

Building Blocks for TEXT and GREP Search Expressions - InDesign CS4

These same Search Characters are in the Text Find Change dialog box except the escape characters for GREP are either \ or ~¹

1. Tilde (~) modifier is used for characters that are unique to InDesign.

GREP searches are case sensitive by default

To search for a character that has a special meaning in GREP, enter a backslash (\) before the character to indicate that the character that follows is the literal character – not the symbolic character.

GREP search patterns can be saved in the GREP Find/Change dialog but not in GREP Styles. The search can be saved in Find/Change and copied and pasted when needed in GREP Styles.

Wildcards

- Any Digit
- Any Letter
- Any Character
- Any White Space
- Any Word Character
- Any Uppercase Letter
- Any Lowercase Letter

Locations

- Beginning of Word
- End of Word
- Word Boundary
- Beginning of Paragraph
- End of Paragraph

Repeat

- Zero or One Time
- Zero or More Times
- One or More Times
- Zero or One Time (Shortest Match)
- Zero or More Times (Shortest Match)
- One or More Times (Shortest Match)

Match

- Marking Subexpression
- Non-marking Subexpression
- Character Set
- Or
- Positive Lookbehind
- Negative Lookbehind
- Positive Lookahead
- Negative Lookahead

White Space

- Em Space
- En Space
- Flush Space
- Hair Space
- Nonbreaking Space
- Nonbreaking Space (Fixed Width)
- Thin Space
- Figure Space
- Punctuation Space
- Third Space
- Quarter Space
- Sixth Space

Quotation Marks

- Any Double Quotation Marks
- Any Single Quotation Mark (Apostrophe)
- Straight Double Quotation Marks
- Double Left Quotation Mark
- Double Right Quotation Mark
- Straight Single Quotation Mark (Apostrophe)
- Single Left Quotation Mark
- Single Right Quotation Mark

Break Characters

- Standard Carriage Return
- Column Break
- Frame Break
- Page Break
- Odd Page Break
- Even Page Break
- Discretionary Line Break

Variable

- Any Variable
- Running Header (Paragraph Style)
- Running Header (Character Style)
- Custom Text
- Last Page Number
- Chapter Number
- Creation Date
- Modification Date
- Output Date
- File Name

Other

- Right Indent Tab
- Indent to Here
- End Nested Style Here
- Non-joiner

Modifiers

- Case-insensitive On
- Case-insensitive Off
- Multiline On
- Multiline Off
- Single-line On
- Single-line Off

Posix

- [:alnum:]
- [:alpha:]
- [:digit:]
- [:lower:]
- [:punct:]
- [:space:]
- [:upper:]
- [:word:]
- [:xdigit:]
- [=a=]

Symbols

- Bullet Character
- Backslash Character
- Caret Character
- Copyright Symbol
- Ellipsis
- Paragraph Symbol
- Registered Trademark Symbol
- Section Symbol
- Trademark Symbol
- Open Parenthesis Character
- Close Parenthesis Character
- Open Brace Character
- Close Brace Character
- Open Bracket Character
- Close Bracket Character

Markers

- Any Page Number
- Current Page Number
- Next Page Number
- Previous Page Number
- Section Marker
- Anchored Object Marker
- Footnote Reference Marker
- Index Marker

Hyphens & Dashes

- Em Dash
- En Dash
- Discretionary Hyphen
- Nonbreaking Hyphen