

# Align title to top of text block

A title at the top of a column of text can appear to be lower than the top line of text on the opposite page or in the adjacent column because of the half-leading<sup>(1)</sup> that is ordinarily added above and below the text of every line. The half-leading on the first line of body text is usually not obvious, but half-leading can be noticeable when large text, with larger half-leading, is opposite smaller text. Half-leading on the first line in a column is discarded when `line-height.conditional="discard"` is specified. Specifying a common `'axf:baseline-grid'` keeps the text after the heading aligned with lines in the adjacent column or opposite page, irrespective of the line height of the initial title.

A title can appear to appear low compared to body text in the next column or on the facing page because of the larger half-leading of the title.

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Specifying `line-height.conditional="discard"` discards the half-leading of the title.

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Specifying `line-height.conditional="discard"` on each `<fo:block>` (or on a common ancestor) discards the half-leading at the top of other columns or pages, too.<sup>(2)</sup>

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Specifying a common `'axf:baseline-grid'` for body text keeps lines aligned across columns or pages.

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<sup>(1)</sup>'half-leading' is equal to 1/2 the difference of the value of the 'line-height' property and the value of the sum of the 'text-altitude' and 'text-depth' properties.

<sup>(2)</sup>Specifying 'line-height' without specifying 'line-height.conditional' sets the conditionality to 'retain'. Specifying 'line-height.conditional' without specifying 'line-height' affects only the conditionality component of the inherited line height.