

InDesign

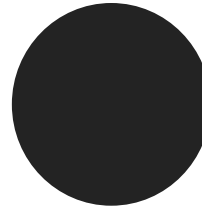
Drop Caps

Do you want eye-popping Drop Caps? Try using InDesign's Compound Paths.

1. Type your letter in the font you like. Remember Drop Caps are usually done in a larger more interesting font. After typing the font, highlight the letter with your text tool and go to the Type menu to Create Outlines.

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2. Draw a shape that will complement your letter. For this example we used Black and White but any color combination can be used.



3. Make sure the letter is white, not black. To change the font color after you have Created Outlines, use your black arrow to select the letter then highlight the Paper color in the Swatches palette. This should make the letter white. Then slide it on top of the created shape.

4. The next step is to select the shape and the letter at the same time. (Hold down your shift key when selecting.) Then go to the Object menu to Compound Paths to Make.



Circle Behind- White text in Front

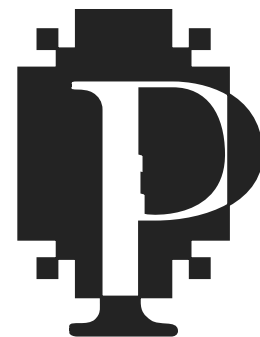
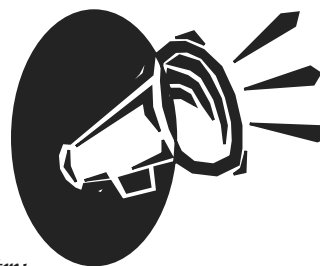


After Compound Path is Made

5. The final touch is text wrap. It is now a graphic element instead of text, so before placing it in your paragraph you will need to apply text wrap for it to work like a traditional Drop Cap. Text Wrap can be found under the Window menu.



Final Results



There are many neat ideas to try using Compound Paths. To the right are a few more examples using different fonts and graphic elements. Have a blast!

