Typefi AutoFit

Version 2

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The Typefi AutoFit panel and tool are used to define relationships between objects, frames and lines, enable automatic text frame resize behaviors, and enforce minimum and maximum object size limits. AutoFit relationships, resize styles and min/max size limits enable designers to create dynamic page objects that react and respond automatically as content changes.

New features in AutoFit v2 include:

- AutoFit relationships, resize styles, and size limits are now preserved when exporting to a snippet file, an object library or InDesign Interchange (INX) or InDesign Markup (IDML) files.
- Corners are now supported as reference points for AutoFit relationships.
- Bi-directional and multi-parent relationships are also now supported.
- Relationships can now be created between a graphics frame and its content.

AutoFit tool

The AutoFit tool is used to create parent/child relationships between two objects. Resizing or moving the parent object simultaneously triggers a resize or movement of the child object.

- Select the AutoFit tool from the toolbar.
- Using the parent pointer (), select a reference point of the bounding box of the first object.
- Using the child pointer (), select a reference point of the bounding box of the second object.

Relationships are between reference points of the bounding box, not anchor points on the object path. They can be created between objects that are placed on different layers, but not between inline objects, inline and page objects, or to an entire group (individual objects within a group are allowed). Complex relationships can be created by daisy chaining multiple parent/child relationships, using the same parent with multiple children (one-to-many or many-to-one), or by defining bi-directional (parent-to-child and child-to-parent) relationships.

Reference types

AutoFit relationships have different behaviors depending on which reference point of the bounding box is selected for the child:

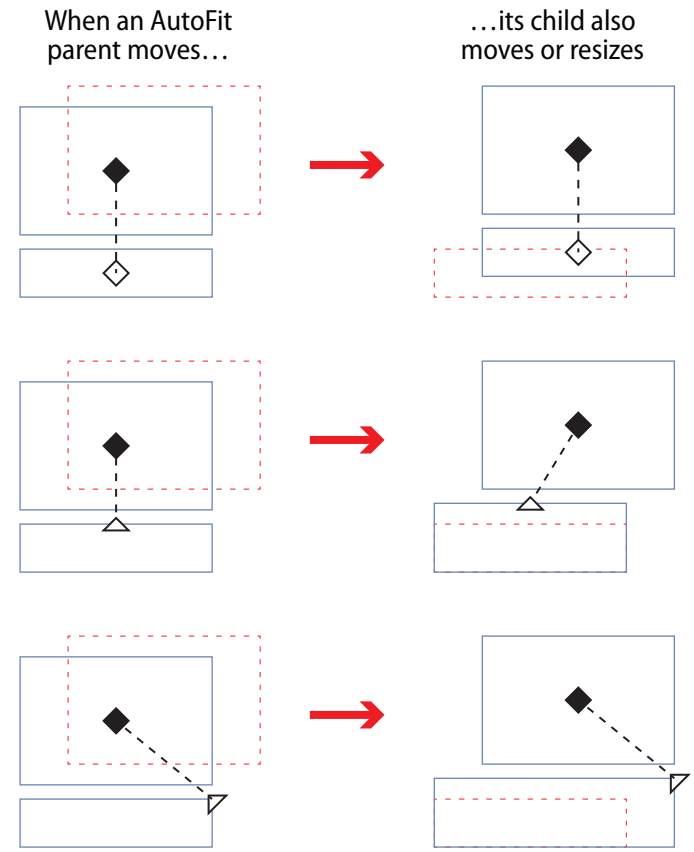
- **Center** reference points (◇) move rather than resize the child object.
- **Edge** reference points (△) resize a child object by stretching the frame along an invisible axis perpendicular to its edge.
- **Corner** reference points (◸) resize an object by stretching the bounding box diagonally along an invisible axis radiating from the center through its corner.

AutoFit will not scale stroke width or the frame contents when resizing objects, however, it can now create relationships between a graphics frame and its content. Objects may also have multiple relationships, where moving or resizing the parent point or object will trigger multiple child relationships.

Changing a relationship

To redefine an existing AutoFit parent/child relationship, simply move the child reference point or object—you can't change a relationship by moving or resizing the parent because the child automatically resizes or moves according to the original relationship.

While AutoFit previously allowed you to invert a parent/child relationship by reversing the selection—using the AutoFit tool to reselect the child first, followed by the parent—these steps now create a bi-directional relationship, where moving or resizing either object triggers a change in the other object.

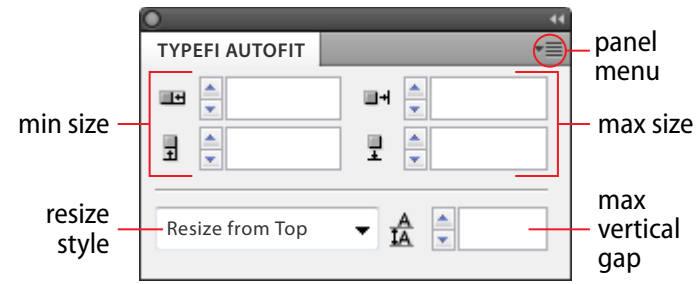


Removing relationships

AutoFit relationships can be removed by using the AutoFit tool to trace over an existing relationship—reselect the parent reference point first and then reselect the child. Or, choose **Remove Relationships** from the AutoFit panel menu to remove all relationships from the selected object(s).

AutoFit panel

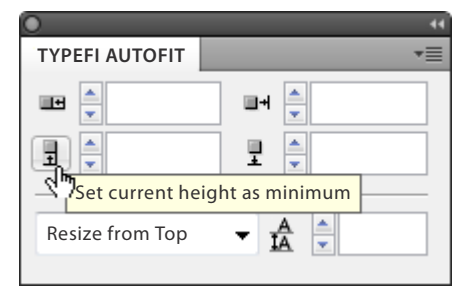
The AutoFit panel is used to enforce minimum and maximum object size limits, and enable automatic resize styles for text frames. When combined with AutoFit parent/child relationships, the AutoFit panel options enable the design of adaptive layouts that dynamically react to content changes.



Minimum and maximum object size

The top portion of the AutoFit panel enables you to limit the width and height of individual page objects. The two controls on the left affect the minimum width and height*, while the two controls on the right affect the maximum width and height.

You can type limits into the fields, or click the minimum or maximum width or height buttons to copy the measurements of a selected object. When multiple objects are selected, AutoFit copies and applies the measurements of each object as unique limits.



Removing object size limits

To remove a limit, delete the entered value or enter 0. To remove all limits from a selected object (including any AutoFit resize styles), choose **Remove Attributes** from the AutoFit panel menu.

Automatic resize styles

While you can manually fit a text frame to its content by double-clicking any frame handle, AutoFit-enabled frames dynamically resize as content changes. AutoFit can also automatically balance columns** for multi-column text frames.

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* Regardless of the AutoFit minimum height, InDesign forces a minimum 3pt height for text frames.

** Balancing columns is automatic for InDesign CS4, but AutoFit uses the native feature in InDesign CS5, which requires enabling **Object** > **Text Frame Options** > **Balance Columns**.

There are four types of AutoFit resize styles:

- **Keep Frame Size** (default) does nothing and is equal to a normal InDesign text frame. Use this option to turn off automatic resizing.
- **Resize from Top** creates a 'soft bottom' text frame where the top of the frame remains fixed while the bottom of the frame snaps to fit all text in the frame.
- **Resize from Center** evenly distributes the height of the text frame above and below the center point while fitting all text in the frame.
- **Resize from Bottom** preserves the position of the bottom of the frame while the top of the frame snaps to fit all text in the frame.

AutoFit attempts to resize text frames to fit all contained text. If the frame is not constrained by an AutoFit maximum height limit, the frame may extend to the limit of the pasteboard. In addition, if the frame contains an inline object whose height is greater than allowed by the AutoFit or pasteboard limit, or if it contains text that is wider than a column (due to Hyphenation Settings, nonbreaking spaces, or the No Break character attribute), the frame will extend only to the last displayable line of text.

Removing resize styles

To remove a resize style, change the frame to **Keep Frame Size** or choose **Remove Attributes** from the AutoFit panel menu (the latter option will also remove any min or max size limits and any applied max vertical gap).

Maximum vertical gap***

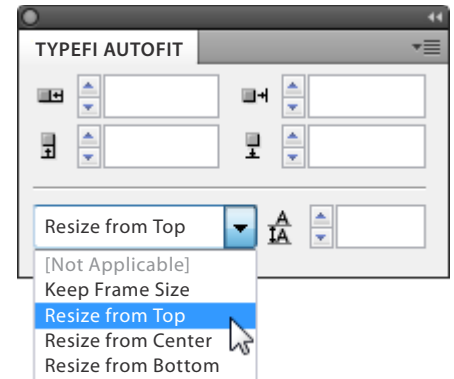
The maximum vertical gap provides additional padding, up to the value specified, between the top or bottom (or both) of the frame depending on its Vertical Justification and First Baseline Offset options.

AutoFit v2 no longer calculates and automatically applies a maximum vertical gap when creating an AutoFit parent reference point on a text frame.

Scripting AutoFit

AutoFit only supports scripting as part of Typefi Designer, a suite of commercial plug-ins for Adobe InDesign that enable designers to build templates for the Typefi Publish automated composition system. To learn more about Typefi Publish and other Typefi products email info@typefi.com.

*** The maximum vertical gap setting may be removed in a future AutoFit release.



Notes