

## Positioning *ligature tie* (COMBINING DOUBLE INVERTED BREVE) U+0361 in Adobe InDesign using the Brill fonts v. 4.0

îâ → îâ

It is hard to precisely position the *ligature tie* U+0361 using the Brill fonts. At this time, in Brill fonts v. 4.0, there is no dedicated OpenType provision for dynamic positioning of U+0361 depending on the height of two adjacent characters and/or combining diacritics. As a consequence, the ligature tie frequently clashes with either a base character or a diacritic, and this is typographically speaking undesirable. Example:

îâ [U+0268.0361.0061]

In this case, insertion of the ligature tie has led to deletion of the dot over the *i* character, and the horizontal and vertical positioning of the ligature tie itself is not quite right: too far to the left and a bit too low.

Adobe InDesign has a **Diacritic Positioning** panel (**Window** menu → **Type & Tables...** → **Diacritic Positioning**) which would normally come to the rescue. However, it proves impossible to select *only* the ligature tie and then to reposition it. Also, this would not solve the disappearance of the dot in the *i*.

To solve the latter problem: *i* is equivalent to a combination of *ı* (LATIN SMALL LETTER DOTLESS I, U+0131), *◌̄* (COMBINING SHORT STROKE OVERLAY, U+0335) and *◌̇* (COMBINING DOT ABOVE, U+0307). We shall use this string and add U+0361 and finally the character *a*.

However, there is still the matter of individually positioning the combining diacritics mentioned. The way to do is to first add these each to its own *◌* (DOTTED CIRCLE, U+25CC) carrier, individually adjust the horizontal and/or vertical position of each diacritic, and to delete the dotted circles after repositioning. The string, therefore, to edit is:

ı̄◌̇◌̄â [U+0131.25CC.0335.25CC.0307.25CC.0361.0061]

First, adjust the horizontal position of U+0335 using Diacritic Positioning [mode: OpenType (adjustment from base character)]

ı̄◌̄â [COMBINING SHORT STROKE OVERLAY, U+0335: Horizontal: 70; Vertical: 0]

ı̄◌̇â [COMBINING DOT ABOVE, U+0307: Horizontal: 0; Vertical: 0]

îâ [COMBINING DOUBLE INVERTED BREVE, U+0361: Horizontal: 80; Vertical: 150]

This must be done carefully for each combination involving COMBINING DOUBLE INVERTED BREVE, U+0361. There may be differences between required values for roman, italic, etc. versions of the same character combinations.