

ADOBE® INDESIGN® CS5

Filters Readme



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Adobe® InDesign® CS5 Filters Readme for Windows® and Mac OS

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InDesign Import & Export Filters ReadMe

This document contains basic information on importing and exporting files to and from various file formats.

Importing plain text files

The Text import filter allows you to specify the character set and dictionary language to use when importing a text file. This option is useful if the imported text includes character set-specific special characters. If you do not specify the character set in which these special characters are encoded, the characters may get mapped to other characters. Please note that if the imported text file contains BOM (Byte Order Mark) of UTF-8 or of UTF-16, the character set and platform dropdown will be grayed out.

Supported character sets are as follows:

Unicode UTF-8

Unicode UTF-16

ShiftJIS 83pv

ShiftJIS 90pv

ShiftJIS 90ms

GB2312

GB18030

KSC5601

Chinese Big 5

Macintosh CE

Macintosh Cyrillic

Macintosh Greek

Windows Cyrillic

Windows EE

Windows Greek

Windows CE

Windows Turkish

Macintosh Turkish

Windows Baltic

Macintosh Croatian

Macintosh Icelandic

Macintosh Roman

Macintosh Romanian

Macintosh Ukrainian

ANSI

Cyrillic (KOI8R)

Cyrillic (KOI8U)

Cyrillic (ISO)

DOS Latin 2

Greek (ISO)

Central European (ISO)

Turkish (ISO)

Cyrillic (CP855)

Exporting Plain Text

The Text Export filter allows you to export text to Text Only format. The filter allows you to specify the target platform (Macintosh or PC), and the target encoding.

Note: When exporting as UTF-8, the platform dropdown is grayed out.

Unicode (UTF-8) encoding

Unicode (UTF-16) encoding

Default Platform

Default Platform translates the text from Unicode to platform multibyte encoding depending on the font applied to the text.

Importing Word, Excel, and RTF files

The Word import filter allows you to import Word 97-98, Word 2000-2007, Word X-2004 & 2008 for Mac documents.

The Excel import filter allows you to import Excel 97-98, 2000-2007, and Excel X-2004 & 2008 for Mac documents.

The RTF import filter allows you to import RTF version 1.4, 1.5, 1.6, 1.8, and RTF-J (Japanese) files. If your files include unusual characters, and they become mishandled when imported, you should save the file in Word format from the source application then re-import the file. The RTF export filter allows you to export text to RTF version 1.6 and RTF-J.

Supported Word, Excel and RTF features that can be imported or exported are as follows:

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Font and style options			
Family	X	X	X
Size	X	X	X

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Color	X	X	X
Case (all caps, small caps)	X	X	X
Style (bold, italic, bold italic)	X	X	X
Underline	X	X	X
Outline	X		X
Strikethrough	X	X	X
Superscript and subscript	X	X	X
Character spacing	X		X
Position (baseline shift)	X		X
Character scaling	X		X
Special characters			
Em dashes and en dashes	X	X	X
Single and double quotation marks	X	X	X
Hyphens	X	X	X
White spaces	X	X	X
Ellipses	X	X	X
Copyright, trademark, and registered trademark symbols	X	X	X
Bullets characters and symbols	X	X	X
Document Properties			
Paper size: width and height			X
Margins: top, bottom, left and right			X
Orientation: portrait and landscape			X
Paragraph Indents			
First	X	X	X
Left	X		X
Right	X	X	X
Hanging (imported as left and first indents)	X		X
Nested (imported as single indents of proportional size)	X		X
Paragraph Alignment			
General		X	

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Left	X	X	X
Right	X	X	X
Center	X	X	X
Justify	X	X	X
Force justify	X	X	X
Paragraph Options			
Keep lines together	X		X
Page break before	X		
Keep with next	X		X
Paragraph space before and after	X		X
Leading	X		X
Hyphenation (on, off)	X		X
Paragraph Line Rules			
Weight	X		X
Color	X		X
Style and type	X		X
Paragraph Styles			
Name	X		X
Based on	X		X
Next	X		X
Paragraph attributes	X		X
Character attributes	X		X
Tab Specifications	X		X
Character Styles			
Name	X		X
Based on	X		X
Next	X		X
Character attributes	X		X
Tab Attributes			

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Left	X		X
Right	X		X
Center	X		X
Decimal	X		X
Period leader	X		X
Hyphen leader	X		X
Underscore leader	X		X
Tab stops	X		X
Japanese Text Features			
Ruby	X	X	X
Tate-chu-yoko	X		X
Kenten	X		X
Warichu	X		X
Character alignment	X		X
Kinsoku set	X		X
Excel Data Types			
General		X	
Number		X	
Currency		X	
Accounting		X	
Data and time (Japanese format is supported)		X	
Percentage		X	
Fraction		X	
Scientific		X	
Text		X	
Custom		X	
Graphics			
Graphics (BMP, JPG, PNG, TIFF, WMF, PICT, EMF, and GIF files only)	X	X	X
Cross-References			

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
The options in Word map to InDesign's preset formats. If the targeted paragraphs in Word are numbered, the import results depend on whether you convert numbering to text when placing the file.	X		X
Objects			
Word HTML & OLE control objects (imported as images; not supported for RTF)	X		
Word Autoshapes with added text	X		
Excel Charts (via copy-paste or drag and drop)		X	
Data			
Sorted		X	
AutoFilter		X	
Advanced filter		X	
Forms		X	
Subtotals		X	
Pivot tables		X	
Tables		X	
Group		X	
Outline		X	
Merged cells		X	
Table Formatting			
Repeated row headings on multiple pages	X		X
Border and stroke width, color, and style	X	X	X
Row Formatting			
Height	X	X	X
Auto grow	X	X	X
Border and stroke width, color, and style	X	X	X
Keep together	X		X
Keep with next	X		X
Column Formatting			
Width	X	X	X
Border and stroke width, color, and style	X	X	X

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Cell Formatting			
Background colors and fills	X	X	X
Border and stroke width, color, and style	X	X	X
Height	X	X	X
Width	X	X	X
Horizontal merge	X	X	X
Vertical merge	X	X	X
Insets	X		X
Cell Vertical Alignments			
Top	X	X	X
Bottom	X	X	X
Center	X	X	X
Justify	X	X	X
Cell Text Orientation			
Horizontal	X	X	X
Vertical	X	X	X
Angle of rotation: 0, 90, and 270 only	X	X	X
Sheets			
Renamed		X	
Auto formatted tables		X	
Hidden sheets, rows, and columns		X	
Other Text Specifications			
Extended ANSI characters (except Macintosh extended ANSI characters)	X	X	X
Extended ASCII characters	X	X	X
Unicode characters	X	X	X
Hyphens	X		X
Manual kerning	X		
Column breaks	X		
Page breaks	X		

Supported Feature	Word & RTF Import	Excel Import	RTF Export
Section breaks (imported as Page Breaks)	X		
Index	X		X
TOC entries (imported as regular text)	X		
AutoText (imported as regular text)	X		
Symbols	X	X	X
Tracked text (For import, note that the Track Changes checkbox must be selected in the Import Options dialog box)	X		
Inserted OLE objects (for supported data types)	X		
Drop caps	X		X
Outlines (imported as regular text)	X		X
Widow and orphan control (mapped using the Keep Together setting)	X		X
Date and time	X	X	
Bullets and numbers (imported as text)	X		
Captions (imported as text)	X		
Insert file (text in the inserted file will be included, but will not update if changes are made after importing)	X		
Anchored Objects (exported as text boxes in RTF)			X
Text boxes and Text frames (contents are imported as Anchored Objects)	X		
Text Wrap around Text Box, Text Frames and floating graphics	X		X
Hyperlinks	X	X	X
Word spacing and letter spacing attributes at the paragraph level	X		X
Manual page breaks	X		X
Footnotes	X		X
Clipboard Support			
Cut/copy/paste plain text	X	X	X
Cut/copy/paste Rich Text Format (RTF) text (select All Information in Clipboard Handling preferences)	X	X	X
Cut/copy/paste tables and table cells (select All Information in Clipboard Handling preferences)	X	X	X

Features not supported by the Word/RTF filter

The following features are not supported by the Word and RTF filters:

- No mapping in InDesign for Table/List Styles created in Microsoft Word.

- Any number formats supported by Microsoft Word but not InDesign will have InDesign's default numbering style applied.
- Imported Bullets will have a Unicode value for the first character of a bulleted string with the remaining string being treated as text.
- Paragraph shading fill and patterns (style and color)
- Page borders
- Columns
- Headers and footers
- Endnote numbering formatting (imported as regular text at the end of the imported text)
- Table borders (formatting is preserved at cell level for visual similarity)
- Section styles
- Group properties
- HTML and OLE control objects in RTF files
- Hidden text (hidden text is not imported)
- Highlighting
- Document variables, comments and properties
- Bookmarks
- Drawing objects, other than Autoshapes with added text
- Annotation
- Bi-directional language support
- Form fields
- Page numbers
- Color in revision bars
- Objects from Equation Editor version 1.0 or 2.0 (imported as images)
- Macros
- Font kerning
- Document templates
- Word art (imported as images when importing RTF files)
- Word drawings
- Nested tables (for example, a table inside a table cell)
- File protection (password protected files are not imported)
- Hyperlinks applied to Autoshapes and Text Boxes
- Endnotes markers, these get converted to a default numbered sequence (e.g., 1,2, 3.)
- Numbering sequence with outline numbering, in which the numbering is restarted

In addition to these unsupported features, please note the following differences in formatting and styles after importing a Word document:

- Thick border lines in Word documents appear as thin border lines with wider spacing (as Word assigns line weights to double border lines differently).

- Graphics inserted in to Word documents from the Insert Object or Paste Special menu commands in Word will be imported if the particular graphics file format is supported. The graphics will appear at the original position in the imported document.
- Table cell inset values are different for docx & doc files on InDesign import.
- When multilevel bulleted lists from Word are imported into InDesign, the list and level boxes can be edited only by choosing the list type as numbers. Please note that upon import, the list and level bond is broken and an InDesign bullet character is applied for the first character of a bulleted string.

Features not supported by the Excel filter

The following features are not supported by the Excel filter:

- Microsoft Excel 2007 tables styles
- Drag and Drop of Charts from Excel 2007 to InDesign
- Document properties
- Notes
- Excel drawings
- Objects
- Outlines
- Patterns
- File protection (password protected files are not imported)
- Named styles
- Split screens
- Freeze panes
- Center across selection
- Unwrapped text (text is imported as wrapped by default; unwrapped text imports as wrapped)
- Manual page breaks
- Horizontal fill
- Headers and footers
- Page numbers
- Inserted or Paste Special objects
- Macros
- Modules
- Dialogs
- Comments
- Text boxes
- Conditional formatting
- Shrink to fit

Additional filter information

Additional information on general import issues and specific issues with applications or file formats not covered in this document are included in the ReadMe documents located in the InDesign CS5 and InCopy CS5 application folders.

For information on other issues with the software, visit the InDesign and InCopy Support section of the Adobe Web site at

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