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InDesign CS4 For Dummies

Learn to:
- Navigate around InDesign's menus, dialog boxes, panels, and panes
- Speed up your layout and production with templates and styles
- Spiff up your documents with graphics and special effects
- Prepare your publications for print or the Web

Galen Gruman
Author of Adobe InDesign CS4 Bible

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Synopsis

InDesign is the preferred graphic design software, and InDesign CS4 is loaded with cool new
desktop publishing features. InDesign CS4 For Dummies shows you how to use every one!
Whether you’re an experienced designer or just want to create a cool newsletter for the school
soccer team, you’ll benefit from Galen Gruman’s guidance. This desktop publishing expert
shows you how to navigate InDesign menus, dialog boxes, panels, and panes; streamline your work
with templates; prepare your creations for printing or online publication, and more. Explore the new
tools, work with the application frame, and set preferences for the way you work Learn to open and
save documents and export content Get familiar with the Pages panel, apply Master Pages, and
work with Layers Make the most of color with color libraries, multi-ink colors, spot versus process
color, and gradients Create layout guidelines and use color swatches for consistency Streamline
text formatting by using styles and treat text as a graphic element Design for the Web with
hyperlinks, multimedia elements, and Flash files See how InDesign CS4 works seamlessly with
other applications in the Adobe Creative Suite Discover why good design is part science and part art
and learn to manipulate, organize, and align design objects Take advantage of tips for cropping and
positioning graphics Prepare for printing or other output with enhanced preflighting tools InDesign
CS4 For Dummies also offers great advice for designing pages that do their job perfectly. Start
creating today!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews
I could find few books that covered Adobe's InDesign CS4 & a DVD tutorial costs more than the program. I am not all that familiar with Adobe products, including Photoshop, but I needed a program that could handle complex graphics, etc. in a book format. I found that even the best Word Processing programs froze once I got a chapter to a certain length. Due to the topic, the format of my writing style is complicated, very note heavy with maps, sidebars, photos, as well as varying levels of indentation, bullets, etc. Unfortunately, this book is way over my head. I struggled through Chapter 1, wondering why a beginner with the program needed to know about the changes made from CS3 before anything else. Finally, when I got to Chapter 3, it began to explain how to create a document, but if you are a beginner/dummy, you don’t already know what various Icons mean... nor do you understand the jargon & techniques used in the printing & publishing industry. Frankly, I despair. What I really needed, before progressing to this book, was "Teach Yourself InDesign CS4 Visually." The Teach Yourself Visually series is the absolute best for the absolute beginner. Unfortunately, there is no such book for this program.

In Design for Dummies was just the resource I needed when I suddenly needed to learn the program. It doesn't presume too much knowledge of Adobe software and covers the basics to get you started. Then it gets into many of the more sophisticated features of this awesome program. I needed to get a corporate newsletter on the street in less than a month and this book took me from complete tyro to turning out a professional-looking product. It's a life-saver. Easy to use, easy to understand, easy to reference.

[...] has a great online course for InDesign versions CS3 and 4. But if you're new to this arena as I was, you must read this book thoroughly first! These "Dummies" book are simply the needed ABCs you need for any subject you're interested in.

Most products are better-learned when self taught through trial and error - with a great reference book. I passed this book along to associates who needed to learn the product but had no budget to take a class. They utilized the book and became more than functional - so I call it a success.

This book makes it easier to find the tools and steps you need to get started and to turn out some high quality Desk Top Publishing. However, the newer writers forget that new Users still need a good foundation in the basics. I suggest that the examples be shorter with previously used tools and layout employed instead flooding the student with too many tools at once. Despite any short
comings, the Dummies book is still better than the techie books to read, follow and learn from while developing skills.

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