Black Arrow vs. White Arrow

OBJECTIVES

STEP 1 | LEARN

Students will understand the difference between the Selection Tool (Black Arrow) and the Direct Selection Tool (White Arrow) by completing the Black Arrow vs. White Arrow tutorial.

STEP 2 | PRACTICE

Students will practice using the Selection Tool and the Direct Selection Tool.

STEP 3 | USE

Throughout the creation of the publication, students will utilize the Selection Tool and the Direct Selection Tool effectively.

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

Employment in the 21st century requires the ability to learn and use technology appropriately and effectively. Adobe® InDesign® is an industry-standard software that allows for creative thinking.

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

ELA-Literacy.SL.9-12.5, CCRA.SL.5
Make strategic use of digital media to enhance understanding.

ISTE STANDARDS

1B: Create original works.

2A: Publish, employing a variety of digital environments and media.

6A: Understand and use technology systems.

6B: Select and use applications effectively and productively.

6C: Troubleshoot systems and applications.

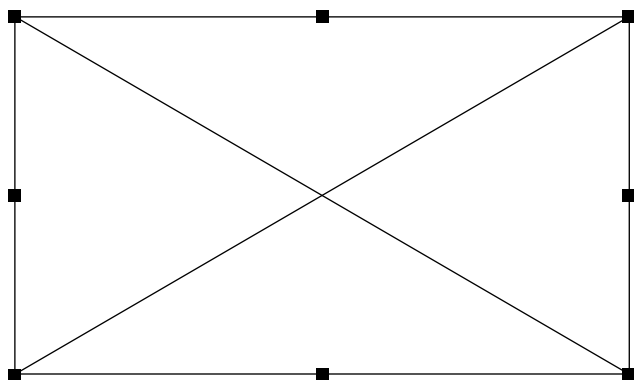**6D:** Transfer current knowledge to learning of new technologies.

Black Arrow vs. White Arrow

There are many tools in Adobe® InDesign that can enhance the working document, but there are few tools that are used so significantly yet often not completely understood. These are the Selection Tool and the Direct Selection Tool — the Black or White arrows.
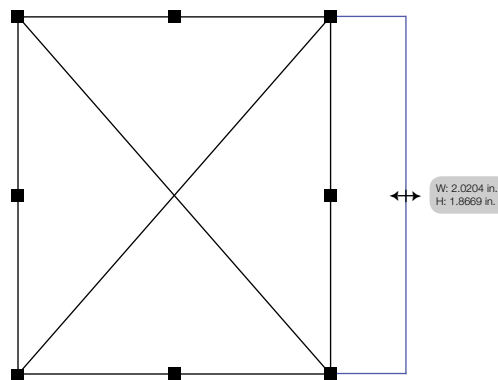
SELECTION TOOL (BLACK ARROW)

Think of the Selection Tool as the big picture selector. The **Selection Tool (Black Arrow)** is used to select frames and bounding boxes. It is also possible to **scale** up or down (both increase and diminish) the proportions of a bounding box by selecting the edges of the box. If the cursor goes to the side of the box, the mouse will change to the **Rotator Tool** so the bounding box can be rotated right or left.

When a frame is created, a bounding box will appear. The proportion can be altered by selecting any of the small black squares or by editing the **Width and Height** in the toolbar at the top.

By holding down the **Shift** key, the bounding box will proportionately resize. This makes creating proportionate boxes even easier to make.

W: 2.0204 in.
H: 1.8669 in.

DIRECT SELECTION TOOL (WHITE ARROW)

Think of the Direct Selection Tool as the detail selector. The **Direct Selection Tool (White Arrow)** is used to select content and editable objects within the frames. By selecting small boxes on the edges of the frame, the object's shape can be altered. Also, by double-clicking the Direct Selection Tool on an object, like a photo, it can be rearranged in the bounding box itself.

Selecting one of the white boxes will allow the image to be **skewed** to create custom shapes, frames for photos and more. By double-clicking the center of the image, you are able to move the image entirely.

Additionally, by selecting a line rather than a box, the whole line of the shape will move. This is really useful when it is not desired to change the angles already created.

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