

The InDesignSecrets Guide to Special Characters in Adobe InDesign®

WHITE SPACE

Normal Space width = letterspace defined by typeface	d b
Em Space width = pt. size of type (24pt type, 24pt wide) Cmd+Shift+M Ctrl+Shift+M	d÷b
En Space width = ½ em space Cmd+Shift+N Ctrl+Shift+N	d-b
Third Space width = ½ em space	d b
Quarter Space width = ¼em space	d.b
Sixth Space width = %em space	d:b
Thin Space width = 1/8 em space Cmd+Shift+Opt+M Ctrl+Shift+Alt+M	ďb
Hair Space width = ½4em space	db

MAGNIFIED! These screen captures simulate 12 pt. type viewed at 800% zoom level for easier identification.

Nonbreaking Space ¹ width = normal space Cmd+Opt+X Ctrl+Alt+X	d^b
Nonbreaking Space (fixed width)²	d^b
Punctuation Space width = period, colon, or exclamation point in current typeface	d!b
Figure Space width = numeral in current typeface	d#b
Flush Space ³ width varies	d-b

Notes:

- The Nonbreaking space has the same flexible width as the spacebar space (changing width slightly as needed in fully-justified text), but prevents the line from breaking at the space character.
- 2. Prevents the line from breaking at the space character but does not adjust its width in justified text.
- 3. The Flush Space is only applicable in lines that are fully justified. In left-, right-, or center-aligned lines, the Flush Space acts like a normal space.

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HYPHENS

	Inline	End of line	
Hard hyphen (entered manually)	d-b	d-	The thin vertical blue line in
Auto hyphen	db	d~	some of these examples is a portion of the frame edge
Discretionary hyphen Cmd+Shift+- (hyphen) Ctrl+Shift+- (hyphen)	db	dŧ	
Nonbreaking hyphen Cmd+Opt+- (hyphen) Ctrl+Alt+- (hyphen)	d-b	By definition, nonbreaking hyphens won't appear at line breaks.	

LINE BREAKS

	Inline	End of line
Forced line break Shift+Return/Enter	By definition, forced line breaks won't appear inline.	d-
Discretionary line break	db	d

TEXT FLOW BREAKS

Paragraph Break (Return)	$d\P$
Column Break Enter	d
Frame Break Shift+Enter	d∗

Page Break Command+Enter Ctrl+Enter	d:
Odd Page Break	d
Even Page Break	d∵

OTHER SPECIALS

End of text in this story	d#
Tab	d »
Right Indent Tab Shift+Tab	d *
Non-joiner Used to separate ligature characters	fi
Right-to-left zero-width non-joiner	نخفتهاند

Indent to Here Cmd+\ Ctrl+\	†b
Custom Anchored Object	¥db
Split Footnote Only visible when frame edges are showing	d

MARKERS

	Layout	Story Editor
Index Marker	db	ædb
Hyperlink (Source) Default appearance	db	■db
Text Anchor A type of hyperlink destination	db	in db
Cross-Reference Source Default appearance	pg 1	pg # 1
Cross-Reference Destination Source links to this paragraph text	db	• db
Conditional Text Indicator color and style may vary	db	<u>db</u>
Hidden Conditional Text	db	db

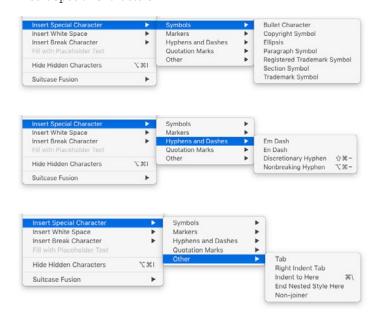
MARKERS continued

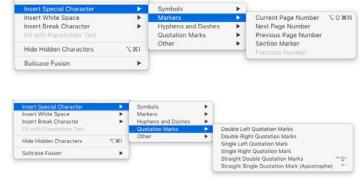
	Layout	Story Editor
Inline Note Marker color may vary	db	d.note.b
Endnote	Endnotes 1 I'm an endnote	Endnotes X Endnote I'm an endnote /Endnote X
Footnote Not shown: Footnote text in layout	db^1	db 1. 1. Footnote · text
Text Variable Shown is a Custom Text variable containing the text "db" and named DB	db	\mathbf{DB}
XML Tagged Text Marker color and tag labels may vary	[db]	x author 10 (/author x
Current Page Number Same for Previous Page Number, Next Page Number, and Section Marker	page 5	page 🛛

MENU LOCATIONS

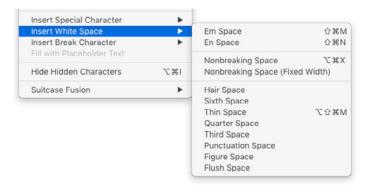
Many of the characters in this guide can be found in submenus of the Type menu, as shown below.

Insert Special Characters

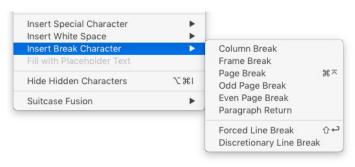




Insert White Space



Insert Break Character



TEXT FRAME ADORNMENTS

