

Id

Ai

Ps

Ic

Br



InDesign 2026 tools all 50 tools, buttons, shortcuts, and modifiers

Id
INDD

SELECTION TOOLS

- Selection (V, Esc)** shift to select or deselect multiple objects; opt/alt drag to duplicate object; spacebar to zoom reposition the view; double-click tool for Move dialog box
- Direct Selection (A)** shift to select multiple objects; opt/alt to select all anchor points on the path; cmd/ctrl to move; spacebar to pan the view; double-click for Move dialog box
- Page (Shift+P)** shift extends pages selected; cmd/ctrl adds or removes selected page; opt/ alt moves page independently of objects when dragging a page if set to move with page
- Gap (U)** shift adjusts two items opposite cursor; cmd/ctrl to resize the gap; opt/alt to move page items; arrow keys to activate alternate gap, such as switching H and V orientation

TYPE AND DRAWING TOOLS

- Type (T)** shift constrains to square; opt/alt draws outward from center; spacebar moves
- Type on a Path (Shift+T)** opt/alt draws outward from center; spacebar moves; double- click for Type on a Path Options
- Line (I)** shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt draws from center
- Pen (P)** shift constrains to 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt invokes the convert anchor point tool; cmd/ ctrl invokes the Direct Selection tool; spacebar to pan the view
- Add Anchor Point (+)** opt/alt invokes Delete Anchor point; spacebar to pan the view
- Delete Anchor Point (-)** opt/alt invokes Add Anchor point; spacebar to pan the view
- Convert Direction Point (Shift+C)** cmd/ctrl invokes the Direct Selection tool
- Pencil (N)** opt/alt invokes Smooth tool; double-click tool for Pencil Tool Preferences
- Smooth** dbl-click tool for Smooth Tool Preferences; opt/alt-click for Pencil or Erase tool
- Erase** opt/alt invokes Smooth tool; opt/alt-click tool for Pencil or Smooth tool
- Rectangle Frame (F)** shift constrains to square; opt/alt draws from center; click on page for Rectangle dialog box
- Ellipse Frame** shift = circle; opt/alt from center; spacebar moves; click page for dialog box
- Polygon Frame** shift constrains to equal side length; alt draws from center; spacebar moves; spacebar+↑/↓ keys for number of sides; spacebar+←/→ keys for start inset amount; click page for Polygon dialog box; double-click tool for Polygon Settings dialog box
- Rectangle (M)** shift+dragging constrains to square; opt/alt draws from center; click on page for the Rectangle dialog box
- Ellipse (L)** shift+dragging constrains to circle; opt/alt draws from center; spacebar moves; click on page for the Ellipse dialog box
- Polygon** shift constrains to equal side length; alt draws from center; spacebar moves; spacebar+up/down keys for number of sides; spacebar+left/right arrow keys for start inset amount; click page for Polygon dialog box; double-click for Polygon Settings dialog box
- Scissors (C)** click once on open path to divide a path; click in two places on a closed path to divide a frame shape; opt/alt click to add anchor points on a path

TRANSFORMATION TOOLS

- Free Transform (E)** drag handle to resize; drag corner to rotate; shift+drag constrains; opt/ alt drag resize centered; shift+opt/alt drag corner resize centered constrain aspect
- Rotate (R)** shift constrains to 45°; double-click on tool to open Rotate dialog box; click or drag to set center of rotation; cmd/ctrl to move object
- Scale (S)** opt/alt click to set reference point and open Scale dialog box; cmd/ctrl to select object; double-click on tool to open Scale dialog box
- Shear (O)** opt/alt click to set reference point and open Shear dialog box; cmd/ctrl to select object; double-click on tool to open Shear dialog box

GRADIENT TOOLS

- Gradient Swatch (G)** shift drag to constrain to 0°, 45°, 90°
- Gradient Feather (Shift+G)** shift drag to constrain to 0°, 45°, 90°; double-click on tool to open Gradient Feather in Effects dialog box

MODIFICATION AND NAVIGATION TOOLS

- Note** only embeds into text; cmd/ctrl key invokes Type tool; opt/alt invokes Hand tool
- Color Theme (Shift+I)** double-click for Color Theme Options; opt/alt click resample
- Eyedropper (I)** opt/alt click to reset to resample; double-click tool to setup options
- Measure (K)** dbl-click tool = Info panel; shift drag = 0°, 45°, 90°; opt/alt drag = protractor
- Hand (H)** dbl-click = fit page; drag = pan; shift drag = constrain; slow click to zoom out/in
- Zoom (Z)** double-click tool to view at 100%; drag to zoom to area; opt/alt to zoom out

ACTIVATE FILL OR STROKE

- Fill (X)**
- Stroke (X)**
- Swap Fill and Stroke (Shift+X)**
- Default Fill and Stroke (D)**

FORMATTING AFFECTS

- Formatting affects container (J)**
- Formatting affects text (J)**

APPLY COLOR, GRADIENT, OR NONE

- Apply Color (.)**
- Apply Gradient (.)**
- Apply None (/)**

VIEW OPTIONS AND SCREEN VIEWS

- View Options**
- Preview (W)**
- Slug (W)**
- Normal (W)**
- Bleed (W)**
- Presentation Mode (Shift+W)**

CONTENT CONVEYOR

- Content Collector (B)**
- Content Placer (B)**

