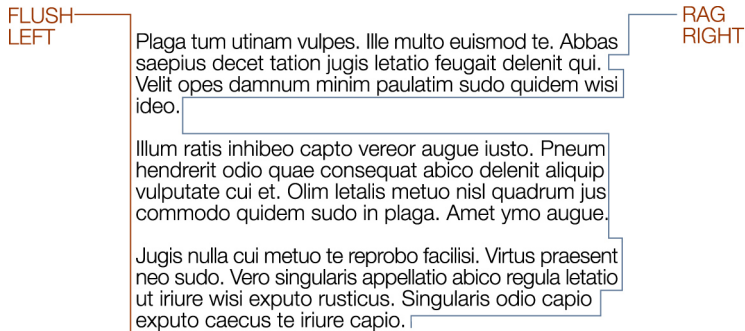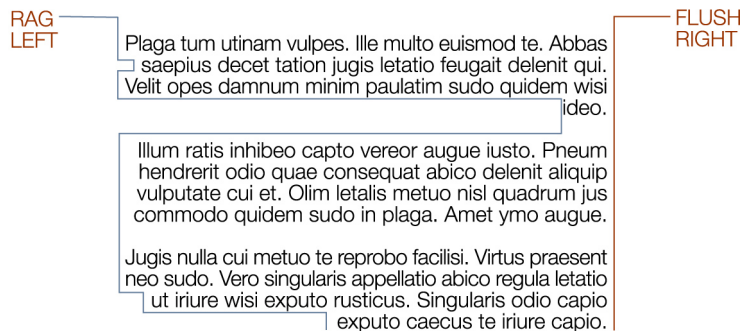## TYPE ALIGNMENT BASICS

FLUSH AND RAG

These terms describe the edges of a body of text. *Flush* simply means aligned and *rag* means that text block edges are dictated by the words themselves.

FLUSH LEFT

RAG RIGHT

Plaga tum utinam vulpes. Ille multo euismod te. Abbas saepius decet tation jugis letatio feugait delenit qui. Velit opes damnum minim paulatim sudo quidem wisi ideo.

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.

Jugis nulla cui metuo te reprobo facilisi. Virtus praesent neo sudo. Vero singularis appellatio abico regula letatio ut iriure wisi exputo rusticus. Singularis odio capio exputo caecus te iriure capio.
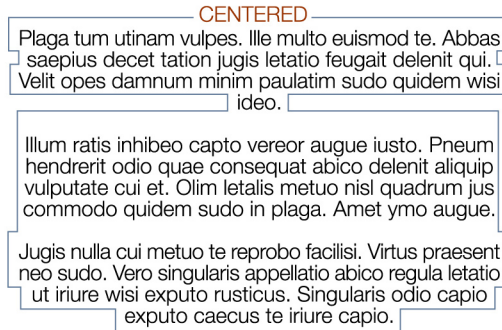
Text set *flush left, rag right* is the easiest to read because our eye knows exactly where to go to pick up the next line of copy. This is our default format for laying out type.

RAG LEFT

FLUSH RIGHT

Plaga tum utinam vulpes. Ille multo euismod te. Abbas saepius decet tation jugis letatio feugait delenit qui. Velit opes damnum minim paulatim sudo quidem wisi ideo.

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.

Jugis nulla cui metuo te reprobo facilisi. Virtus praesent neo sudo. Vero singularis appellatio abico regula letatio ut iriure wisi exputo rusticus. Singularis odio capio exputo caecus te iriure capio.

Text set *flush right, rag left* is difficult to read because we have to search to find the beginning of each new line. This doesn't mean we should never set copy flush right, rag left; it does mean we should use it in limited applications and with purpose.

CENTERED TEXT

As with copy set flush right, rag left, copy set *centered* requires the eye to search for each new line. Centered text is best used for titles, headers, and captions. Centered text should *never* be used in volume.

CENTERED

Plaga tum utinam vulpes. Ille multo euismod te. Abbas saepius decet tation jugis letatio feugait delenit qui. Velit opes damnum minim paulatim sudo quidem wisi ideo.

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.

Jugis nulla cui metuo te reprobo facilisi. Virtus praesent neo sudo. Vero singularis appellatio abico regula letatio ut iriure wisi exputo rusticus. Singularis odio capio exputo caecus te iriure capio.

JUSTIFIED TEXT

Both the left and right edges of a column of text set *justified* are aligned. Justified text can make for a very attractive layout, but in narrow column widths, odd white spaces called "rivers" can occur. For this reason, it's best to avoid justified copy in compositions calling for narrow columns.

JUSTIFIED

Plaga tum utinam vulpes. Ille multo euismod te. Abbas saepius decet tation jugis letatio feugait delenit qui. Velit opes damnum minim paulatim sudo quidem wisi ideo.

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.

Jugis nulla cui metuo te reprobo facilisi. Virtus praesent neo sudo. Vero singularis appellatio abico regula letatio ut iriure wisi exputo rusticus. Singularis odio capio exputo caecus te iriure capio.

RIVER

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.

Illum ratis inhibeo capto vereor augue iusto. Pneum hendrerit odio quae consequat abico delenit aliquip vulputate cui et. Olim letalis metuo nisl quadrum jus commodo quidem sudo in plaga. Amet ymo augue.