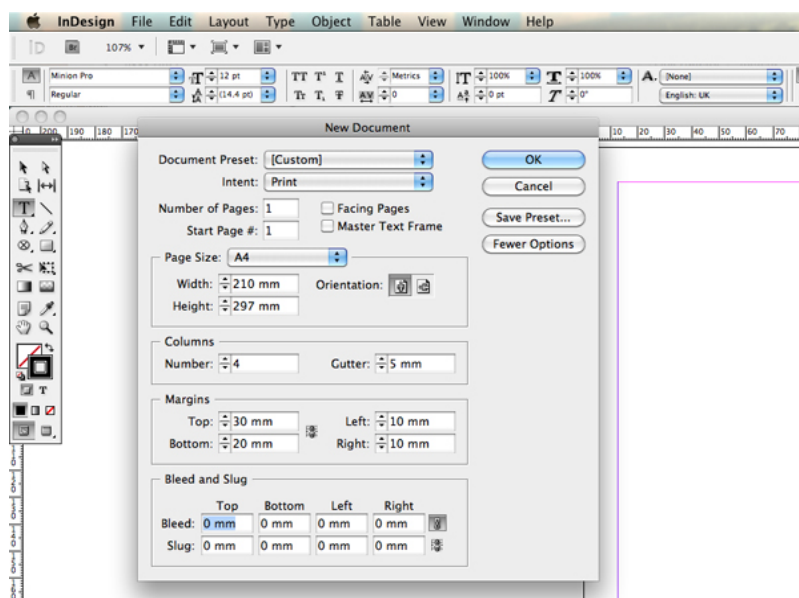


Quick Tip: An Introduction to Threading Text in InDesign CS5

Threading text within InDesign can hugely improve the experience of editing and amending copy while working on layouts. The process of threading text is linking two or more text frames allowing text to flow from one separate frame to another. Lets take a look at the basics.

Step 1

Create a new document by going to File > New > Document and set the number columns to two or more and the remaining values to suit.

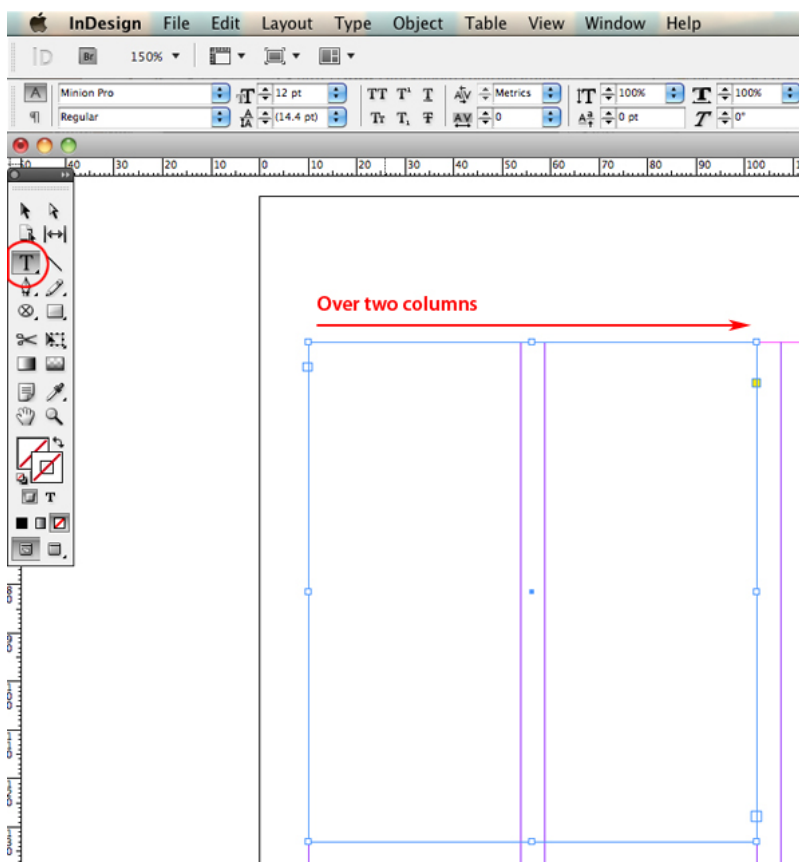


Step 2

Select the type tool (Hotkey 'T') from the tool box and draw a text frame by clicking an over two columns and clicking and dragging over the area you want to cover.

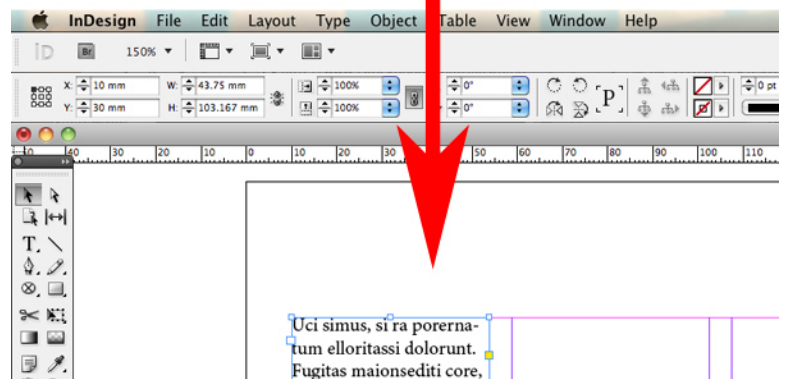
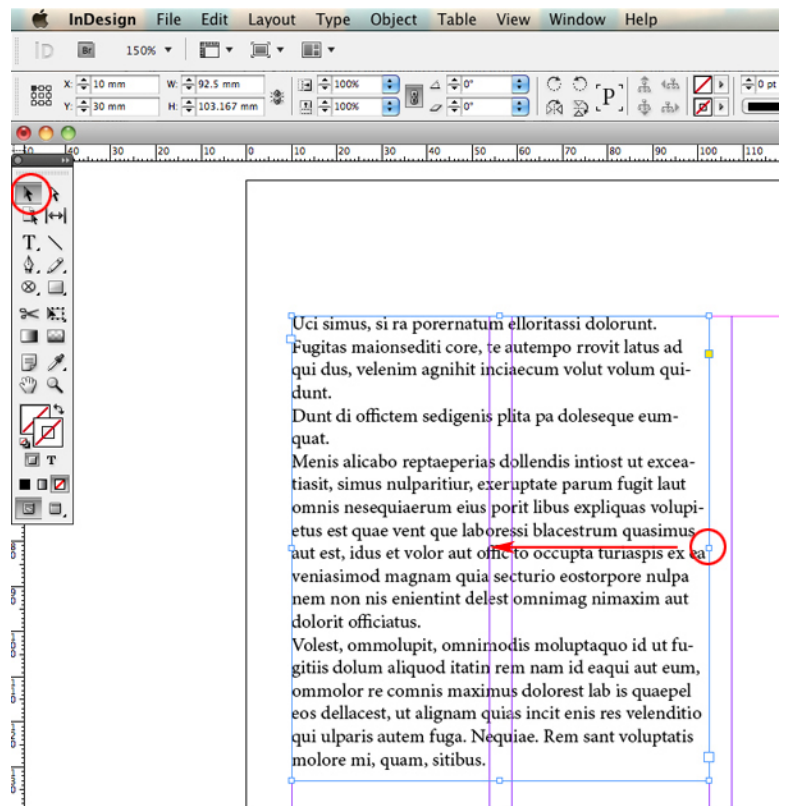
Go to:

Type > Fill with Placeholder Text.



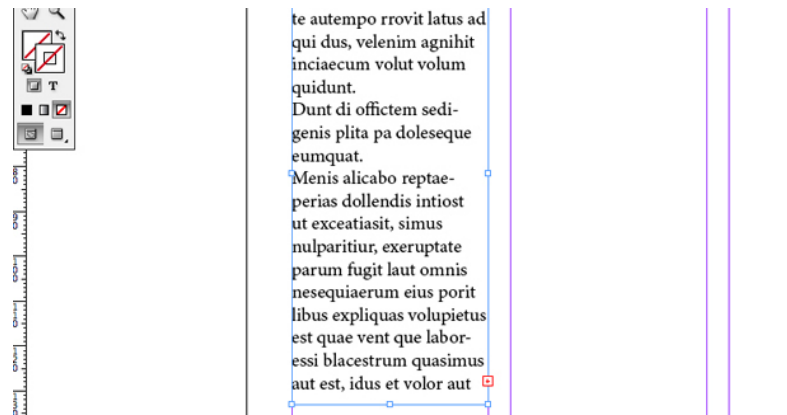
Step 3

Drag the text box to only take up one column. You will need to click on the right side of the text box with your arrow tool selected, and drag it over until it hits your guideline.



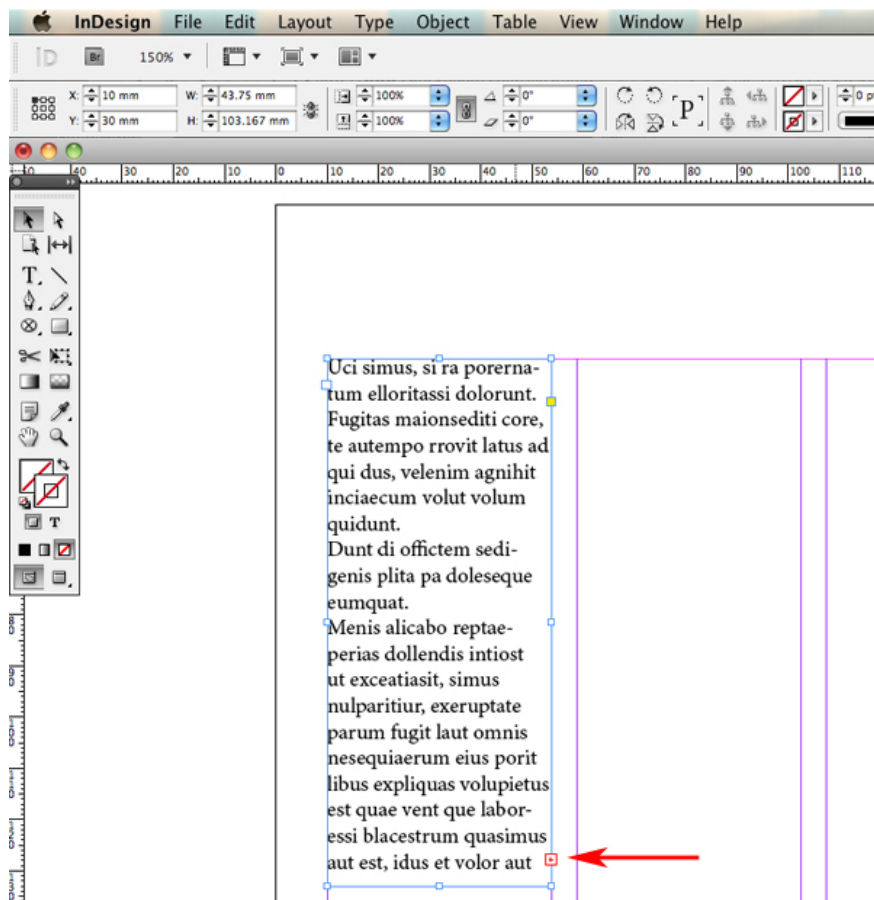
Step 4

You will notice that a red box containing a crosshair has appeared at the bottom right hand side of the frame. This indicates that there is text overflowing and missing from view.



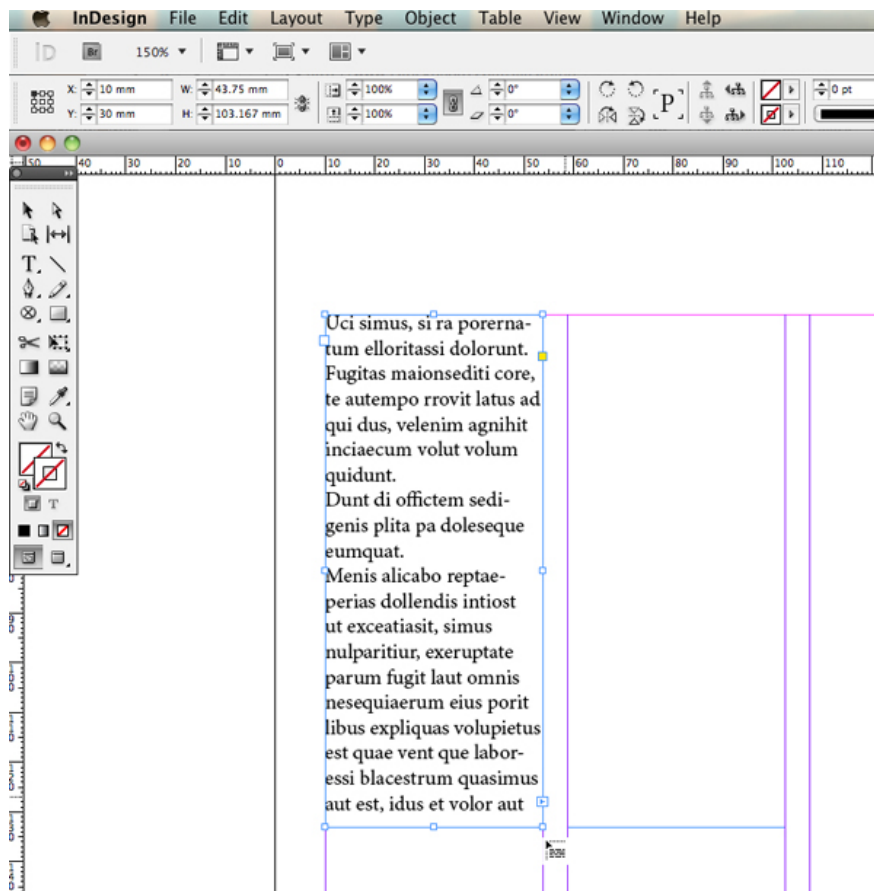
Step 5

Using the Selection Tool, click once on the red box (out-port) in the first frame. You will notice that the cursor will change its appearance to a thread icon and a small preview paragraph will appear, the text is now ready for threading.



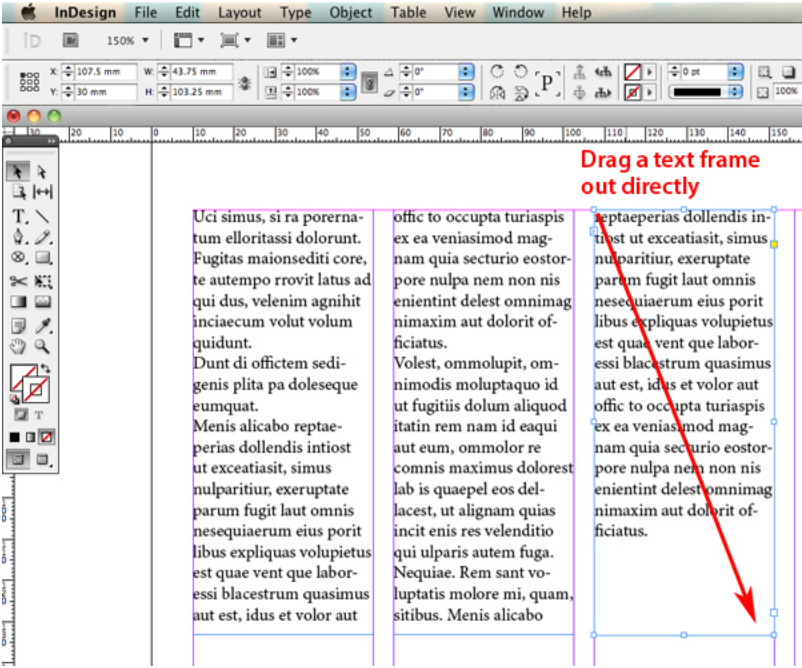
Step 6

With the cursor still loaded hover over the second text frame, the cursor will change to a link icon. Click once and watch as the text is flowed into the second frame.



Step 7

At this point you might still be left with an indicating red box on the second text frame. Instead of creating a new text frame with the text frame tool, select the Selection Tool, click on the red box and click and draw a frame with the loaded cursor. The new frame will contain the reminder of the text.



Step 8

Push 'W'. See how it looks when it will be printed without the guidelines.

Extension: Can you figure out how to move the text boxes into other areas of your grid? Draw some rectangles with colour in them and make some interesting layouts. The 4 examples below are all using the same grid and guideline system.

