

# **Preferences for Rich Black**

**Steps for turning off rich black**

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**Prepress Specialist Training Documents**

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### **2.2 Introduction:**

- This manual is intended to instruct and reference rich black settings for InDesign.
- Users are considered to have introductory experience with InDesign.

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### **3. Definitions and explanation**

#### **3.1 Rich Black**

- 3.1.1 Rich Black refers to the usage of the entire gamut of the Red, Blue, and Green (RGB) spectrum. This creates a black intended for screen display.
- 3.1.2 Rich Black creates a black that is more luminous and has a more impactful visual style. It can enhance legibility in a digital environment.

#### **3.2 CMYK**

- 3.2.1 Offset presses use the four colors Cyan, Magenta, Yellow, and Black (CMYK) to create the full range of colors.
- 3.2.2 The final image is created by isolating each of the four colors into a separate image and layering those images onto the paper.
- 3.2.3 Black in a CMYK document is referred to as 100K Black. This indicates that the Black (K) separation is set to 100% saturation of black ink.
- 3.2.4 100K black, as well as other CMYK colors, can appear more muted and offer fewer shades than the RGB spectrum.
- 3.2.5 Using screens to proof CMYK documents can result in mismatched color profiles. CMYK and RGB spectrums do not match exactly when applied to their respective print or digital formats.

#### **3.3 Registration**

- 3.3.1 The alignment of CMYK separations as the press is running is referred to as "Registration." When colors are out of Registration they create blurry and incomplete images.
- 3.3.2 Text that is blurry or hard to read creates a strong negative impact on the reader. Even small variations in Registration can be detectable when reading.
- 3.3.3 Rich text requires all four of the color separations to print and results in a final image that is very sensitive to Registration issues. This counters the intent of Rich Black to create a better visual impact.

#### **3.4 InDesign and Rich Black**

- 3.4.1 Some installations of InDesign have the Appearance of Black set to Rich Black as a global setting.
- 3.4.2 Documents created by multiple users with different versions of InDesign may have some text in Rich Black and some in 100K black.

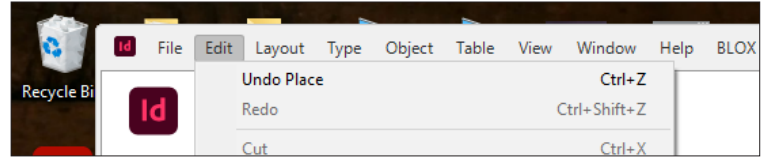
#### **3.5 Client relations and Rich Black**

- 3.5.1 Some designers have had no experience with documents in relation to Rich Black and CMYK printing and may request an explanation of the subject.
- 3.5.2 When discussing such issues with a client it is helpful to be understanding and knowledgeable. Be familiar with the layout of the menus and settings in InDesign so that your instructions by phone or email are prompt and exact.
- 3.5.3 Clients who are more visually oriented may benefit from the attached information page.

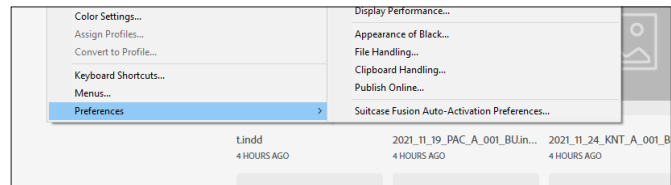
## 4. Changing “Appearance of Black” preference in InDesign

### 4.1 InDesign Preferences

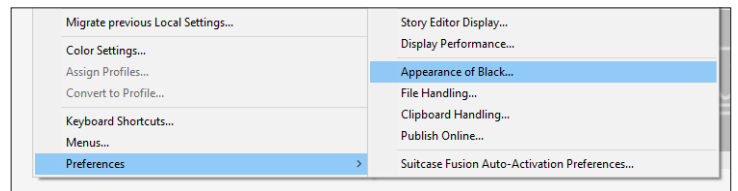
- 4.1.1 Close all open documents. Changing preferences with a document open will apply the changes to that document and will not be saved globally.
- 4.1.2 Open the Edit menu.
- 4.1.3 Open the Preferences menu.
- 4.1.3 Locate the section under “Appearance of Black” for “Options for Black on RGB and Grayscale Devices.”
- 4.1.4 Activate the “On Screen:” dropdown and select the option for “Output All Blacks Accurately.”
- 4.1.5. Activate the “Printing / Exporting:” dropdown and select the option for “Output All Blacks Accurately.”



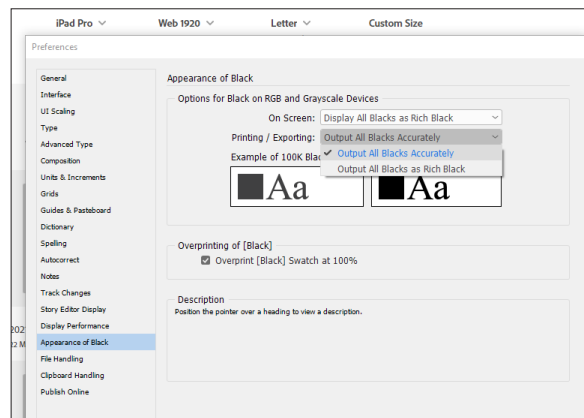
#### 4.1.2 Open the Edit Menu



#### 4.1.3 Open the Preferences Menu



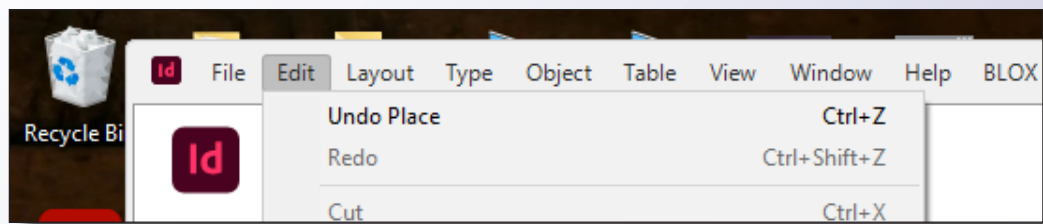
#### 4.1.3 Locate Appearance of Black



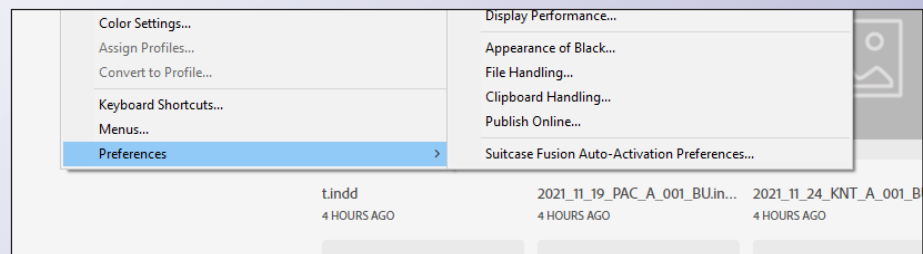
#### 4.1.4 Activate the accurate blacks options.

# How to change black from “Rich Black” to CMYK:

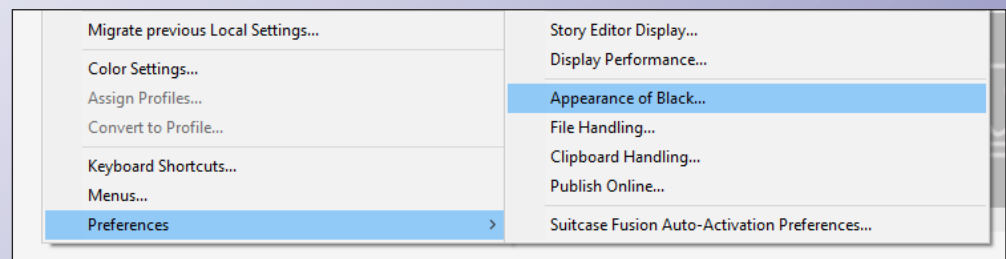
Navigate to the edit menu...



Choose the preferences flyout...



Click 'Appearance of Black'...



Under the drop-down for Printing/Exporting choose the option for “print blacks accurately.”

