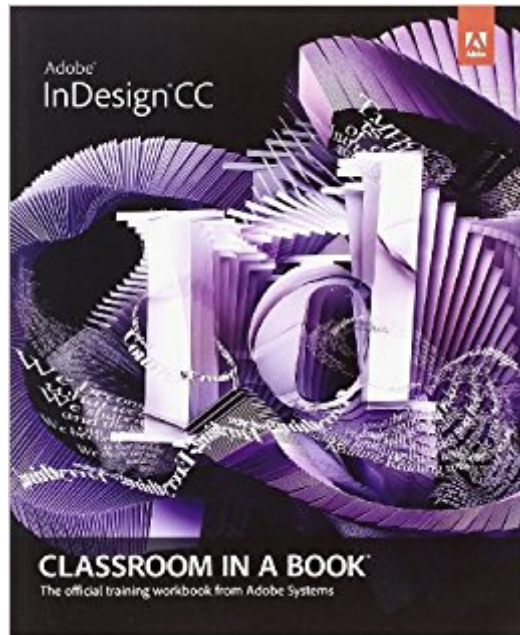


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# Adobe InDesign CC Classroom In A Book (Classroom In A Book (Adobe))



## Synopsis

The fastest, easiest, most comprehensive way to learn Adobe InDesign CC Classroom in a Book<sup>®</sup>, the best-selling series of hands-on software training workbooks, offers what no other book or training program does—<sup>®</sup>an official training series from Adobe Systems Incorporated, developed with the support of Adobe product experts. Adobe InDesign CC Classroom in a Book contains 16 lessons that cover the basics, providing countless tips and techniques to help you become more productive with the program. You can follow the book from start to finish or choose only those lessons that interest you. Purchasing this book gives you access to the downloadable lesson files you need to work through the projects in the book, and to electronic book updates covering new features that Adobe releases for Creative Cloud customers. For access, go to [www.peachpit.com/redeem](http://www.peachpit.com/redeem) and redeem the unique code provided inside this book. “The Classroom in a Book series is by far the best training material on the market. Everything you need to master the software is included: clear explanations of each lesson, step-by-step instructions, and the project files for the students.”<sup>®</sup> Barbara Binder, Adobe Certified Instructor Rocky Mountain Training<sup>®</sup>

## Book Information

Series: Classroom in a Book (Adobe)

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: Adobe Press; 1 edition (July 13, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0321926978

ISBN-13: 978-0321926975

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.8 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.9 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #356,990 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #24 in Books > Computers & Technology > Digital Audio, Video & Photography > Adobe > Adobe InDesign #151 in Books > Computers & Technology > Graphics & Design > Desktop Publishing #165 in Books > Arts & Photography > Graphic Design > Typography

## Customer Reviews

The Adobe Creative Team of designers, writers, and editors has extensive, real-world knowledge of Adobe products. They work closely with the Adobe product development teams and

Adobe's Instructional Communications team to come up with creative, challenging, and visually appealing projects to help both new and experienced users get up to speed quickly on Adobe software products. And they teach InDesign and produce flawless documents in the real world.

The book itself is great, very easy to follow along with and shows you everything you need to know about InDesign. Only one important thing I should mention.. DO NOT BUY THE BOOK USED. Unfortunately I did not know there was a code in the back of the book needed to retrieve online lesson files to follow along with the book. Long story short, I could not use the code again (after the previous owner had used it) and actually had to purchase a digital copy of the book, just to get access to the online lesson files since they are NOT AVAILABLE FOR SEPARATE PURCHASE. So instead of saving \$5 on a used book, instead of new, I spent \$65 total. Lesson learned.

Let me start this review by saying that I have high-level working knowledge with Illustrator and Photoshop, limited experience with desktop publishing software (the last desktop publishing software I've used was Microsoft Publisher 2003) and zero experience with InDesign. With this book and its 16 included lessons that will take about an hour of my time, average, studying two to three lessons a day, I was able to pick up the basics of InDesign and be on my feet within 7 days. I must admit that my experience with Photoshop and Illustrator helped expedite the learning process because many of the tools in InDesign are interchangeable across the entire spectrum of the Adobe Suite. However, prior experience is not necessary as the book dedicates its first two chapters on getting around InDesign. I was tasked to design a 36-page company products / profile brochure and I was able to begin designing after the second week. I've also learned tricks that helped expedite the design process, for example, using and designing page templates, content collector/placer tool, advance typography techniques such as text flowing, and a whole lot more that I wasn't aware of. If you want to learn the core essentials of InDesign to get you on the ground running, this is a great book. Designing and creativity is contingent on your experience.

I have just completed the sixteen lessons in this book and have learned a great deal. I have a relatively straightforward project that I think I now have the tools to work my way through. You must follow the instructions VERY CAREFULLY to make all sixteen projects work. As anyone who's played with InDesign knows, some of the text and graphic layout controls are pretty subtle. When you're anchoring a graphic, for example, you must find a small blue box -- perhaps 5x5 pixels -- and

drag that onto a paragraph. If you grab the box or graphic itself, it won't work. The text becomes less clear about these nuances as one gets further into the book. There are also some drag and drop exercises that do not work in Windows 7, despite the text, but since you have already learned alternate ways of doing the same thing, this does not stop the exercise. It's just frustrating. The real frustration, however, comes at the end of the book. Chapter 17 is supposed to be a download from the Peachpit site, along with the lesson files, but despite registering the lesson code and the ISBN number, the text for the lesson is nowhere to be found. I suspect that if you were to buy from the Peachpit site, you would not have this problem, but it is extremely annoying to have followed all these lessons religiously and then be denied the final lesson. C'mon, Adobe and Peachpit. My version, at least, was electronic. Just put it in the book. (Please see my update in Comments.)

I'm only up to Lesson 5. Downloading lessons from Peachpit is easy. The book is thorough but the user experience is not great. For starters, the description of the process of restoring default preferences was needlessly laborious & hard to understand: "To ensure preferences and default settings match those used in the book, you should move the current InDesign Defaults file to a different location..." It's as simple as moving the defaults file to your desktop. Another note says "On Mac OS, the Library is hidden by default". On Mac, it's as simple as entering "Library" in Search, which displays the path to the current Adobe InDesign folder so you can move it to the desktop or other location. This creates a new InDesign defaults file and preferences are set to original factory settings. You have to do this for every lesson. Every page is white on tiny black font that's hard to read. I had a hard time modifying the shape of frames initially, based on the instructions. Lesson 4 on Objects was very intricate. I am learning from this book, and the designs are nice. Larger font and more contrast on pages would help reading it a lot easier. Better yet, use a magnifying glass!

Indesign is probably the gold standard of publication layout programs. It definitely has much more capability than a word processor, but it is a complex program. Like Photoshop, one will never learn all the tricks without some guidance. I've taken about ten of the lessons in the book. The book is well written, and most times I've had no problems following the instructions. I have the ebook on my iPad and do the exercises on my desktop or laptop computer. The only real problem is that the illustrations of the icons in the instructions are too small on the iPad (as they would be on a Kindle); however the program's tool tips are a big help in finding the correct icon. I don't time myself, but it seems that the exercises take longer than the estimate in the book. I usually learn about programs by trial and error, but decided to get this book because Indesign is a very complex program (like

Photoshop). I have learned several techniques that I never would have discovered by myself. This book will definitely help me to be more productive with the program.

I think the Adobe CC book done by the Dummies series is much better. Adobe suffers from their "creative" team's inability to write clear English. Gobbledegook has got to go... you try to understand a lesson in this book, and you are fighting to get through the language. These are the people who have decided that on the computer screen, the tool bars are teensy...I mean TEENSY...and cannot be enlarged so that anyone can see them. Very autocratic.

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