

Speed up your typesetting with GREG codes

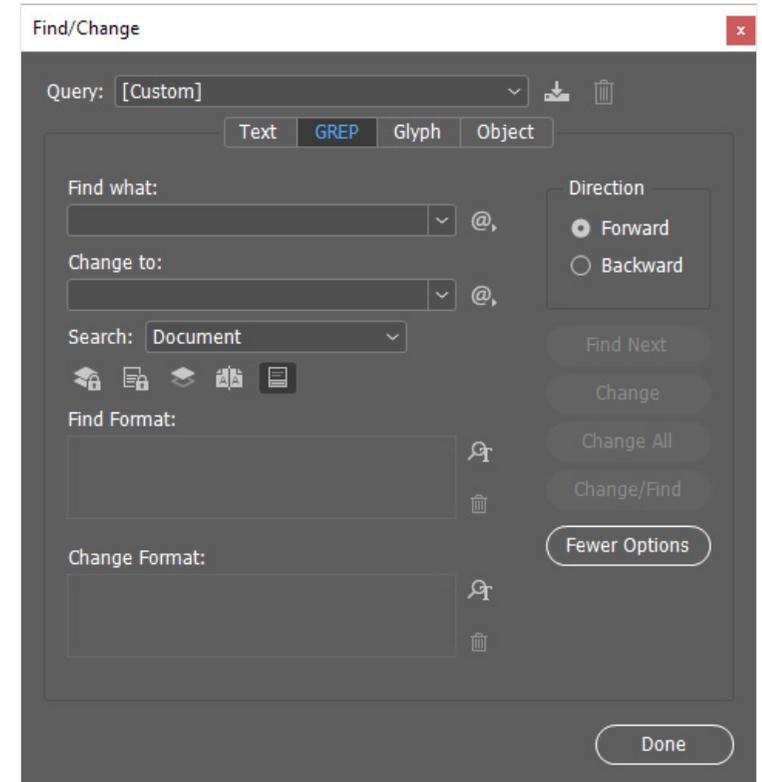
What can you do with GREP?

- + replace misspelt words at once
- + clean redundant spaces
- + apply formatting styles
- + apply typographic rules

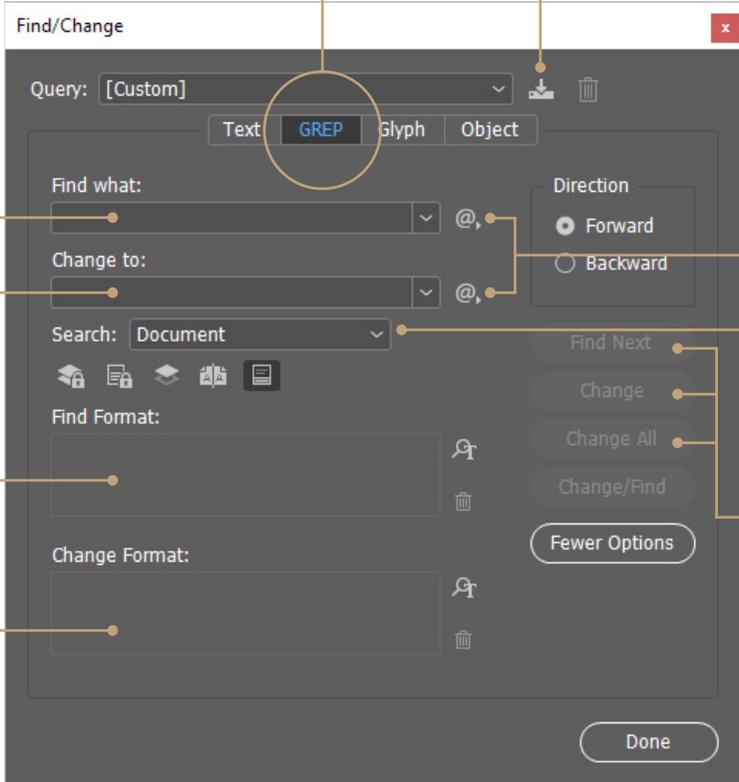
In InDesign, there is a modest feature called Find/Change. While turned into GREP mode is an extremely powerful tool. It can save you a lot of time. Say no to endless manual changing hyphens to dashes and start using GREP expressions instead.

From main menu
Edit → Find/Change

Shortcut
ctrl + F



Window overview



1 Type here some phrase you are looking for

2 Text from this field will replace the found phrase

3 Click in this field to describe text formatting you are looking for

4 Click in this field to set new formatting

Remember to switch to GREP mode

If GREP is correct, you can save the whole query for future projects.

You don't have to remember codes by heart. Click here to reveal a menu with components of expressions.

Decide whether you want to search the whole document, a current story or just a selection.

When trying a new code check it's correctness by changing one by one with *find next* and *change* button. Use the *change all* button only if you are 100% sure about the code

- + You don't have to fill all four fields
- + Leaving some fields empty will affect the changing process

Text cleaning queries

- + Just copy and paste the following codes. Don't act brave and type them on your own. Any change in code can cause damage.
- + It's not a mistake if some cell in this table remains empty. Leave this field empty as well.
- + Don't forget to check the correctness of code by changing text one by one.
- + Remember to save your query for future projects.

SPEED UP YOUR TYPESETTING WITH GREP CODES

| | 1 FIND WHAT | 2 CHANGE TO | 3 FIND FORMAT | 4 CHANGE FORMAT |
|--|---|---------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| Delete empty paragraphs | <code>^\s*\r</code> | | | |
| Get rid of multiple spaces | <code>\p{Zs}{2,}</code> | <code>\x{20}</code> | | |
| Delete space at the beginning of paragraphs | <code>^\(\p{Zs}\)\t+</code> | | | |
| Delete space before punctuation marks | <code>\s+([.,:;!])</code> | <code>\$1</code> | | |
| Delete space at the beginning of footnote text | <code>\t\x{20}</code> | <code>\t</code> | | select paragraph style for footnotes |
| Change hyphens to en-dashes | <code>(?<=(\d))-(?=(\d))</code> | <code>~ =</code> | | |
| | That book – did you like it? 1960–2019 | | | |
| Change three dots to ellipsis character | <code>\.\.\.</code> | <code>~ e</code> | | |

Formatting queries

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SPEED UP YOUR TYPESETTING WITH GREP CODES

| | 1 FIND WHAT | 3 FIND FORMAT | 4 CHANGE FORMAT |
|--|--|--|---|
| Apply small caps to abbreviations | <code>\u{2,}</code> | | select character style for small caps |
| Find Cyrillic text | <code>([\x{0400}-\x{052F}]+\p{Zs}[[[:punct:]]]*)+</code> | | select character style for Cyrillic text |
| Apply superscript to ordinals 1 st , 2 nd | <code>\d\K(st nd th)\></code> | | select character style for superscript |
| Save italic overrides as character style | | basic character format → font style: italic | select character style for italic |
| Clear overrides in footnotes | | select paragraph style for footnotes | select THE SAME paragraph style for footnotes |

Don't-break line-in-here queries

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- + Don't forget to check the correctness of code by changing text one by one.
- + Remember to save your query for future projects.

SPEED UP YOUR TYPESETTING WITH GREP CODES

| | 1 FIND WHAT | 2 CHANGE TO |
|---|--|--------------------|
| Name initials and surnames | <code>(?<=<u\.)\p{Zs}?(l)</code> | <code>~%\$1</code> |
| Values and units | <code>(?<=<d)\p{Zs}?(mm kg cm m)\></code> | <code>~%\$1</code> |
| Page or volume number | <code>\<(p vol)\K\.\p{Zs}?(?=\w)</code> | <code>~%~</code> |
| Don't leave one-letter words at the end of line | | |
| [PL] <i>wiszące spójniki</i> | <code>(?!)(?<=<[aiouwz])\p{Zs}</code> | <code>~S</code> |
| [RU] | <code>(?!)(?<=<[вкисцоуа])\p{Zs}</code> | <code>~S</code> |
| [PL] Don't leave en-dash at the beginning of line | <code>\x{20}~</code> | <code>~S~</code> |
| Add space between number and % | <code>\d\K\p{Zs}??%</code> | <code>~%%</code> |
| Thousands separator | <code>(?<=<d)(\x{20} , \.)?(?=\d\d\d)</code> | <code>~.</code> |

FURTHER READING

- + *Quick Guide to GREP codes in Adobe InDesign*, DhafirPhoto, 2017
- + [PL] *GREP w InDesign*, Marek Włodarz, Warsaw 2011
- + *The Treasures of GREP* (group on Facebook)

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FROM WARSAW ▲ HELLO THERE, WE ARE MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIO

