



Adobe

Tips
Tricks
Techniques

Adobe
InDesign 2



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compound paths for text holes

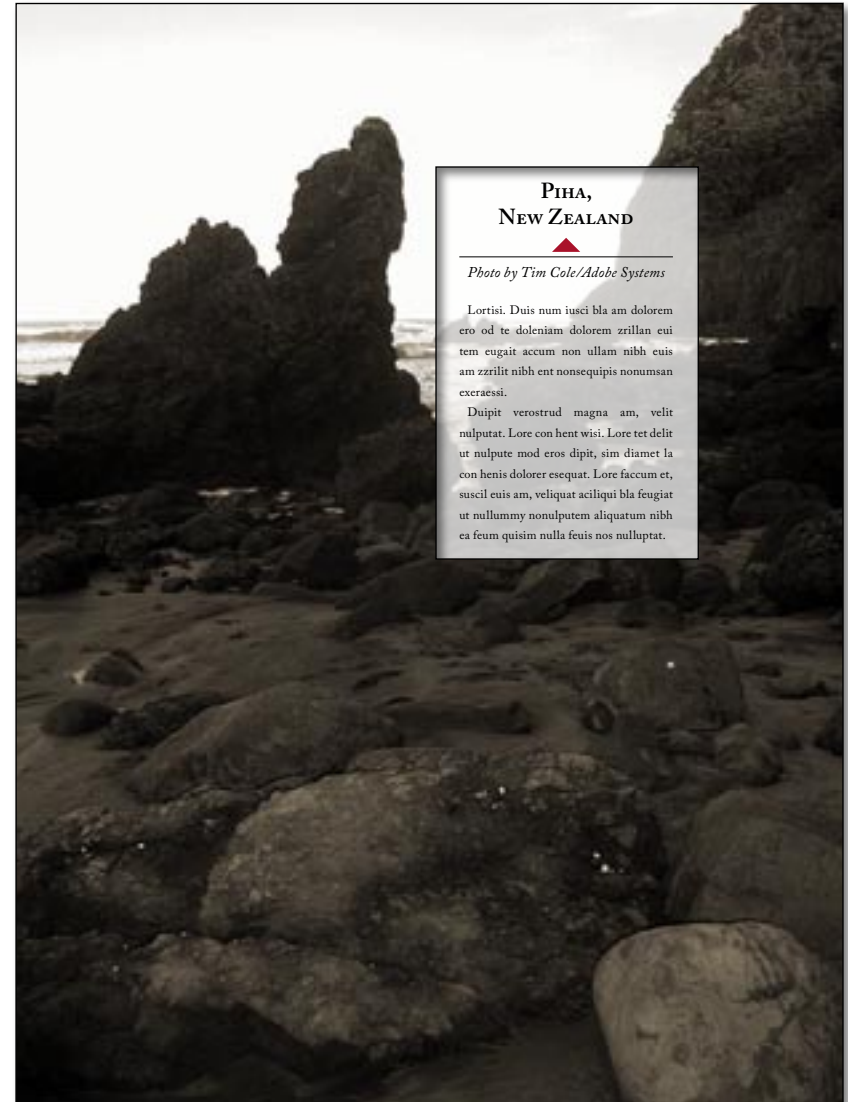
You can use InDesign's compound paths and transparency features to create a recessed text compartment in an image.

The only thing not created in InDesign in the layout to the right was the basic image file, which was produced in Photoshop. The text and the recessed text effect was made in InDesign using the compound paths, drop shadow, layer, and opacity features.

This technique is easy to perform in InDesign and easy to revise at the last minute before a deadline.

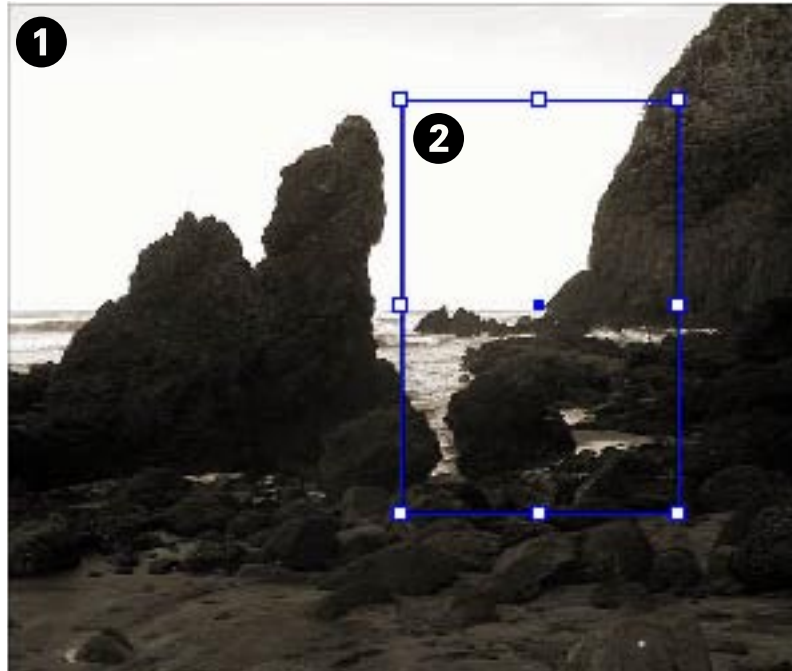
In this tip you will see:

- how to create a compound path
- how to apply an opacity level
- how to apply a drop shadow
- how to manage layout elements with layers



compound paths for text holes

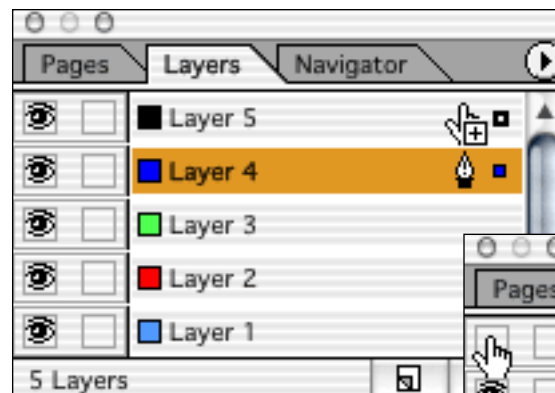
1. Place your image on your page. (Your image should cover the whole page unless you want to see a shadow for the outside edge of the image.)



2. Draw the frame you wish to use for both the shape of the image knockout and the text container.

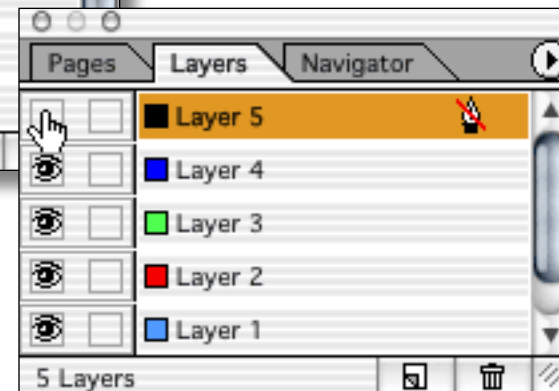


3. Duplicate the frame on another layer by first selecting the frame with the Selection tool, and then holding down **option/alt** and clicking and dragging the colored dot in the layers palette to a new layer.



3

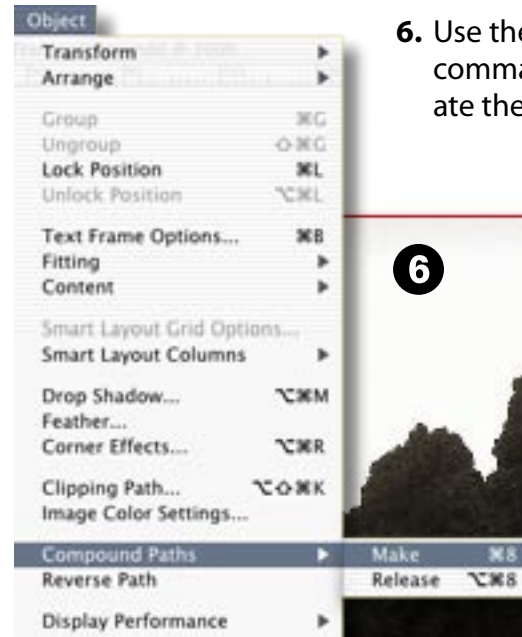
4. Hide the layer with duplicated frame for the moment.



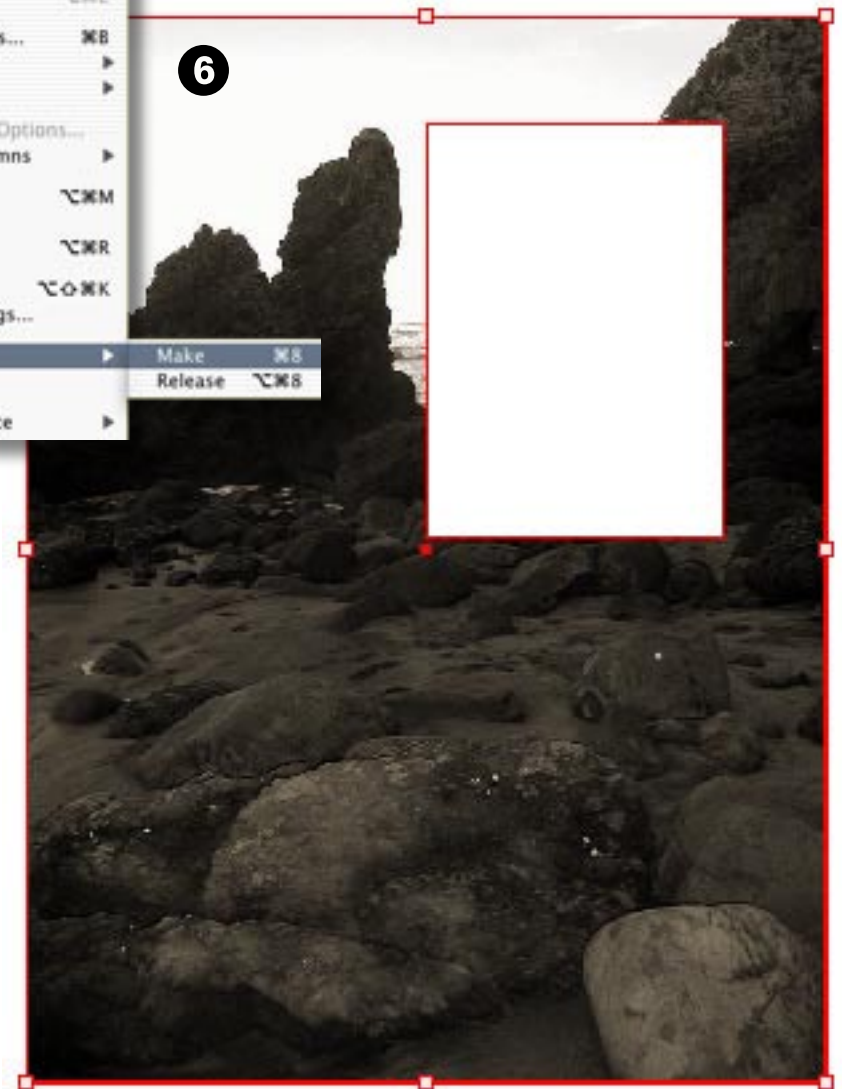
4

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5. Select the image frame and the knockout frame you created.



6. Use the **Object > Compound Paths > Make** command to create a compound path to create the desired knockout effect.



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7. Select the image with the Direct Selection Tool, and copy it to the clipboard. Hide the layer with the original image and select a layer underneath it.

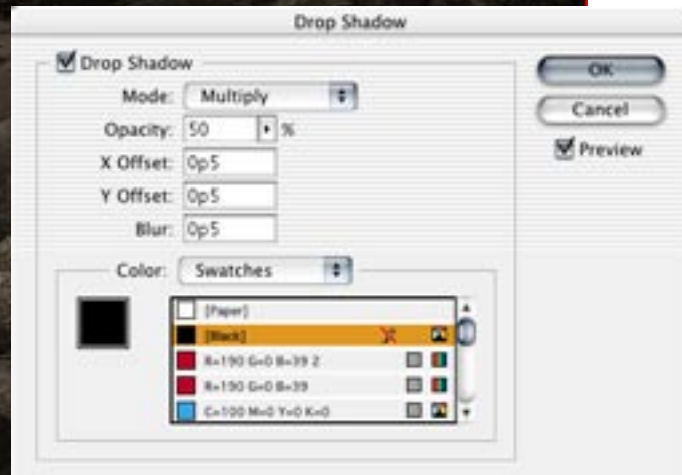
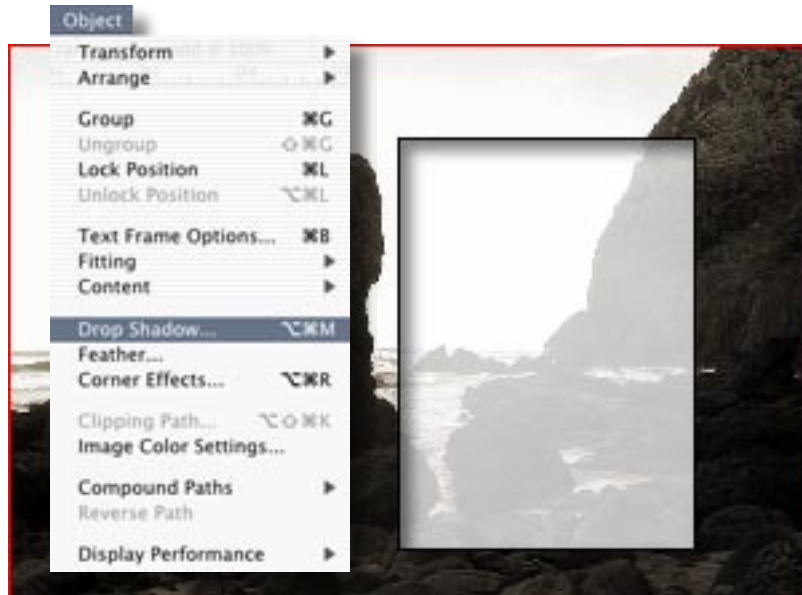


8. Use the **Edit > Paste in Place** command to paste a copy of the original image with the same coordinates as the original. The two images should line up exactly. Select the background copy and apply an opacity of around 25%.



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9. Select the top image and then use **Object > Drop Shadow** to apply a drop shadow to the knocked out area. If you don't want a visible drop shadow around the outside edge of the image frame, you can crop the outer shadow by nesting the image in another frame.



10. Make the layer with the duplicate object visible, and click an insertion point with your text tool to make a text box. Use **cmd/ctrl + B** to set the text inset values you want in the **Frame Options** dialog box. At that point you can enter your text, stroke the text frame, etc.

