

# Rags & Justification



**Rags**



**GOOD RAG**

[Redacted text block for 'GOOD RAG' consisting of 18 horizontal grey bars of varying lengths]



**BAD RAG**

[Redacted text block for 'BAD RAG' consisting of 18 horizontal grey bars of varying lengths]



Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in Liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

Now we are engaged in a great civil war, testing whether that nation, or any nation so conceived and so dedicated, can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field, as a final resting place for those who here gave their lives that that nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.

But, in a larger sense, we can not dedicate—we can not consecrate—we can not hallow—this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here, have consecrated it, far above our poor power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember what we say here, but it can never forget what they did here. It is for us the living, rather, to be dedicated here to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus far so nobly advanced. It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us—that from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth.



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## RAGS

A good rag reinforces the edge of the text block and minimizes the appearance of distracting negative shapes.



# **Justification**



A reasonable working minimum for justified text in English is the 40-character line. Shorter lines may compose perfectly well with sufficient luck and patience, but in the long run, justified lines averaging less than 38 or 40 characters will lead to white acne or pig bristles: a rash of erratic and splotchy word spaces or an epidemic of hyphenation. When the line is short, the text should be set ragged right. In large doses, even ragged-right composition may look anorexic if the line falls below 30 characters, but in small and isolated patches—ragged marginal notes, for example—the minimum line (if the language is English) can be as little as 12 or 15 characters.



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## **JUSTIFICATION**

Achieving the appearance of consistent spacing is the goal. Avoid “rivers” and shifts in density.

Paragraph Style Options

Style Name:

Location:

Justification

	Minimum	Desired	Maximum
Word Spacing:	<input type="text" value="85%"/>	<input type="text" value="100%"/>	<input type="text" value="115%"/>
Letter Spacing:	<input type="text" value="-3%"/>	<input type="text" value="0%"/>	<input type="text" value="3%"/>
Glyph Scaling:	<input type="text" value="98%"/>	<input type="text" value="100%"/>	<input type="text" value="102%"/>

Auto Leading:

Single Word Justification:

Composer:

Preview

Cancel OK

## INDESIGN SETTINGS

### Word Spacing

The space between words

### Letter Spacing

The space between individual characters.

### Glyph Scaling

Stretching or condensing individual glyphs

Nations are not truly great solely because the individuals composing them are numerous, free, and active; [nor corporations because of their market share and profits;] but they are great when these numbers, this freedom, and this activity [or this market share and profit] are employed in the service of an ideal higher than that of an ordinary [hu]man, taken by himself. – MATTHEW ARNOLD [& EVE SMITH]

Justified by  
wordspacing  
only.

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Justified by  
letterspacing  
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Justified by a  
combination of  
wordspacing, let-  
terspacing and  
glyph reshaping.

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Justified by glyph  
reshaping only.



