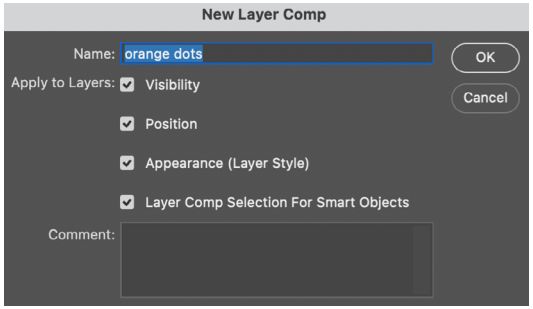
8. Save the file and return to the master Photoshop document.
9. Look at the Properties panel and notice you now have access to the same Layer Comps. This allows you to easily switch to a different layer comp of the nested Smart

Object. But these Layer Comps won't get exposed directly in InDesign the same way. To accomplish this we have to re-create the Layer Comps in this document as well.

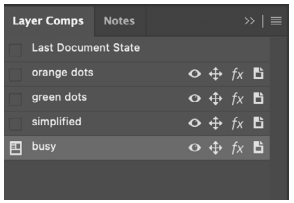


Extending Layer Comps

1. In the master Photoshop document, open the Layer Comps panel and notice how it is empty. This is expected as THIS document doesn't have any Layer Comps (only the embedded Smart Object does).
2. With the first Layer Comp selected (using the Properties panel), create a new Layer Comp.
3. Name the Layer Comp the same way you did in the nested file. But this time, make sure the last option is selected: "Layer Comp Selection for Smart Objects). then press OK.



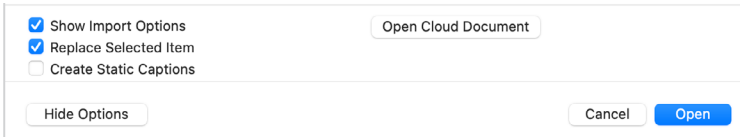
4. Repeat these steps 3 more times for the other Layer Comps. (Remember to first choose a different one from the Properties panel).



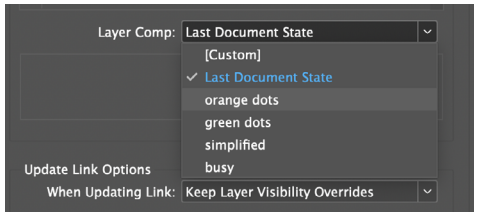
5. Save the document when done, and go to Adobe InDesign.

Placing the artwork in InDesign

1. Open the InDesign composition and choose File > Place.
2. Select your new Photoshop document and make sure you active "Show Import Options".



3. From the Import Options dialog window, choose the Layer Comp you wish to place.

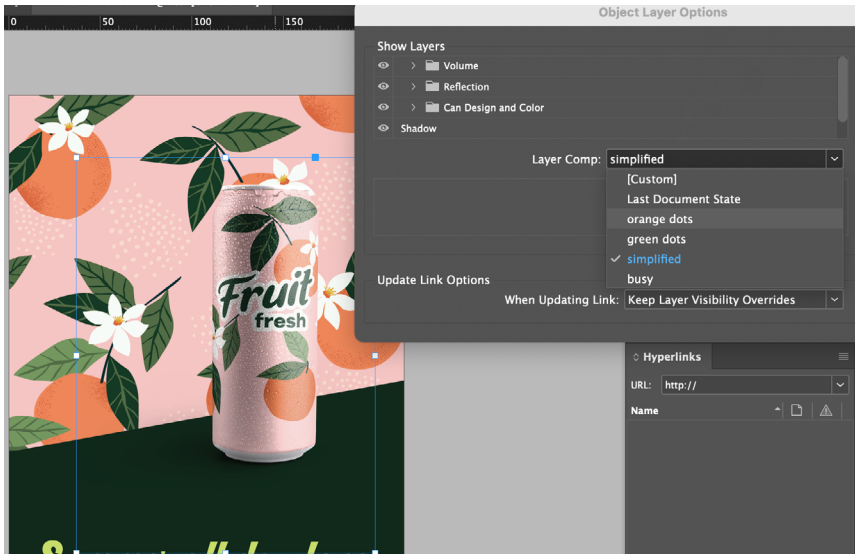




4. Choose File > Place again and this time choose the Illustrator file that holds the original labels. Choose the Artboard you like and place it as the background image.



5. To update the Layer Comp you simply need to select the can, then right-click it and choose Object Layer Options. From there you can select a different Layer Comp.



Knockout groups with Illustrator art in InDesign

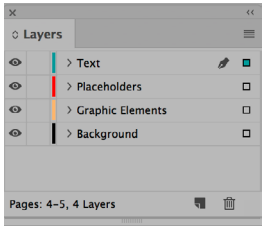
This fun little exercise will explain how to use a knockout effect when placing Illustrator graphics in Adobe InDesign. This technique can be applied to any selection of native shapes in InDesign. But also works when placing original .AI files or PDF documents.

Creating a knockout group

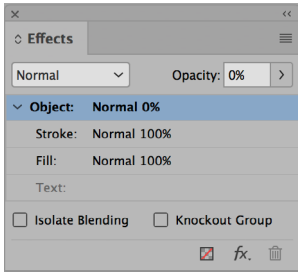
1. Choose File > Place.
2. Navigate to the Links folder inside of the exercise folder.
3. Choose “Note.ai” and place it next to the page.



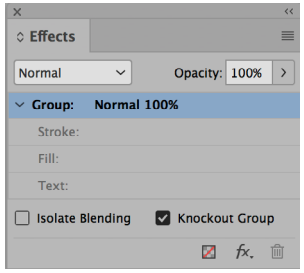
4. Resize the image and place it over the white text.
5. Notice the image appears behind the text, because it’s on a layer below the text.
6. With the placed .ai file still selected, click and drag the colored square icon from the current layer to the top layer to move the object to the top layer.



7. Before continuing, be sure to preview your document in high-resolution. Choose View > Display Performance > High Quality Display. Without this, you won’t see the effect correctly in InDesign (only when exporting or printing).
8. Select the placed Note.ai file, and change its opacity to 0%, making the image invisible. You can use the Effects panel for this.



9. Now select both the Note.ai and the text frame.
10. Group the two together by pressing Ctrl+G (Cmd+G on Mac).
11. With the group object selected, look at the Effects panel and click the “Knockout Group” button.



12. This will create a Knockout Group and will use the placed Illustrator document as a mask.



13. You can even double-click the group to move or resize your placed Illustrator file. The effect will remain.

Updating the Knockout Group

1. Double-click inside of the group to select the placed Note.ai file.
2. With the selection active, choose File > Place.
3. Select and place the “Play.ai” Illustrator document.
4. Notice that the effect remains live and a different shape is now masking the text.
5. (Optionally, you could have relinked the Illustrator file using the Links panel as well.)



6. Now you can even use the Type tool to change text as everything remains live and editable. No outlines required!

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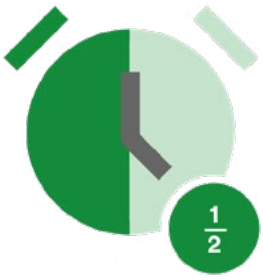






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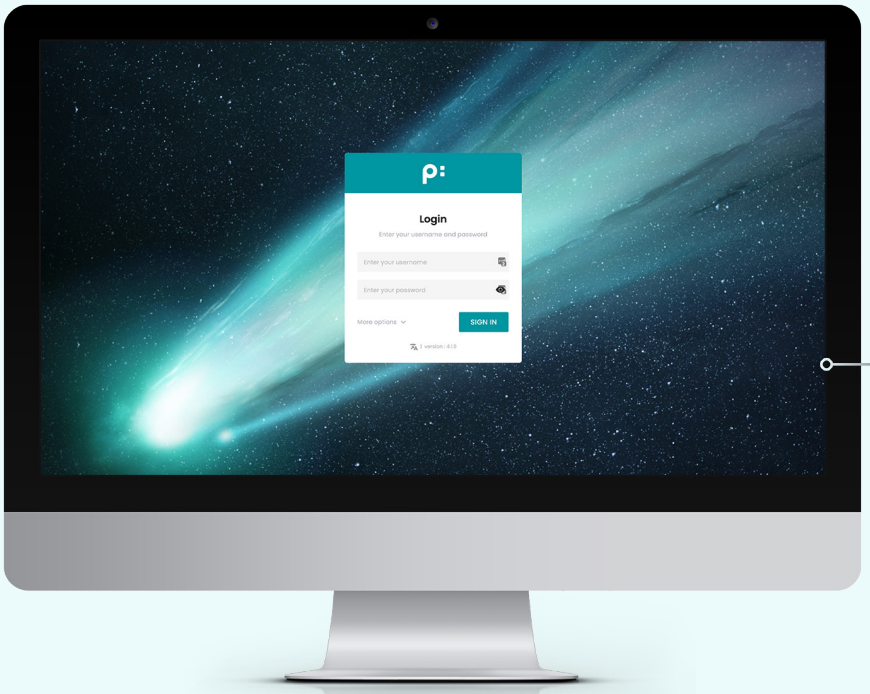
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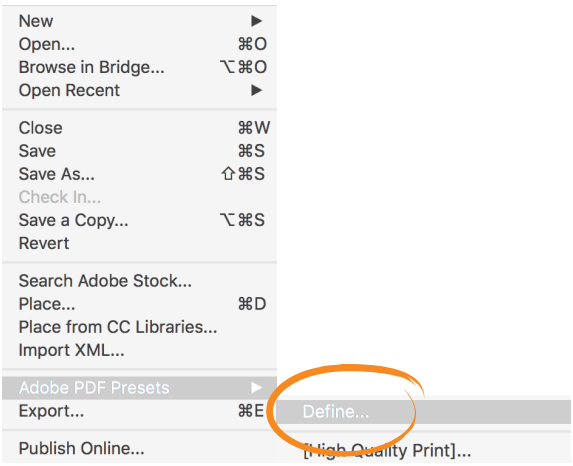
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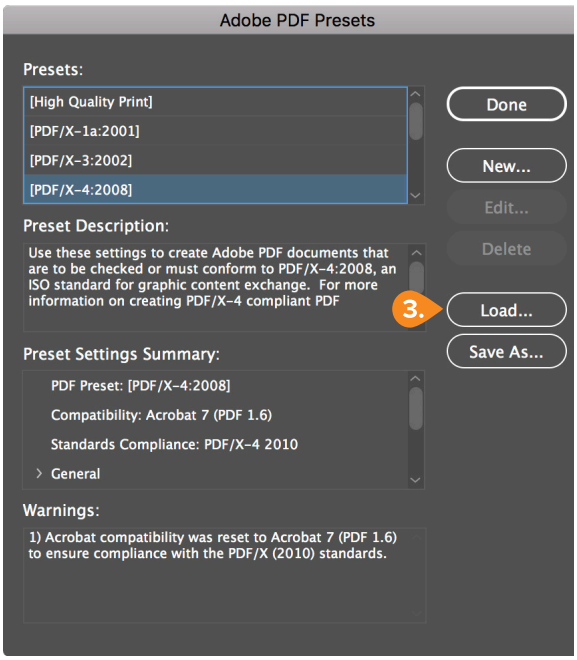
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