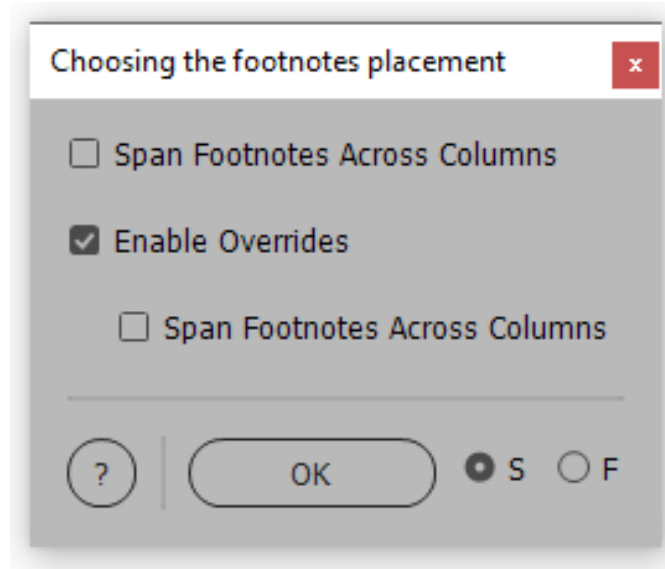


Choosing the footnotes placement

Purpose of the program

This program is for users working with multi-columns, in which footnotes can be either in layout format or placed under a column. And if the customer requests files with different types of footnotes, then using standard tools, of course, solves the problem, but it is often noticeably time-consuming to redo from one option to another. The script solves this problem faster than the user looks at which settings need to be changed in order to start making a new version of the footnotes.

If you have regular texts in one column, then you shouldn't read any more, it's a waste of time. Just be happy for yourself that you were spared the problem when one work may



have footnotes under the column and in full format. For example, in a collection of reports, where there are many individual articles. It happened by chance, but you didn't notice. Or at the end of the work, it was necessary to evaluate how this entire collection of reports would look if the footnotes were not under each column, but in full format. And it can be difficult to do it accurately and

quickly due to the fact that the layout designer is already very tired of this work.

Program description

Three checkboxes, which determine the option for placing footnotes in the multi-column, are duplicated in the script window:

- 1) Type > Document Footnote Options... > Layout : Span Footnotes Across Columns
- 2) Object > Text FrameOptions... > Footnotes > Enable Overrides
- 3) Object > Text Frame Options... > Footnotes > Enable Overrides => Span Footnotes Across Columns.

When running the script, the cursor should be in the text of the story.

In the program window, the state of

the second and third checkboxes is the same as in the settings of the frame in which the cursor is located. The status of the first checkbox applies to the entire document. The checkboxes can be changed, and the design of the footnotes will immediately change.

What is the difference from the standard solution?

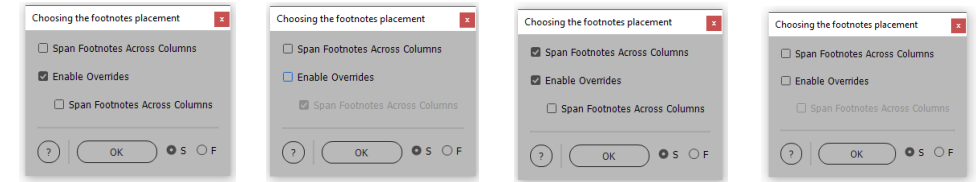
By default, the settings for selecting footnotes on a page are separated into two different windows, and this is not functional at all.

Due to the fact that the second checkbox works as a on/off switch, you can get footnotes under the column both when the first checkbox is set and when it is reset.

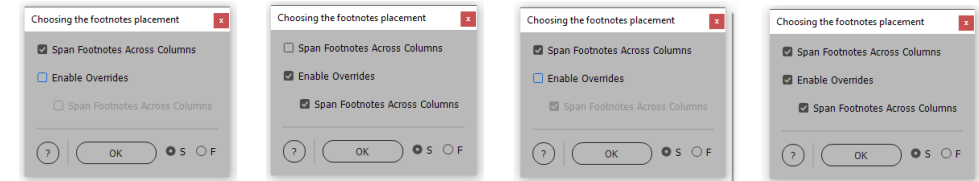
That is, conceptually, it is made in such a way that there may be ambiguity in checking the boxes and the result, and in order to understand what is the matter, you need to check the settings in different windows.

In addition, this ambiguity is compounded by the fact that switching checkboxes sometimes affects the design of footnotes only in the frame where the cursor is, and in the rest the design does not change. And you have to rush between

Settings in which footnotes under the column



Settings where footnotes are in layout format



None of the options can be said to be the only correct one if they all produce the desired results.

these windows, checking all the pages with footnotes. This does not add joy to the layout process.

Managing the variant of footnotes placement

In this script, all three checkboxes for controlling the view of footnotes **in layout format / under the column** are assembled in one window.

Not in two different windows, and even on different tabs, but in one window — this is very convenient. You can change the appearance of footnotes in one frame, and then use the **OK** button to make all frame settings the same as in this frame.

The **OK** button applies either to all frames of the story in which the cursor is located (radiobutton **S**), or to all stories in the file (radiobutton **F**).

The script makes it so that when you click on the **OK** button, its name changes to **Processing**, and a progressbar appears. But the frame processing is very fast, the progressbar disappears, and the button gets its original name.

Information for understanding

One of the important criteria for a good program is how many mouse clicks a user should make to solve a specific task. According to this indicator, this script significantly exceeds the standard capabilities of the InDesign. The predictable result is obtained in less time — the design of footnotes in the document is updated faster than the user opens first one footnotes management window, then another.

If this preparation of an option with a different design option for footnotes is done at the end, then the quality of the result may be lower than expected due to the fact that the user is already tired of this work. Therefore, it is

very timely that this painstaking task can be given to the program for execution. It'll do everything faster and more accurately.

And another example of the ability of a particular layout designer to quickly and accurately make layout will be a contribution to his own reputation.

Mikhail Ivanyushin

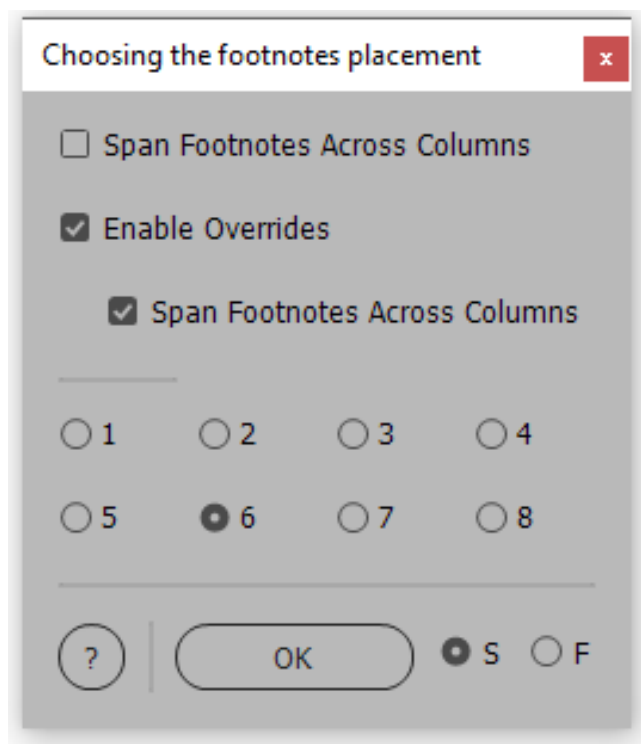
<https://shop.dotextok.ru/en/> | dotextok@gmail.com



Update 10.01.2026

Choosing footnote placement using the radiobuttons

The idea came up to implement the choice of one of the eight footnote placement options shown on page 2 using radiobuttons. It's faster, so it's more convenient.



The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Choosing the footnotes placement" with a red close button in the top right corner. Inside the dialog, there are three checkboxes: "Span Footnotes Across Columns" (unchecked), "Enable Overrides" (checked), and "Span Footnotes Across Columns" (checked). Below these checkboxes is a horizontal line, followed by eight radio buttons numbered 1 through 8. Radio button 6 is selected. At the bottom of the dialog, there is a question mark icon, an "OK" button, and two radio buttons labeled "S" and "F", with "S" being selected.

And this mode of operation allowed us to detect some variability in the design of footnotes. There is a Two-ColumnText.idml file in the Info folder. When you look at how the different options work, you can see that the design of footnotes in full format with options 5 and 7 and options 6 and 8 differs from each other. I have not been able to understand the reason for this discrepancy. But thanks to this script, you can choose the option that suits you and continue to stick to it.

And when working together on a large project, it's easy to discuss and share experiences by simply naming the option number that you use in your work.