## cheat sheet // flare desktop 2025 Print-Based Output

Concepts	
Autonumber	A feature where content is numbered automatically (often used for chapter titles, table captions, image captions, etc.). Recommend setting this on a style. Page numbers typically use variables, not autonumbers.
Break	A way to designate a particular place to start new content.
	Chapter Break Tells Flare Desktop to begin a new chapter. Set this in an outline TOC (Properties dialog > Printed Output tab).
	Page Break Tells Flare Desktop to begin the selected content on a new page. Recommend setting this on a style (e.g., h1 style has page-break-before set to "always").
	Frame Break Tells Flare Desktop to begin selected content in the next frame of a page layout. Recommend setting this on a style.
	Column Break Tells Flare Desktop to begin selected content in the next column of a page layout. Recommend setting this on a style.
	Independent Break Lets you manually insert a page break independent of an HTML element.

**Outline TOC** A TOC file from the Project Organizer that acts as an outline for print-based output. Does not create the generated TOC in print output (a proxy is used for that).

Concepts	
Page Layout	A file used to determine page specifications and apply certain content (e.g., headers, page numbers) to many (or all) topics in a printed manual. Stored in Content Explorer (usually in Resources/PageLayouts).
	Page Each page layout can consist of several pages (if you want different settings to be applied to different pages). Many page types are available (e.g., Title First, First Right, Left, Right, Empty).
	• Frame Each page can contain multiple frames—used to hold content and determine where that content is positioned (e.g., Body, Header, Footer).
Proxy	A placeholder for auto-generated content. Appears as a gray bar in the XML Editor. Used to create TOC, index, glossary, and other content in print-based output.
Widows and Orphans	Settings that let you avoid instances where "leftover" lines from a paragraph are shown at the top or bottom of a page or column. Recommend setting this on a style.

Process			Separation From	m Online Output
1. Create, Edit, and	1. Create regular topics, as well as any special ones used for generated TOC, glossary, index, etc. For special topics, insert		Conditions	<ol> <li>Create conditions in Project Organizer—some for use with online targets, others for use with print targets.</li> </ol>
Design Content	<ol> <li>proxies from Insert ribbon.</li> <li>Add optional content and features, including images, tables, index markers, cross-references, text boxes, footnotes, and anything else detailed in the Help system.</li> <li>Create styles and apply them to content.</li> </ol>			<ol> <li>Apply online conditions to content to be included only in onlin outputs. Apply print conditions to content to be included only in print outputs. Also apply print conditions to files intended only for print output (otherwise, they may show up in online searches).</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>Create page layouts.</li> <li>Create outline TOC.</li> </ol>			<ol> <li>Open target and select Conditional Text tab. For online targets, include online conditions and exclude print conditions. For print targets, include print conditions and exclude online conditions.</li> </ol>
2. Develop	1. In Project Organizer, add print-based target (e.g., PDF, Word).			
Target	2. Open target and edit settings in Target Editor.		Print Medium	Print-based targets are automatically associated with print medium (in Advanced tab of Target Editor). Print medium in stylesheet
3. Build and Distribute Output	Open target, click <b>Build</b> . When finished, click <b>Open Output Folder</b> to retrieve final file(s).			inherits settings from default medium. For settings that should be unique to print-based outputs, choose the print medium when editing a style.

How To		How To	
Create Page Layout Create Outline TOC	<ol> <li>Select Project &gt; New &gt; Add Page Layout.</li> </ol>	Create	1. Create regular topic for use as generated
	<ol> <li>In Page Layout Editor, use options to add pages, create frames, and more.</li> <li>Select Project &gt; New &gt; Add Table of Contents.</li> <li>Drag topics from Content Explorer to TOC Editor, placing them in order you want them to appear in output (e.g., title page topic, copyright page topic, generated TOC topic, chapter topics, back matter topics).</li> </ol>	Generated TOC	2. Create page layout for use by generated TC
			<ol> <li>With cursor in topic, select Insert &gt; Proxy &gt; Insert - Proxy.</li> </ol>
			<ol> <li>Drag topic to outline TOC, placing it near top page).</li> </ol>
			5. Double-click outline entry for generated TOC Printed Output tab, and choose appropriate p
Create Title Page	<ol> <li>Create regular topic and enter title page content into it (might be as simple as a few words and/or variables) with styles applied.</li> </ol>	Create	1. Open stylesheet and select <b>print</b> medium.
		Autonumbers	2. Double-click style (if Simplified view) or sele
	<ol><li>Create page layout for use by title topic. Design can be done either in topic or in page layout, or both.</li></ol>		Advanced view).
	<ol> <li>In outline, make sure link to title page topic is at top (or near top).</li> </ol>		<ol> <li>Select Auto-number tab (if Simplified view) o AutoNumber property group (if Advanced vie</li> </ol>
	4. Double-click outline entry, select <b>Printed Output</b> tab, and choose page layout.		<ol> <li>Use fields (mc-auto-number-format in Advan create autonumber format. See Help system of autonumber formats.</li> </ol>

How To		How To	
Create Chapter Breaks	<ol> <li>Open outline TOC.</li> <li>Double-click entry where new chapter should start.</li> </ol>	Numbers	<ol> <li>Click Header or Footer frame and press F2.</li> <li>Place cursor in Frame Contents window pane and click S.</li> </ol>
	<ol> <li>In Properties dialog, select <b>Printed Output</b> tab.</li> <li>In <b>Break Type</b> field, select <b>Chapter Break</b>.</li> </ol>		4. Select <b>System</b> variable set, and choose <b>Page Number</b> .
	<ol> <li>In Page Layout field, select appropriate page layout.</li> <li>(Optional) Can also choose page type, page number starting point and format.</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>(Optional) Can also select Auto-numbers tab (if using autonumbers for chapter headings) and choose to reset or increment number. Chapter 1 usually set to reset at 1, others usually set to increment.</li> </ol>		
Create Column, Frame, and Page Breaks	<ol> <li>Open stylesheet and select print medium.</li> <li>Double-click style (if Simplified view) or select it (if Advanced view).</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>Select Breaks tab (Simplified) or expand PrintSupport group (Advanced).</li> </ol>		
	<ol> <li>Use fields to set column, frame, and/or page breaks for style.</li> </ol>		
Insert	1. In XML Editor, place cursor at break location.		
Independent Break	2. Select Insert ribbon. In Text section, select Page Break ا		
	3. (Optional) Place condition on page break bar.		
Insert Page	1. Open page layout.		

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Tips	
Auto Glossary, Index, TOC	Instead of creating topics for auto-generated glossaries, indexes, and TOCs (and inserting proxies), you can auto-generate them. Open print-based target, select Advanced tab, and select Generate TOC proxy, Generate index proxy, Generate glossary proxy.
Breaks on Table Rows	Breaks can also be set on table rows, either in a regular stylesheet or table stylesheet. In regular stylesheet, select <b>tr</b> style and set <b>page-break-inside</b> to <b>avoid</b> . In table stylesheet, select <b>Rows</b> tab. Choose <b>Print Options</b> and use break options in dialog.
Collapse Top Margins	When elements with top margins appear on top of page or column, collapsing margin maintains consistent look from page to page. Open print target, select Advanced tab, and select Collapse top margin at top of page/column.
Override Variables	Effective way to reuse content for print output is to create variable and override at target level. For example, create one topic for the title page in all PDF outputs. Create variable with one PDF manual title and insert it into title page topic. In each PDF target, select <b>Variables</b> tab and change definition for that variable.
Preserve Tracked Changes	If using PDF or Word output for internal reviews, track your changes (select <b>Review</b> ribbon and choose <b>Track Changes</b> ). Then open target, select <b>Advanced</b> tab, and choose <b>Preserve tracked changes</b> .
Styles to Resize Images	To keep large images from appearing beyond page margins, open stylesheet and create classes of the <b>img</b> style. In print medium, set maximum width on img class (in Simplified view, this is on <b>Size</b> tab; in Advanced view, <b>max-width</b> is in <b>Unclassified</b> group). For example, set value to maximum width of 100%. Apply style class to affected images, which are automatically resized in output.
TOC Depth	Use TOC depth setting to automatically change heading levels based on structure of outline TOC (e.g., a topic with an h1 might change to an h3 in output if it is on third level of outline TOC). Open print target, select Advanced tab, and choose Use TOC depth for heading levels.

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