



Avellio

Professional Typography & Style QA Engine for Adobe InDesign

(Typography-focused preflight layer for Adobe InDesign)

Avellio Comparison Guide

Choosing the right quality-control layer in Adobe InDesign

Version

1.1.0

Document

Workflow and Capability Comparison

Edition

Production decision guide

Design system

Avellio XB1 · 30. 7. 2026

Release

Q3 2026

Distribution

Loader + Engine

Website

www.avellio.app

Status

Product behavior verified; Adobe capabilities sourced from official documentation

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The short answer

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REFERENCE Avellio, InDesign Preflight, GREP Find/Change, and human proofreading solve different classes of problems. A dependable production workflow combines them instead of choosing one winner.

1. Use **InDesign Preflight** to protect output readiness: missing links or fonts, low-resolution images, overset text, color and profile conditions, and other rules defined in the Preflight profile.
2. Use **Avellio** to systematize typography, style integrity, locale-sensitive consistency, visual diagnostics, evidence, and guarded correction workflows.
3. Use **GREP Find/Change** when the team already knows the exact deterministic pattern it wants to locate or replace.
4. Use **human proofreading** for meaning, facts, names, tone, brand judgment, layout intent, and final acceptance.

A clean Preflight result does not mean the typography is correct. A clean Avellio result does not mean the file is output-ready. A successful GREP replacement does not prove the replacement was appropriate in every context. No automated result replaces final human review.

What this guide compares

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This guide compares:

- **Avellio 1.1.0 Q3 2026**, Refactor 45.1a hotfix source;
- Adobe InDesign's built-in **Preflight** panel and profiles;
- Adobe InDesign **GREP Find/Change** and saved queries;
- visual, editorial, and production **human proofreading**.

Capabilities are evaluated by task, not by marketing category. “Strong” means the tool is designed to provide useful evidence for that task; it does not mean infallible or universally automatic.

At-a-glance capability matrix

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Need	Avellio	InDesign Preflight	GREP Find/Change	Human proofreading
Missing links and low-resolution images	Outside primary scope	Strong when configured	Not appropriate	Possible but inefficient
Missing fonts and overset output risk	Limited context/guards, not certification	Strong when configured	Limited	Possible but easy to miss

Need	Avellio	InDesign Preflight	GREP Find/Change	Human proofreading
Style distribution and local overrides	Strong, visual and report-led	Profile-dependent and narrower	Can target known formatting patterns	Strong judgment, slow at scale
 Widows, orphans, short last lines, rag and rivers	Strong heuristic evidence	Not a general typography proofreader	Limited; composition geometry is difficult	Strong with enough time and skill
 Double spaces and punctuation spacing	Strong detection; guarded fixes for supported cases	Not primary purpose	Strong for exact patterns and replacements	Strong but repetitive
 Locale-aware quotes, numbers, currency, units, dates	Strong diagnostics across supported profiles	Not primary purpose	Strong only when rules are explicitly authored	Strong with locale expertise
Meaning, tone, factual accuracy, names	Not designed for this	Not designed for this	Not designed for this	Essential
Repeatable exact text transformation	Supported only for guarded Action Layer cases	Not designed for this	Excellent	Slow and inconsistent at volume
Visual heatmap and diagnostic rendering	Strong	Panel/list-based	Match navigation, not a document QA heatmap	Natural visual review
Audit evidence and issue classification	Strong Typography, Override, and Fix Reports	Preflight results and profiles	Saved query, not a QA evidence model	Depends on review process
Final production acceptance	Advisory only	Advisory output checks	Never	Accountable human decision

The four tools in plain language

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Avellio: evidence for typography and style quality

Avellio combines two inspection tracks.

Inspect Styles provides Style Heatmap, Native Shading, Legacy Overlays, Override Detection, Style Hygiene, grouping by property/risk/intent/style, active font and language evidence, near-duplicate style review, and guarded cleanup paths.

Inspect Typography provides seven profiles,  AUTO plus 34 explicit locales, 43 color-coded issue IDs, configurable limits, scope control, Live and incremental feedback, full audits, Fix Plans, Safe Clean, Review Queue, manual-only routing, and CSV/TXT reports.

Avellio is strongest when the question is: *Where is this document typographically or stylistically inconsistent, how confident is the evidence, what should be reviewed first, and which corrections can be executed safely?*

Avellio is not designed to certify linked assets, image resolution, bleed, color management, PDF standards, package completeness, facts, spelling dictionaries, or editorial meaning.

InDesign Preflight: output-condition control

Adobe describes Preflight as the quality check used before printing or handoff. The Preflight panel can warn about conditions that may prevent correct print or output, including missing files or fonts, low-resolution images, overset text, and other problems defined by a profile.

Preflight is strongest when the question is: *Will this document package and output under the technical rules we have defined?*

Preflight rules are profile-dependent. A green indicator means that the active profile found no matching problem; it is not a universal statement that the document is correct.

GREP Find/Change: deterministic pattern work

GREP Find/Change searches text and formatting with regular-expression syntax. Adobe supports saved queries that can store search and replacement patterns plus formatting attributes; the search range is chosen when the query is run.

GREP is strongest when the question is: *Do we know the exact pattern and the exact change we want?*

Examples include a house-style pattern for product codes, repeated whitespace, a known date shape, or a controlled formatting transformation. GREP does not know whether a syntactically valid match is semantically intended. `Change All` can amplify an incorrect rule instantly.

Human proofreading: meaning and accountability

Human review integrates language, facts, visual hierarchy, brand, audience, and context. A skilled proofreader can recognize a deliberate one-word line, a quotation that must preserve source typography, a product name that resembles a typo, or a page whose rhythm is wrong even though every automated rule passes.

Human review is strongest when the question is: *Is this correct, appropriate, clear, and ready to approve?*

Its constraints are time, fatigue, consistency, specialist availability, and the difficulty of checking every repeated technical pattern in long publications.

Task-level decision matrix

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Output and asset readiness

Task	Primary tool	Supporting tool	Why
Missing or modified link	Preflight	Human production check	It is an asset state, not typography.
Effective image resolution	Preflight	Human visual proof	Profile rules can detect measurable thresholds; the human judges visual suitability.
Missing font	Preflight	Avellio active-font evidence	Preflight validates availability; Avellio helps explain font use in analyzed text.
Overset text	Preflight	Human review; Avellio write guards	Preflight identifies output risk; Avellio blocks risky corrections but does not replace overset certification.
Color space, profile, bleed, packaging	Preflight	Human production review	Outside Avellio's primary scope and not a text-regex problem.

Typography and composition

Task	Primary tool	Supporting tool	Why
 Widow, orphan, short last line	Avellio + human	GREP rarely useful	Requires composition evidence and editorial judgment.
 Rivers and bad rag	Avellio + human	—	Geometry can prioritize pages; the human decides whether the texture is acceptable.
Hyphenation ladders	Avellio	Human	Systematic detection plus visual correction.
 Double spaces	Avellio or GREP	Human spot-check	Avellio routes supported safe fixes; GREP is excellent for an exact known pattern.
Ellipsis normalization	Avellio or GREP	Human for source-sensitive text	Both can execute exact transformations; context still matters in quotations or code.
Numeric range hyphen	Avellio	GREP only with a carefully bounded house rule	Avellio adds URL, identifier, phone, negative-number, and context guards.
Number-unit spacing	Avellio	GREP for an approved controlled vocabulary	Locale and unit ambiguity make unrestricted replacement risky.
Quote pairing	Avellio diagnosis + human	GREP for narrow known cases	Pairing and apostrophes require context; Avellio intentionally avoids universal auto-normalization.

Style-system integrity

Task	Primary tool	Supporting tool	Why
Unexpected paragraph style	Avellio Style Heatmap	Human	Visual distribution exposes isolated or misplaced applications.

Task	Primary tool	Supporting tool	Why
Local font/size/leading override	Avellio Override Detection	Preflight profile where configured	Avellio groups property evidence, risk, and likely intent.
Near-duplicate styles	Avellio	Human style-system owner	Similarity is evidence; consolidation requires design ownership.
Reset local formatting to style	Avellio guarded style cleanup or native InDesign	Human confirmation	Potentially destructive and never a generic delivery-cleanup action.
Known import artifact	GREP or Avellio Style Hygiene	Human	Choose exact pattern replacement when known; use Avellio when the noise pattern must first be discovered.

Editorial and semantic quality

Task	Primary tool	Supporting tool	Why
Wrong proper name or factual value	Human	External authoritative source	No compared automation knows the fact.
Mixed date, number, or currency convention	Avellio	Human locale/house-style owner	Avellio finds drift; the human decides the intended convention.
Inconsistent abbreviation punctuation	Avellio or GREP	Human	Avellio discovers inconsistency; GREP enforces an approved exact rule.
Heading capitalization drift	Avellio	Human editor	Automated evidence prioritizes headings; exceptions can be intentional.
Tone, grammar, ambiguity, legal meaning	Human	Specialist language/legal tools outside this comparison	Not an output, regex, or typography-only decision.

Six worked examples

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Example 1: The PDF exports, but the page feels weak

Preflight is green because links, fonts, images, and overset rules pass. The page still has a short last line, two consecutive hyphenated line endings, and an uneven rag.

Use Avellio with a composition-oriented profile to locate the evidence, then let the designer judge the page. Preflight did its job; the problem belonged to another quality layer.

Example 2: The team wants to replace every exact triple period

If the requirement is truly universal and source-safe, a saved GREP query is direct and repeatable. Avellio Safe Clean can also replace supported exact three-dot ellipses after preview and guards.

If the document contains code, quoted archival material, URLs, or house-style exceptions, do not run an unrestricted `Change All`. Use guarded candidates or a constrained GREP scope and review the result.

Example 3: A financial report mixes `1,200.50` and `1 200,50`

Preflight will not normally decide the intended number convention. GREP can find a pattern only after the team defines the correct locale and exceptions. Avellio can surface mixed formatting and locale evidence; the report owner then confirms the intended convention and chooses a targeted correction method.

Example 4: A linked hero image is missing

Use Preflight. Avellio's typography and Style dashboard do not certify external assets. A human production specialist should confirm the restored image, crop, effective resolution, and final proof.

Example 5: Imported copy contains many local overrides

Use Avellio Style Heatmap and Override Detection to see where the style system drifted and which properties carry the highest risk. Use grouped Style Hygiene evidence to separate likely import noise from deliberate emphasis. Apply style cleanup only where a valid baseline and context guard support it.

GREP may help if one repeatable import signature is known. Human ownership remains necessary for deliberate exceptions.

Example 6: A person's name appears in two spellings

Use a human editor and an authoritative source. GREP can locate each spelling after the correct form is known, but it cannot choose the fact. Avellio is not a name authority, and Preflight is irrelevant.

Recommended production workflows

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Workflow A: ordinary editorial publication

1. Run Preflight early to expose missing assets, fonts, and overset.
2. Use Avellio Style Heatmap to understand the style system.
3. Run Avellio Conservative Proofing on a representative spread.
4. Resolve template, link, and composition blockers.
5. Run known approved GREP cleanup queries with a controlled scope.
6. Run the intended full Avellio audit and review the Fix Plan.
7. Apply guarded Safe Clean and Review Queue decisions; visually verify and rerun the audit.
8. Complete human editorial and visual proofreading.
9. Run the final Preflight profile, clean diagnostics, export a proof PDF, and approve the proof.

Workflow B: imported or inherited document

1. Work on a versioned copy.
2. Run Preflight for immediate output blockers.

3. Use Avellio Native Shading and Style Heatmap to map style distribution.
4. Run Override Detection and Style Hygiene before normalizing anything.
5. Identify repeatable import signatures; use a tested GREP query only where deterministic.
6. Confirm character styles, intentional emphasis, tables, captions, quotations, and special layouts.
7. Apply guarded style cleanup in small groups.
8. Run the full typography workflow and final proof.

Workflow C: multilingual publication

1. Verify InDesign paragraph-language assignments.
2. Use Avellio Multilingual QA and AUTO for evidence, then explicit locale profiles for controlled passes.
3. Review quotes, high punctuation, short prepositions, number separators, currency placement, dates, abbreviations, and units with locale specialists.
4. Use GREP only for approved locale-specific patterns with scoped exceptions.
5. Use Preflight for shared output assets and fonts.
6. Complete native-speaker/human proofing before acceptance.

Workflow D: final handoff

1. Freeze or version the content.
2. Run a fresh full Avellio Style and Typography Audit as required.
3. Export current reports and record accepted manual exceptions.
4. Remove Avellio diagnostics and inspect Layers and Conditional Text.
5. Run the final Preflight profile.
6. Export the delivery PDF and inspect it independently.
7. Obtain accountable human approval.

Avoid the common category errors

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“Preflight is green, so proofreading is finished”

False. Preflight evaluates the rules in its active profile. It is not a semantic or general typography proofreader.

“Avellio found it, so it must be wrong”

False. Avellio findings are evidence. Profile, threshold, role, locale, and composition determine how much review is needed.

“GREP found 400 matches, so Change All is efficient”

Only if the pattern and replacement are correct in all 400 contexts. Preview representative matches, constrain scope, back up the file, and review the result.

“Manual proofreading catches everything”

Humans are essential but can fatigue and apply repetitive rules inconsistently. Automation should reduce search burden so reviewers can spend attention on meaning and judgment.

“One report is enough for handoff”

No single report covers typography, external assets, output rules, editorial correctness, and business acceptance. Define a layered sign-off.

Design a team QA policy

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Assign ownership

Quality layer	Suggested owner	Evidence
Asset and output rules	Production/prepress	Named Preflight profile and final result.
Style-system integrity	Designer/template owner	Avellio Style Audit, Override Report, accepted exceptions.
Typography and locale	Typographer/editor	Avellio Typography and Fix Reports plus visual review.
Deterministic transformations	Production specialist	Versioned GREP query, scope, before/after sample, undo checkpoint.
Meaning and final approval	Editor, designer, and accountable approver	Proofreading record and approved proof PDF.

Define pass criteria

Do not write “all automated checks must be zero” unless every rule has been tested and every intentional exception is encoded. Better acceptance criteria are:

- the named Preflight profile has no unresolved blocking conditions;
- Avellio high-risk findings are corrected, accepted, or documented;
- the Fix Plan is current and all executed actions were visually verified;
- approved GREP queries were run on the intended version and scope;
- manual-only and editorial findings have an owner;
- the cleaned final PDF was independently inspected and approved.

Measure without misleading metrics

Useful measures include unresolved blocking conditions, high-risk style overrides, report freshness, accepted exceptions, time spent on repetitive search, and rework found after proof. Do not treat an Avellio health score, Preflight green light, match count, or proofreader speed as a standalone quality score for the publication.

Capability boundaries by product phase

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Phase	Start with	Add next	Finish with
Template creation	Preflight profile + style design	Avellio Style Heatmap and Override Detection	Human template review
Manuscript import	Avellio Style Hygiene	Controlled GREP cleanup	Human exception review
Layout development	Avellio current-spread typography	Preflight in the background	Designer visual review
Editorial revision	Avellio incremental/Live feedback	Full audit at milestones	Editor proof
Multilingual QA	Avellio locale passes	Scoped GREP for approved conventions	Native-language review
Prepress	Final Avellio audit and diagnostic cleanup	Final Preflight profile	Independent PDF proof and sign-off

Source notes

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Product capabilities in this guide were checked against the Avellio 1.1.0 Refactor 45.1a hotfix source and the accompanying User Manual.

Adobe capability descriptions were checked against official Adobe documentation:

- Preflight files before handoff, Adobe InDesign User Guide, updated 18 February 2025.
- Save and manage Find/Change queries, Adobe InDesign User Guide, updated 2 June 2026.

Adobe can change InDesign capabilities after this documentation release. Recheck current official documentation when defining an organization-wide profile or automation policy.

Final recommendation

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The most mature workflow is not “Avellio versus Preflight versus GREP versus people.” It is a sequence in which:

- Preflight protects the output contract;
- Avellio protects typography and style-system attention;
- GREP executes known repeatable rules;
- humans decide what the publication means and whether it is ready.

That division makes each tool more useful and makes the limits of every result visible.