

Add hyperlinks and bookmarks in the PDF

The ability to navigate from the index directly to the topic and return back to *the same index page* is a really useful way for readers to work with the text. If the PDF does not have an easy-to-use tool for making such jumps to page, then there is no interactivity.

This task is solved in this program: all the index page numbers in the indd file, after converting it to PDF will become hyperlinks, and the index pages will become bookmarks.

Indexes in InDesign may be different

There is a connection between the topic and the page number (an index of the first type). For most users of the InDesign, it is completely familiar that the index is made by the InDesign itself, using markers placed by the user in the text. This full-fledged index ensures that the topic and all page numbers where it occurs match exactly.

There is no connection between the topic and the page number (an index of the second type). But there are also cases when the indexes come already made up without an interactive component — there is a list of topics with page numbers, but without hyperlinks to the pages themselves.

An alphabetical or subject index can be assembled in plain text (manually or by some script), where the page numbers after the topic have no interactivity.

Creating hyperlinks and bookmarks

The next page shows the program window of **AddHyperlinks&Bookmarks.jsx**. It works with an existing index, regardless of which of the two types mentioned.

The format of each line of the index is as follows:

topic separator number1, number2–number3, ...

Each line number of the index will be a hyperlink. If the numbers are separated by a minus sign (hyphen, dash), both numbers will be hyperlinks.

Make a bookmark

Selecting this checkbox makes available the field for enter the name of the bookmark leading to the page of this index.

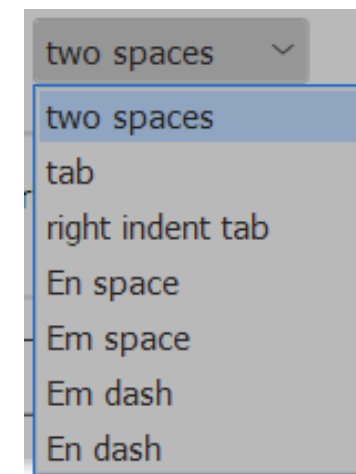
It is advisable not to give the full name of the index here, but some understandable abbreviated version. The bookmark name is common to all pages to which this index is addressed.

Several bookmarks will be created, the name of each one will contain the text from the data field and the index page number.

And this is very convenient for working with hyperlinks, because it allows you to jump to the text and return back to the index page from which you navigated to the text.

The separator between the topic and the numbers

By default, the separator is two consecutive spaces.



But you can also choose another option from the drop-down list. If the desired sign is not there, then it must be entered in the field by checking the box first **Own variant**.

Delete hyperlinks

You should always check this box if you have only one index. If there are

several, then only when working with the first one. To create hyperlinks for the second and next indexes, this checkbox must be cleared. If this checkbox needs to be checked, but you forgot to do it, then the following message will appear on the screen:

The hyperlink could not be created. Apparently, an object has been selected that is already involved in the link created earlier.

During this processing, only bookmarks and hyperlinks created by this script will be deleted. Everything that was added by other means will not be affected.

The criterion that the bookmark was made by this particular program is a special label, and hyperlinks have their own character style. And if it becomes necessary to remove these bookmarks and hyperlinks, then there is a script for this **RemoveLabeledItems.jsx**.

Hyperlinks in the frames

This is more of a debugging option. But sometimes it's interesting to see what the boundaries of the hyperlinks you create are. If the frames remain from the previous process-

letter 17-19, 270, 271, 294

ing, they will disappear when this check box is selected. If there is only one number in the line, then the entire line space will be a hyperlink, not just the number.

A script **ShowHyperlinkFrame.jsx** is provided to show the frames of the available hyperlinks, to remove the existing frames — **DeleteHyperlinkFrame.jsx**.

Missed hyperlinks colored by yellow

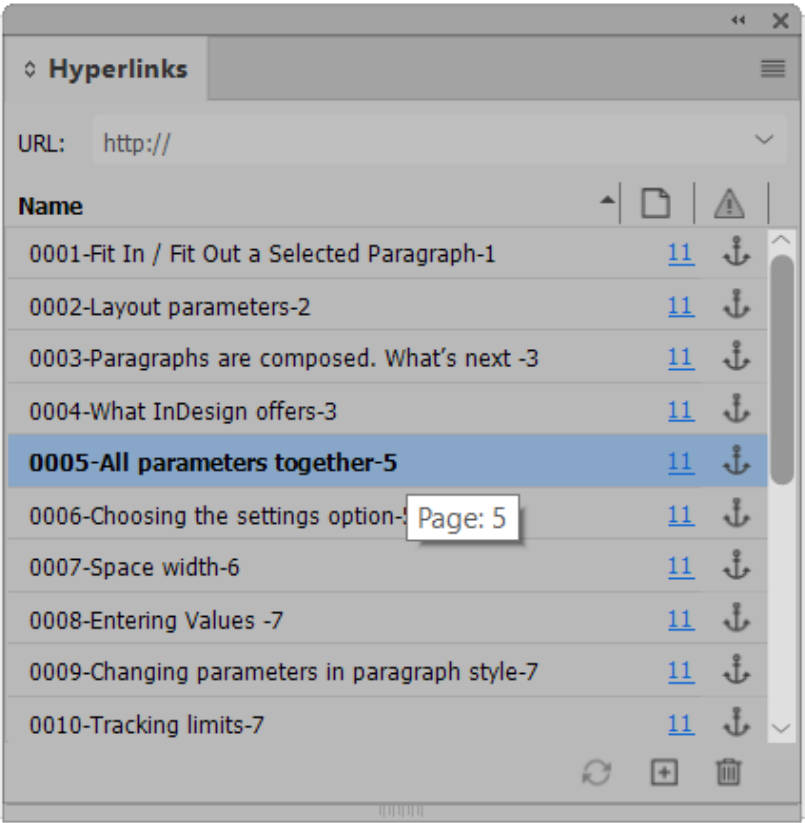
In this case, the links lost in the text will be marked, they will be highlighted with a yellow background. The yellow color is a character style #MissedHyperlinks. Obviously, this color is for reference, and is not constantly needed. To remove this character style, check and uncheck the checkbox **Hyperlinks in the frames** twice.

Name of hyperlink

The name of each hyperlink created by the script has the following format: number-topic-page or topic-page. Here number — this is the five-digit serial number of the hyperlink in the order of its creation; topic — name of topic;

page — the number of the page to which this hyperlink leads, where this topic is placed. The used variant is determined by the checkbox **Numbering hyperlinks**.

The actual page number of the book does not always match what is in the index. If there is a block with a different page numbering at the beginning of the book, as, for example, it is in the famous Felici's book «The complete Manual of Typography», there the preface and introduction are numbered in small Roman numerals, then all numbers will be



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PART ONE **Typographic Basics**

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The Building Blocks of Type 3
Bounding Boxes and Spaces 5

colored yellow. It is necessary to find out how different the actual page number in the book is from what is indicated, and enter this value in the field **Fix of the number**. Each hyperlink has a tooltip showing the page number to which the anchor of this hyperlink leads.

The number in the tooltip must match the page number in the name of hyperlink. A match means that the correct number is indicated in the **Fix of the number** field. Be sure to check the correct addressing of hyperlinks.

Work with second type indexes

The Index mentioned at the beginning of this manual is a system of interrelation of terms and their position in the text. And when the Index is made by the InDesign, all the

topics of the index are collected in the **Topics** panel, and in the **References** panel there will be information about the pages where these topics are located. If the index is prepared by the InDesign, the **Topics** panel always has information about the topics of the file or the Book.

But if the Index is assembled manually, then this panel may be empty, and then this script considers it an index of the second type. And in this case, you need to put the topics from the selected text in the **Topics** panel. If it is found that there are no topics for the index, the script will change the name of the bottom large button, it will be called **Save topics of selected text**. All other script settings, except for the separator selection, will be unavailable. It is necessary to select the text, press the button, the topics will appear in the **Topics** panel, and the appearance of the program's working window will be restored.

The file or the Book

The script itself will understand what it is supposed to work with — with one file, or with several combined into a Book. And if you are working with a Book, then at least one file from this set should be open. It makes sense to

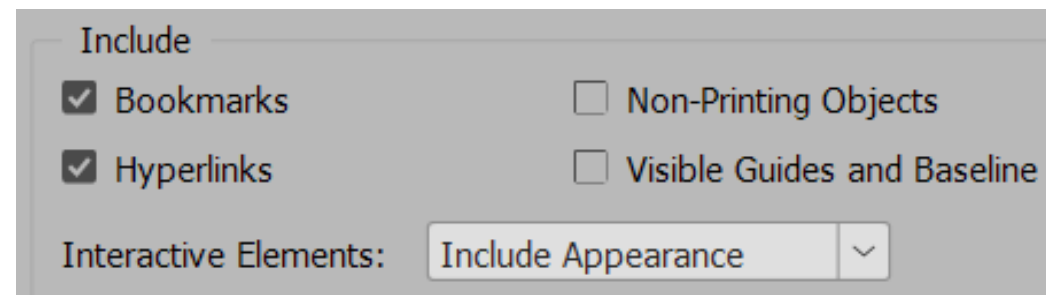
start with the one that contains the text with the terms and page numbers. The script will open the rest of the Book files by itself. If an open indb file is found, then there will be (Book) in the header of the script, if it is one document, then there will be (File).

Bookmark and hyperlink panels

These panels are turned off during processing. Checkboxes **B** and **H** determine whether these panels will be open after processing is completed. If the checkbox is selected, the panel will be open, even if it was not on the screen before launching. If it is reset, whether it will be open or not is determined by whether it was open at the time of the start of processing.

Create PDF (print version)

When generating a PDF, make the following settings:



How to use this program

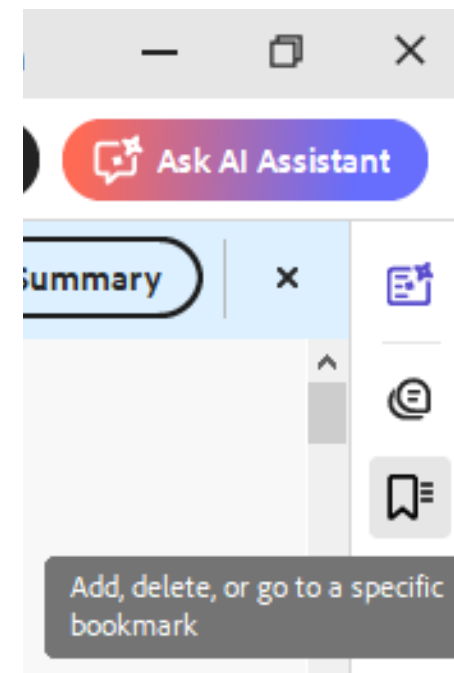
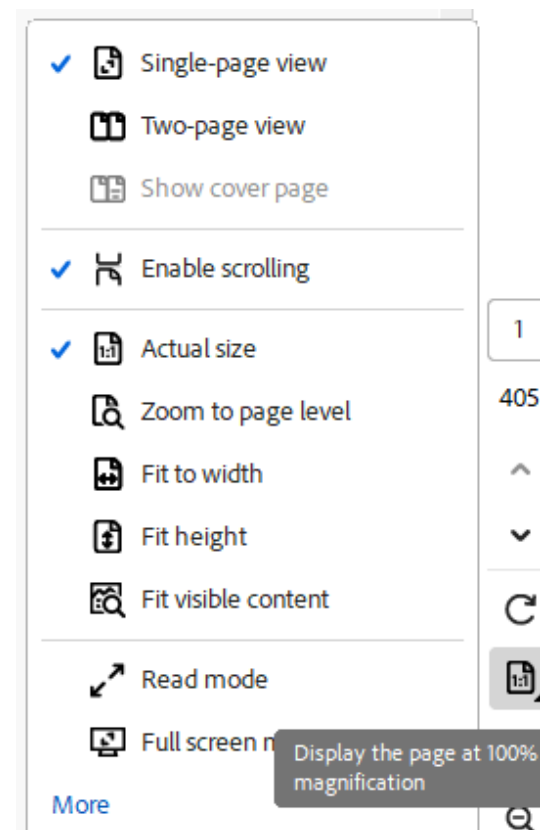
There may be several thousand numbers in the index that need to be hyperlinked. There may be several indexes in the file. If you start making a PDF with such interactivity immediately after creating the index, then there is some chance that the InDesign may not be able to do this job and crashed.

To avoid this, practice restarting the InDesign, and the first task after restarting it will be to get a PDF with an interactive index: hyperlinks and bookmarks.

Options for displaying topics

It is assumed that the document will be displayed on the screen page by page. And there are options for it in the Adobe Acrobat. If you set the mode View > Page Display > Single-Page View then, when you select any number, the entire page where this topics is located will be displayed. But you can show the topics itself directly: an Acrobat can display *in the first line of the screen* the string into which the link was defined. This works, but only when page scrolling is enabled in page view mode. View > Page Display > Single-Page View > Enable Scrolling.

Now there is a variant of Acrobat, the interface of which is noticeably different from what has been familiar for many years. And this novelty can be confusing. Therefore, here are two explanatory pictures — where to look for bookmarks and settings for



browsing pages. These panels are located on the right edge of the screen.

Top is the button to display the bookmarks panel.

The button for displaying page options is located on the lower right edge (left picture).

If it is necessary for the script to definitely consider that this index is of the second type, then the value of the `it_is_Index_Type_Two` variable must be **true**. This variable in **BmHIData.jsxinc**.

[...] | [!] Enabling/disabling tooltips in the program window.

To complete the work, click on the red cross in the header of the program.

Hyperlink anchor points

InDesign provides different options for addressing hyperlinks. This program uses a link to the text position. The anchor marker is a symbol with the `<FEFF>` code. The same code is used for the index marker, for the footnote marker.

y Visually, this service symbol looks like two dots one above the other.

The program marks its anchor points with the character style **#HyperlinkMarker**. But if there are extra such markers in the file, they bother you, and you are sure that they can be deleted, then a script is provided for this, **RemoveAllAnchors.jsx**, it works with selected text.

A special way to number a range of pages

In books in English, you can sometimes find an unusual way to specify a page range — the number before the hyphen is greater than the number after the one: for example, 11-4 or 128-32. In the usual record, these are 11-14 and 128-132.

But since such a standard exists, there is a possibility that such intervals will need to be processed with this script. And this is done: if the first number is greater than the second (or equal to it), then the program considers that this is such a special case and calculates the correct number. There are no changes in the layout, but the jump to such an abbreviated number will be correct.

* * *

This script started being created when the latest version was CC2023. And he worked fine in it. But it stopped working in CC2024. Long attempts to figure out what's going on have shown that if the anchor and the index marker of topic are side by side, then it only works up to and including CC2023.

This understanding led to the finding of a workaround: to place the anchor point not next to the topic, but on the edge of the line in which the topic is located. This does not affect the working in CS6–CC2023. And if the anchor is inside the hyphenated word, it will not affect the hyphenation and search for the given word.

I found a confirmation of this problem on the Adobe Community forum. There's a scan of the message at the bottom.

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John Krajec

Community Beginner, Apr 29, 2024

LATEST

I've had similar issues and found I had to have my Anchors **outside** another hyperlink. Recently seeing Anchors even next to another hyperlink doesn't work (it doesn't export the Anchor in the PDF document, so it can't go there.)

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