

Basic InDesign Graphics

Typing on an irregular path

1. Create the path using a graphic tool from the toolbox – the oval , line or pencil tool work well.
2. In the toolbox click on the tiny arrow on the bottom right corner of the Text Tool button. This will give you the choice of selecting the Type On Path tool.
3. Click the Type On Path tool on your graphic and start typing.
4. If you like you can then click on your graphic and change the stroke to Paper, which makes it invisible. You are then left with just the text.

Smoothing a cutout

1. Place your cutout photo on the page.
2. Select the photo and under the Objects menu choose Feather.
3. Check the Feather box in the pop-up menu and select Sharp on the Corners menu.
4. Feel free to play around with the amounts in the Feather Width box to suit your needs . I found that 0p4 (four points) looks pretty good.

Pasting a photo in a frame

1. Select the oval frame tool from the tool box. This is the oval that has an X through it.
2. Draw the oval on your page.
3. With the oval frame selected go to File-Place and select your photo.
4. Click the photo in the frame. The square corners of your photo should not extend outside of the oval.

Graphically enhancing type

1. Select the Text Tool and choose Helvetica 100 pt. as the font.
2. Type a capital O.
3. Highlight the O with your Text Tool and select Create Outlines under the Type menu.
4. Select the Direct Selection Tool (the white pointer). Click on the letter and control points will appear.
5. You can now grab the control points and “ruin” the letter.
6. You can add more control points by clicking on the Pen tool on the arrow and selecting the Add Anchor Point tool.
7. Now click on the outline of the letter to add more control points.

As with all design decisions please remember that Form should always follow Function. In other words: Just because you can doesn't mean you should!