

Self-Publish Your Novel Without Breaking The Bank!



*From Story to Printed Book:
Covers Middle Grade, YA,
and Adult Novels*

Robert Herrick

Self-Publish Your Novel Without Breaking The Bank!

*From story to printed book:
Covers Middle Grade, YA New Adult and Adult Novels*

By Robert Herrick



No Drawing Required Press

SUNRISE, FL

NoDrawingRequired.com

For Elizabeth

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www.NoDrawingRequired.com

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DISCLAIMER

This book is designed to provide information on self-publishing only.

This information is provided with the knowledge that the author/publisher does not offer any legal or other professional advice. This book does not contain all information available on the subject. Every effort has been made to make this book as accurate as possible. However, there is no guarantee that following the suggestions put forth will result in the same success as the author. Therefore, this book should serve only as a general guide and not as the ultimate source of subject information. The author/publisher shall have no liability or responsibility to any person or entity regarding any loss or damage incurred, or alleged to have been incurred, directly or indirectly, due to the information contained in this book. In the interest of full disclosure, this book contains affiliate websites. While the author/publisher takes no responsibility for the business practices of these companies and/or the performance of any product or service, the author/publisher has used the product or service and makes a recommendation in good faith based on that experience.

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Author's Note

Much of the information in the book can also be found in my free eBook:

***Self-Publish Your Children's Book Without Breaking The Bank:
From Story to Picture Book - A step-by-step guide.***



Formatting a novel is different than creating a picture book. The publishing process is almost identical. While I could have added additional chapters to the other book, it was less confusing to have a step-by-step guide for novels and not have to skip over information about picture books.

So, there is a lot of duplicated information in both books.

But both eBooks are free.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

So that you wouldn't get sidetracked, I've placed information about creating your own artwork, cheap self-publishing, and print terms at the end of the book.

UNBIASED REVIEWS

I don't receive affiliate commissions or other compensation for the software and services I recommend in this book.

My recommendations are based on cost, ease of use, and features. I rarely recommend any service that requires a subscription.

TIP:

If you're creating a picture book then you'll need to get my free eBook.

Self-Publish Your Children's Book Without Breaking The Bank:

NoDrawingRequired.com

Introduction

My goal in writing this book is to save you money!

PUBLISHING ON AMAZON'S KINDLE DIRECT PLATFORM

This book will show you how to publish your books on Amazon's Kindle platform. It is the best place to start your self-publishing journey.

FYI: Kindle has 70% of the U.S. Marketplace for self-published books.

WHY DIY?

Many services offer to help you get your self-published book to market. They want money or a percentage of your profits to help you.

As you will see, publishing your book isn't complicated. You can do it yourself and save lots of money. The software required is inexpensive and easy to use.

Follow the steps in this free guide.

- Save money.
- Keep the rights to your book.
- Get your book into the world's largest marketplace ASAP.
- You'll use Print-On-Demand (POD). Your books will be printed as needed and sent directly to the customer.
- This means that you don't have to order hundreds of copies, store them and ship them.

YOU ARE THE PUBLISHER

I want to clear up any confusion as to your role in the self-publishing process. You will be the publisher of your books.

You will buy your own ISBN numbers. That makes you the publisher of your books.

Amazon's Kindle Store, IngramSpark, Apple Books, and others are the printers and distributors. You are free to use any or all of these services. If you get a big order, you can get them printed at an offset print shop. The choice is up to you.

THE PUBLISHING INDUSTRY

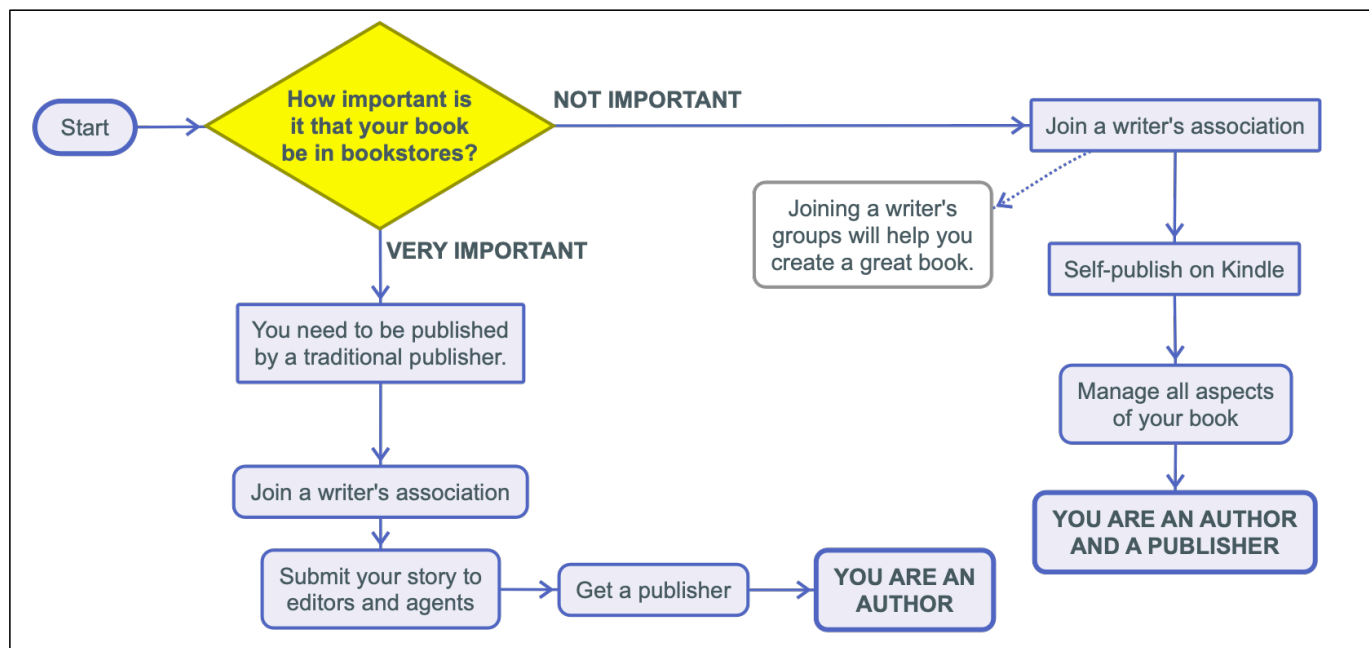
The book publishing industry has changed significantly in the past five years, and so has self-publishing. Platforms like Amazon's Kindle and Apple's iBooks give self-publishers affordable and professional outlets to release their books and eBooks.

If you find that a link isn't working, please email me at Robert@NoDrawingRequired.com

LINK: [Kindle Direct Publishing - kdp.amazon.com](https://kdp.amazon.com)

Is Self-Publishing Right For You?

Before you go any further...



IS SELF-PUBLISHING THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOU?

Do you want your book to be in bookstores?

If this is your goal, do these four things:



1. DON'T SELF-PUBLISH YOUR BOOK.
 - Publishers will only be interested in your self-published book if it sells well. In this case, you might as well keep self-publishing and the lion's share of the money.
2. NEVER PAY FOR AN AGENT TO REPRESENT YOUR WORK.
 - They should only make money when you make money.
3. NEVER PAY FOR A PUBLISHER TO PUBLISH YOUR BOOK.
 - They take the lion's share of the money. They need to take the risk that comes along with that.
4. JOIN A WRITER'S ORGANIZATION IN YOUR GENRE.
 - Writer's organizations offers numerous opportunities to learn and network. They are filled with caring people who will help guide you towards getting your book published.
 - A yearly membership is the best money you can spend toward your goal of getting published. You will find answers to all your questions about traditional and self-publishing.

SO YOU WANT TO SELF-PUBLISH!

THE SELF-PUBLISHING STIGMA

With some exceptions, self-publishing a book is never (or at least in the near future) going to have the same prestige as a traditionally published book.

SELF-PUBLISHING A QUALITY BOOK IS A LOT OF WORK.

You are doing the work of an entire publishing house. Depending on how you plan to publish and market your book, your jobs can include writer, copy editor, book designer, illustrator, webpage designer, marketer, copywriter, salesperson, publicist, video editor, and accountant.

ABOUT THIS BOOK

At first glance, it seems like there are a lot of steps to get your book published.

There is NOTHING here that you can't do!

Take it one step at a time, and you'll be published before you know it.

DON'T PANIC

You don't have to do all those jobs to self-publish a book. It depends on what your goals are for your book. You can hire freelancers to do the jobs you don't have the skills for.

TIP:

- Do as much as you can yourself.
- Learn new skills, like creating your webpage.
- If you hire someone to do a job, make sure you have a contract with them before they start work. Have a lawyer review the contract to ensure all the essential details are included.
- If you have someone create your website. Make sure you have all the information, and passwords needed to modify or change the website. It should be in your contract that they will provide this information and will not change it without notifying you. In the future, you may need to have someone else change your website, and you don't want to be locked out of your website.

The minimum job list is writer/editor, book cover creator, and a little copywriting about yourself and your book.

YOU'RE 100% IN CHARGE!

Traditionally published books take two to three years, from signing the contract to seeing the book on the shelves.

Once your self-published book is ready, you can have a copy in your hand within a few days.



LINKS: Writer's Organizations

GENRE:

Children's - Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators

SCBWI.ORG

Mystery - Mystery Writers of America

MysteryWriters.org

Romance - Romance Writers of America

RWA.ORG

Horror - Horror Writers Association

Horror.org

Science Fiction - Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America

SFWA.ORG

Independent Book Publishers Association

IBPA-ONLINE.ORG

ALLi- The Alliance of Independent Authors. <https://www.allianceindependentauthors.org>

Wikipedia Page of American Writers Associations

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Category:American_writers%27_organizations

Six Steps To Self- Publishing

Six Steps To Self-Publishing

THERE ARE SIX MAIN STEPS IN SELF-PUBLISHING YOUR NOVEL

There is a lot of information about self-publishing on the internet. Here are the six things that you need to do to publish your print and eBook.

1. WRITE YOUR STORY

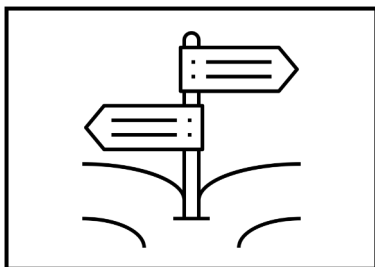
Writing a great story is the most important step in publishing your book.



DON'T SKIP:

- Editing
- Proofreading
- Grammar / Spell Check
- Critique Groups

2. BUSINESS DECISIONS



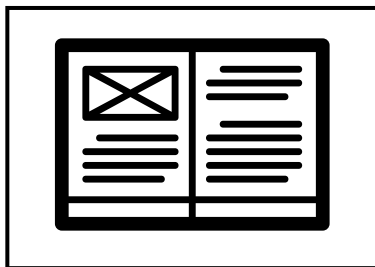
You need to decide what your goal is for your book. How much money you want to spend creating and promoting it.

Questions to ask yourself:

- Do I want to control over how I print and distribute my book?
- Is this going to be a business?
- Am I going to write more books?

3. FORMAT THE INTERIOR MATERIAL

Your word processor (.doc) file needs to be converted into files that the publishing companies systems understand.



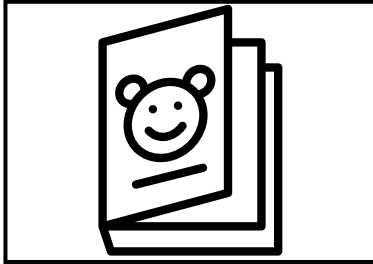
Print and eBooks have their own file format.

- eBook - Create an ePub file.
- Print - Create a PDF file.

Good news: Most formatting software exports both formats. So you only have to format your manuscript once.

4. THE BOOK COVER

You need to create or purchase a cover for the front and back cover of your book.



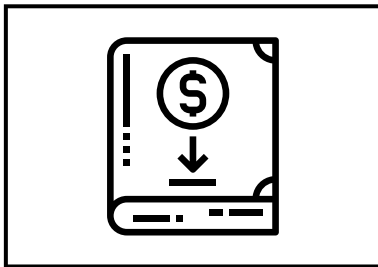
The cover of your book is the most important marketing piece for your book.

You can:

- Purchase a premade cover
- Create your own cover
- Use a generic cover (not recommended)
- Hire someone to create a cover for you

5. PUBLISH YOUR PRINT AND EBOOK

Create an account with Amazon's Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP). Decide if you want to purchase your own ISBN barcode. (Highly recommended)



- Upload your files.
- Preview your book.
- Set the sale price.
- Order an author proof.
- Fix any problems
- Publish your book.

6. THE NEXT STEPS

Once you have your book on Kindle, you can put it on IngramSpark and other online book marketplaces.

Marketing your book is the most difficult and costly part of self-publishing. How to market your new book is outside the scope of this book.

There are many great resources available, but make sure any service you use is legitimate. Get recommendations from your writer's organization. There are lots of sharks and scammers ready to take your money.

- Create a budget.
- Do the Math, before you spend money.
- How many books will you need to sell to cover the promotional costs?

HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO SELF-PUBLISH A BOOK?

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

If you **ONLY** want to sell your book and eBook on Amazon, you can publish your book and eBook for under \$10. This is **NOT** the way to publish a book unless you only want to sell copies to your family and friends. This method is covered in the chapter at the end of this book: “The cheapest way to self-publish.”

FOR PROFIT

You will control the distribution of your book, control the look of your book’s interior and will need a quality cover.

- ISBN COST

- To control the distribution of your book, you need to buy your own ISBN barcodes.

It costs about \$300 for ten barcodes. You will have nine additional ISBN’s that you can use on future books.

Each version of your print book will need its own ISBN (i.e. paperback, hardcover). An ISBN is not required for an eBook.

- FORMATTING SOFTWARE COST

The software to format your book that I recommend is called Atticus. It is easy to use and formats both eBooks and Print books from the same manuscript file. It is a one-time cost of about \$150. This will allow you to format your book for all the major distribution platforms. (Amazon, IngramSpark, Lulu, Kobo, Apple Books, and more.)

There are other less expensive or free software programs to format your book. These might be an option based on your budget and computer skill level. Some of these are listed in the LINKS box,

TIP: You will make many corrections and revisions to your manuscript, no matter how many times you proofread it. You don’t want to be messing with the document formatting every time you make a change.

- **BOOK COVER COST**

Your book cover is your #1 marketing piece for your novel.

- **Buy:** A pre-made cover from a cover design service will cost between \$30 and \$800+
- **Custom Cover:** Hiring a cover illustrator to create a custom cover for your book can cost between \$150 - \$2000+ dollars.
- **DIY:** You can create your own cover. Publishers provide cover design templates you can use to lay out your cover. You'll need photo-editing software like Photoshop, Affinity Photo, or ComicLife.
 - **Costs:** Varies (depend on how much it costs you to create your cover artwork)

TOTAL COST TO PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY - (ONLY published on Amazon)

- **AMAZON ISBN:** Free
- **KINDLE CREATE FORMATTING SOFTWARE** - Free
- **BOOK COVER:** Free - \$35
- **COPYRIGHT YOUR STORY:** \$65 (optional, but a highly recommended)

FOR PROFIT - (You are able to publish on ANY book market and platform)

- **10 ISBN's:** \$300
- **FORMATTING SOFTWARE** - \$150
- **BOOK COVER:** \$40 - \$1000+
- **COPYRIGHT YOUR STORY:** \$65



***Let's Get
Started***

Write Your Story



IT'S ALL ABOUT THE STORY

Your story and your characters are what matter. The best illustrator won't make a poorly written story better.

TIPS:

Put on your creative hat. Write first, edit later. Get your ideas written down. Then you have something to revise.

Join a Critique Group

Many writer's organizations, like the SCBWI, have critique groups you can join. Getting constructive feedback on your manuscript will help you improve your story.

Be open to criticism and suggestions about your story from other writers in your group. You don't have to take their advice, but at least listen with an open mind.

MAKE EVERY WORD COUNT

- Don't bog your story down with repetitive details and descriptions.
- Take a copy of your story and see how many words you can cut out.
- Remember, the artwork in your story is there to tell half of your story.
- The current publishing trend for children's books is 500 words or less.

PROOFREAD!

Spelling, punctuation, and grammar are the tools of your trade. Learn to use them effectually to craft your story

Your goal is to create a book that looks professional. It should be able to stand proudly on a shelf next to the latest, best-selling book.

Two things that will immediately identify your book as an inferior work are:

- Amateur artwork.
- Grammar and punctuation errors.

REVISE

Don't publish your first draft. Writing your story was a lot of work. But, Can you make it better? Read it aloud to see how it sounds. Is the moral of the story getting in the way of the story?

Your audience will never know what you left out of your story. Less is more.

IMPROVE YOUR WRITING SKILLS

For many children's book authors, it has been years since their last grammar lesson.

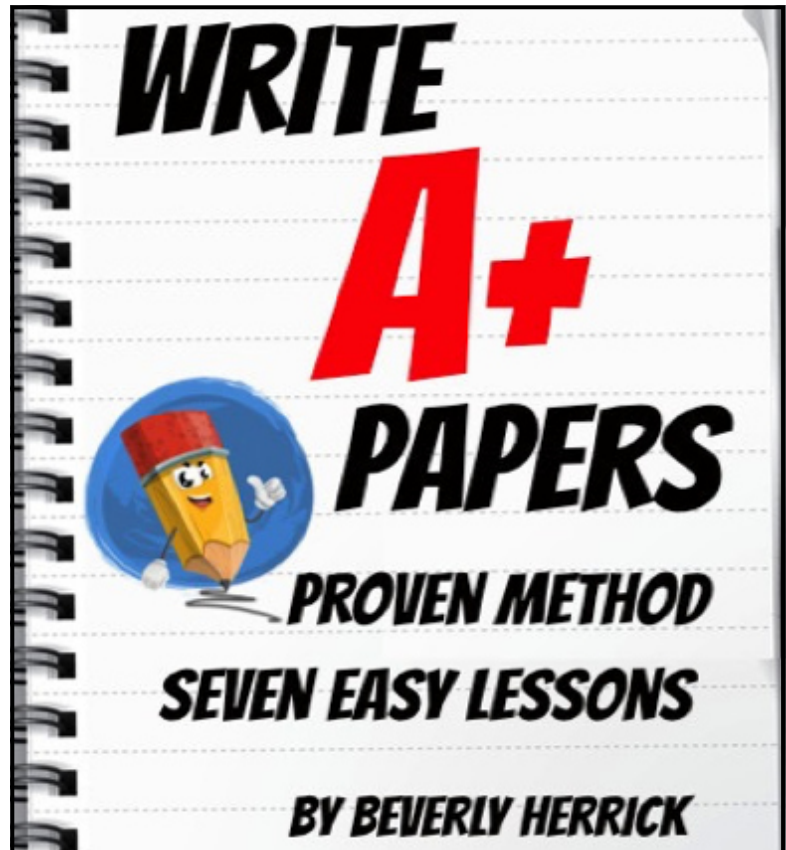
I recommend "Write A+ Papers" for a quick review.

"Write A+ Papers" uses the "Sentence Identification Method."

There are only four types of sentences. Once you can identify the sentence, it is easy to punctuate.

I'm offering "Write A+ Papers" eBook for a special price of \$2.99.

Once you know the rules, you still might want to hire an editor or invest in a Grammarly subscription.

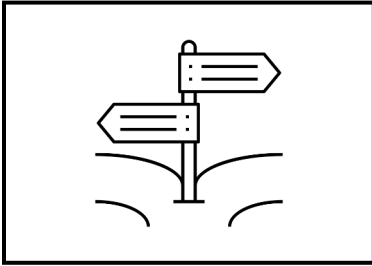


LINKS:

Write A+ Papers - www.ubuyebooks.com

Grammarly - www.grammarly.com

Business Decisions



At this point in the process, you have a completed book that you are ready to publish.

Now you need to decide how your book will be distributed and marketed.

Some people just want a book they can give their children and grandchildren and sell to a few friends.

Others want to advertise and sell the book to a mass market audience.

The amount of work, time, and resources for these two goals are vastly different. Just because you start down one of these paths doesn't mean you can't change directions. But you need to decide now what you want to do so you can avoid a lot of issues later.

YOU ARE CREATING A SELF-PUBLISHING BUSINESS

Unless you plan on giving your books away and not making a profit, you are creating a self-publishing business.

You might choose to open a sole-proprietorship and file a DBA for your business name or you might choose to incorporate. To determine what is right for you, you need to seek help in setting up your new business.

You don't want to overlook anything when you're setting up your business.

WHERE TO GO FOR HELP

The good news is that there is plenty of **free** help to get you setup.



U.S. Small Business Administration

The Small Business Administration has a number of organizations that offer one-on-one mentoring to walk you through the process.

Small Business Administration (SBA)

[SBA.GOV](https://www.sba.gov)

Small Business Development Centers (SBDC)

<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/small-business-development-centers-sbdc>

Women's Business Centers

<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/womens-business-centers#section-header-4>

SCORE Business Mentoring

<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/score-business-mentoring>

Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

<https://www.sba.gov/local-assistance/resource-partners/veterans-business-outreach-center-vboc-program>

Business laws and requirements vary from state to state.

Here are some questions to ask.

- What forms will I need to file?
- Will I need a business license?
- How do I collect taxes on the books that I sell?
- Will my online distributor collect and remit the sales tax?
- Are there any yearly filing fees or deadlines that I need to be aware of?
- Do I need a business checking account?
- Do I need a post office box?
- How much will it cost to maintain the business on a yearly basis?
- Do I need an EIN (Employer Identification Number) from the IRS?

The purpose of this book isn't to give you legal or business advice. Be sure and seek help when setting up your business. If you have any questions, talk to a lawyer. Spending a few dollars on good legal advice can save you thousands in legal fees if things go wrong.

IMPORTANT: Decide what you are going to do before you open your Kindle account or buy your ISBNs. Some of this information can't be changed once you've set it up.

- Don't forget about collecting sales tax!
- Keep good records of your expenses and sales!

TIP: Consider using a pen name.

If your self-published book doesn't sell as well as you hoped. It could hurt your chances of getting an agent or a traditional publisher in the future. They check your sales records before taking on you as a client or author. Just something to consider.

FYI:

Anytime you search the internet about publishing a book, 90% of the responses will be from companies that want to charge you to help publish your book.

Format the Book



FORMATTING PRINT AND EBOOKS

Print and eBooks use different file formats. Print books use a *Fixed-Layout* (PDF) and eBooks use *Reflowable Text* (ePUB).

FOR PRINT BOOKS

FORMAT: FIXED-LAYOUT - PDF

Fixed-layout format, the pages are laid out like the pages in a book. The graphics and text are set in place. They don't change.

FOR EBOOKS

FORMAT: REFLOWABLE TEXT - EPUB

Reflowable text, the size of the text can be changed on an eReader. The text fills the page based on the text size and margins. It flows onto the page based on the text size and margins.

THE BOTTOM LINE

You just need to be aware that you will need two different file formats. Your formatting software will do all the hard work. You'll load the correct file when it's time to publish your book.

By the way, nothing bad happens if you make a mistake and load the wrong file. You'll get an error message, and load the correct file. No worries!

RECOMMENDED FORMATTING SOFTWARE

Atticus formatting software exports both PDF and ePUB without you having to make any changes to your formatted book.

It is a one-time-only purchase. It is easy to use, and your export will work with ANY book market or platform.

<https://www.atticus.io>



Atticus

FORMATTING SOFTWARE For “Friends and Family” Amazon ONLY books :

If you create a “free” Kindle-only book, you will use Kindle Create. Kindle Create will export KPF file, a proprietary format that is only useable on Kindle. The KPF file will be used for both the Print and eBook versions.

KINDLE CREATE

PROS:

- Free
- Easy to use

CONS:

- Distribute only on Amazon
- Limited eBook formatting options
- No formatting options for print book.

ATTICUS

PROS:

- Extensive formatting options for eBooks and Print
- Export supports ANY book market and platform.
- Format once, export for both eBooks and Print
- Easy to use

CONS:

- Cost - \$150

LINKS:

Recommended Formatting Software

Atticus: <https://www.atticus.io>

Here are the links if you prefer to format your manuscript in MS Word or Pages for Kindle.

Formatting for publication in a word processor is significantly more complicated than using a formatting software program.

Build Your Book – Format a Paperback Manuscript:

For Word for Windows: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G202145400

For Word for Mac: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/GLRF8JDX5LPE3TX

For Pages for Mac: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G3TQWMMGK8528NDZ

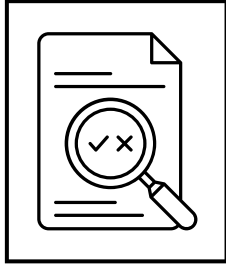
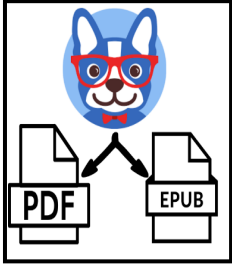
Here are links to other formatting software programs.

Vellum (Mac only): <https://vellum.pub>

Reedsy Book Editor(Free): <https://reedsy.com/write-a-book>

Kindle Create(Free - Amazon Only): <https://www.amazon.com/Kindle-Create/b?ie=UTF8&node=18292298011>

USING THE FORMATTING SOFTWARE

- 1. Import your manuscript in to Atticus.
- 2. Choose the look and feel of your book.
- 3. Preview what your book will look like on different devices.
- 4. Export your PDF and ePub files to upload in to Kindle or another publishing platform.

Atticus is easy to use and has tutorial videos to answer your questions, so we won't do a step-by-step walk-through of the software.

Both Atticus and Kindle Create follow the same steps to format your book. You'll have fewer options with Kindle Create, and it can only be used to create books for distribution on Amazon.

FYI:

Atticus formatting software isn't designed to format children's picture books. If you're creating a picture book, you'll need to get my free eBook.

Self-Publish Your Children's Book Without Breaking The Bank:
NoDrawingRequired.com



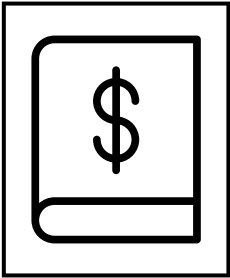
Create The Cover

Create The Cover

In addition to formatting the interior of your book, you will need to create a book cover.

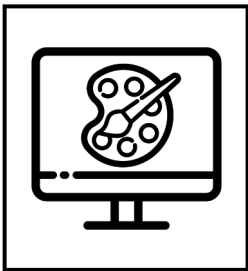
Your book cover needs to make a catchy first impression. It is the most critical part of marketing your book. *Your book cover is the salesperson for your book.* So it's essential to have a great one.

You have several options to create a cover for your book.



BUY A PRE-MADE COVER

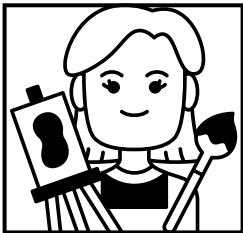
One option is to purchase a premade cover. Several websites offer covers that are ready to go. Other websites offer low-cost cover creation services. The links to these services are at the end of this chapter.



CREATE YOUR OWN COVER

Creating your own cover can save you money and gives you complete control over the process.

The steps to create your own cover are found in the [“Create Your Own Cover”](#) chapter at the end of the book.

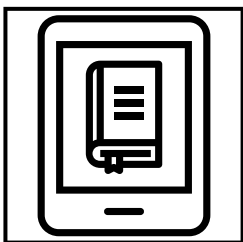


HIRE SOMEONE TO CREATE A COVER FOR YOU

Hiring someone is one of the most expensive options for creating your book cover. It can also get you one of the best-looking covers.

Remember to have a contract in place before any work is done.

Ownership, revisions, cost, time to completion, and cancellation are just some topics that need to be covered in a contract. This is not legal advice. Hire an attorney to review the contract.



USE KINDLE COVER CREATOR (NOT RECOMMENDED)

Kindle Cover Creator will create a basic cover for your book. Do NOT use it if you are creating a book you want to distribute on other platforms.

Kindle Creator is covered in the [“Cheapest Way To Publish”](#) chapter at the end of this book.

COVER IMAGES AND INFORMATION YOU WILL NEED

- **Front Cover, Back Cover, and Spine**

This will be a PDF file that is ready to be uploaded to the Kindle publishing platform.

- **Back Cover Copy:**

- *Your goal is to make readers want to buy your book.* Your cover got their interest. Now you are going to close the sale with your back cover.
- Short, concise description that makes readers want to know more about the story.
- This is NOT the place to discuss your inspiration for the story, your children or grandchildren, or how much other readers loved your book. Save that information for the dedication page and the back pages.

- **Front Cover JPG**

You will need a standalone jpg of your front cover. This will be used on the Kindle eBook publishing page. It will also be used whenever you need to send someone a picture of your book.

Recommended image size for Kindle and other platforms.

Format: JPEG (.jpeg/.jpg) format

Dimensions: Ideal dimensions for cover files are 2,560 pixels in height x 1,600 pixels in width.

IMPORTANT:

MAKE SURE YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO USE ANY OF THE PHOTOS OR IMAGES USED ON YOUR COVER.

Unless you created the images, this needs to be a photo or image release IN WRITING.

To protect the photographer's or artist's intellectual property rights, Kindle WILL remove your book from sale until the issue is resolved.

Make sure you have the rights in place and any artist credits on your copyright page before you publish your book.

Formatting Note: Cover images tend to print darker than they appear on a computer screen.

TIP: Make sure that you get the source files for your cover. That means you have the front and back cover images without the text embedded into the picture.

That way, you can change the text, logo, and back cover copy if necessary. For example, if you did a foreign translation of the novel.

The images should be at least 300 DPI (see the [Print Book Terms](#) section at the back of the book.)

LINKS:

Buy A Pre-Made Cover

Get Covers (a budget cover service) - <https://Getcovers.com>

The Book Cover Designer - <https://Thebookcoverdesigner.com>

Hire An Illustrator

SCBWI Illustrator Gallery - <https://www.scbwi.org/illustrator-gallery/>

UpWork: <https://www.upwork.com/hire/illustrators/landing/>

Hireillo : <https://www.hireanillustrator.com/>

Do It Yourself (and save \$\$\$)

No Drawing Required: NoDrawingRequired.com

Helpful article listing resources for book covers

<https://kindlepreneur.com/book-cover-software-designers-services/>

Publishing Steps

Publishing Steps

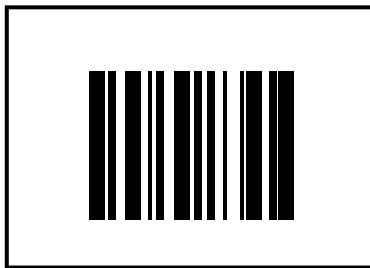
When creating a novel, you can publish the print book or the eBook first. The steps to publish either type of book are almost identical.

Set up your accounts

Create a Kindle
Account

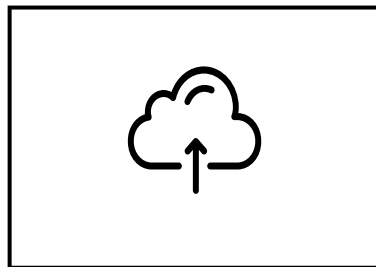


Buy Your ISBNs

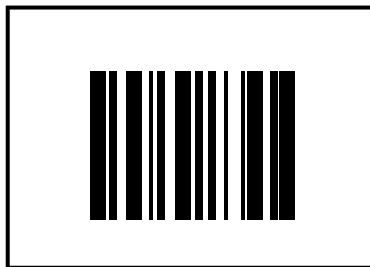


Next, Create Your Print Book

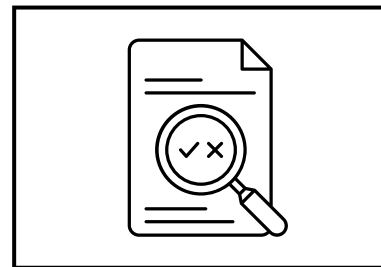
Import your PDF and
Cover into Kindle



Assign a ISBN



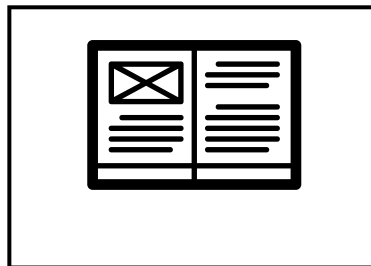
Review Your book



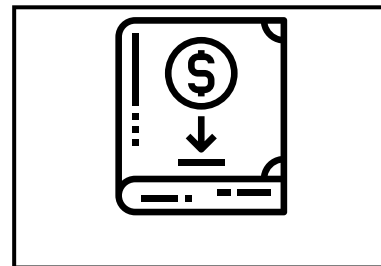
Order an Author Proof



Fix any Problems



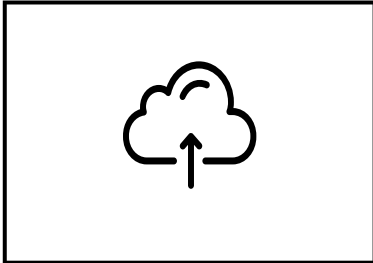
Publish Your Print Book



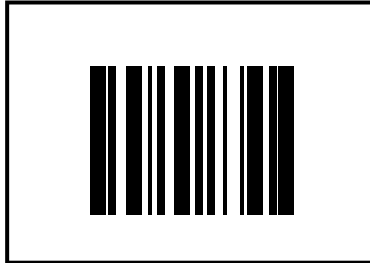
CONGRATULATIONS YOUR PRINT BOOK IS PUBLISHED

Now, Create Your eBook

Import your ePub and
Cover into Kindle



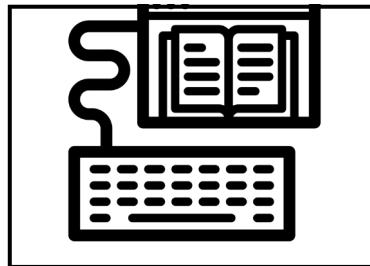
Assign a ISBN
(Optional)



Review Your book

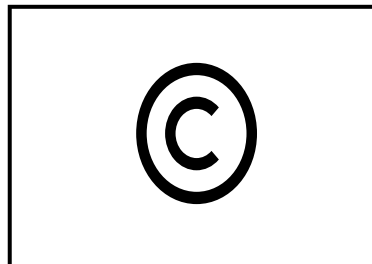


Publish your eBook



CONGRATULATIONS! YOUR EBOOK IS PUBLISHED

Copyright Your Book



Create a Kindle Account



Now that you've made some business decisions, it's time to open your Kindle Account.

The sign-up process is straightforward. If you don't have an Amazon account, you'll need to create one.

Then you'll enter the author, payment information (how you'll get paid), and tax information.





Self-publish eBooks and paperbacks for free with Kindle Direct Publishing, and reach millions of readers on Amazon.

Get to market fast. Publishing takes less than 5 minutes and your book appears on Kindle stores worldwide within 72 hours.

Make more money. Earn up to 70% royalty on sales to customers in the US, Canada, UK, Germany, India, France, Italy, Spain, Japan, Brazil, Mexico, Australia and more. Enroll in KDP Select and earn more money through Kindle Unlimited and the Kindle Owners' Lending Library.

Keep control. Keep control of your rights and set your own list prices. Make changes to your books at any time.

Publish in digital and print. Publish Kindle eBooks and paperbacks for free on KDP.

Get started today! Self-publish with KDP for free. [Learn how easy it is.](#)

Sign in with your Amazon account

[Sign in](#)

You will be signed in using our secure server

Don't have an Amazon account

[Sign up](#)

Learn more about publishing popular content on KDP:

- [Business & Investing](#)
- [Comics & Graphic Novels](#)
- [KDP Kids](#)
- [Kindle Vella - NEW!](#)
- [Literature & Fiction](#)
- [Mystery, Thriller & Suspense](#)
- [Non-fiction](#)
- [Romance](#)
- [Science Fiction & Fantasy](#)
- [Teens & Young Adult](#)

LINKS:

Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) - https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/

Create a KDP Account: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200620010

KDP Jumpstart Setup: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G202187740

Buy Your ISBNs



The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a unique numeric identification code for published books.

It establishes you as the publisher of the book. Every PRINT book distributed through Amazon, IngramSpark, and other vendors is required to have an ISBN.

As of this writing, you can get one ISBN for \$125 or ten ISBNs for \$300. My suggestion is to get ten. If you want to publish your book in paperback and a hardcover, that will take two. Any translated versions of your book will need their own ISBN. The Bowker's website has lots of information about this.

BEWARE THE FREE ISBN



It might seem like a distributor like Amazon, IngramSpark, and others are doing you a favor by giving you a free ISBN. **However, That ISBN can't be used outside of their publishing service.**

You can use free ISBNs from different distributors. If so, you will end up with a bunch of ISBNs for one book. This looks unprofessional and might hurt your chances of being stocked in bookstores and libraries.

My advice: You worked hard on your book, and you don't know what the future will hold for it. Invest in your own ISBN numbers.

ISBNs cannot be transferred on an individual basis. If a self-publisher wants to be identified as the publisher, the self-publisher must get their own ISBN. A printing company or publisher services company cannot sell, give away or transfer one of their ISBNs to a customer.

-myIdentifiers.com FAQ

Note: This information on ISBNs applies to books published in the United States. You can find the issuing agency for your country on this website.

The International ISBN Agency: <https://www.isbn-international.org/agencies>

CREATE A BOWKER ACCOUNT

1. Go to the Bowker's website and create an account. <https://www.myidentifiers.com>

The screenshot shows the Bowker Identifier Services website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with links like 'Register and Copyright Your Book', 'Publish Your Book', 'Market Your Book', 'Learn', and 'FAQs'. Below this, there's a search bar. The main content area has two sections: 'Sign in to your Account' with fields for 'Username' and 'Password', and a 'Remember Me' checkbox; and 'Create a new account' with a 'Register' button. There's also a 'Sign In' button and a link for 'Forgot Username / Password?'.

2. We'll leave it to you to fill in the blanks.

Pay special attention to the company name. This is your imprint on KDP.

This screenshot shows the 'Company Name*' field in the registration form. To the right of the input field, there's explanatory text: 'This name will appear as the publisher of your ISBN(s). Amazon (KDP) refers to this item as your "imprint." Personal name may be used.'

This screenshot shows the full registration form. It includes fields for 'Username/Email address*', 'Password*', 'Confirm password*', 'Organization Type*' (a dropdown menu), 'Company Name*', and 'Website'. To the right of the 'Company Name*' field, there's a note: 'This name will appear as the publisher of your ISBN(s). Amazon (KDP) refers to this item as your "imprint." Personal name may be used.' Below the form fields, there are several checkboxes for terms and conditions, and a green button at the bottom that says 'I Accept - Create My Account!'.

It is what will appear on KDP as the Publisher.

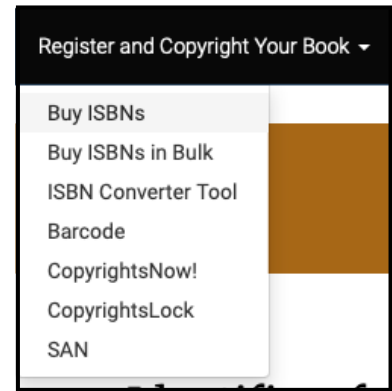
This screenshot shows the 'Product details' section of a KDP listing. It includes fields for 'ASIN', 'Publisher', 'Language', 'Paperback', 'ISBN-13', 'Item Weight', and 'Dimensions'. The 'Publisher' field, which contains the text 'No Drawing Required (July 31, 2022)', is highlighted with a red rectangular box.

**YOU CAN'T CHANGE THIS
LATER. SO CHOOSE A
COMPANY NAME CAREFULLY.**

**TIP: You can't change the company name.
But you can create a new imprint.**

BUY YOUR ISBN NUMBERS

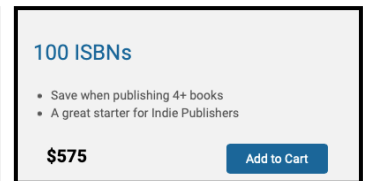
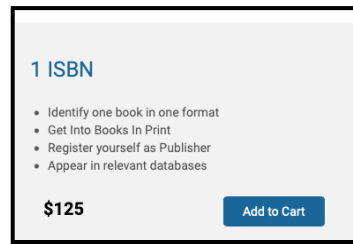
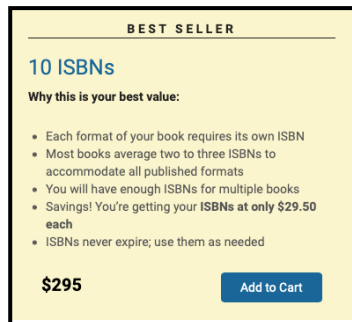
1. Login to your Bowker's account.
2. Go to Register and Copyright Your Book → Buy ISBNs



TIP:

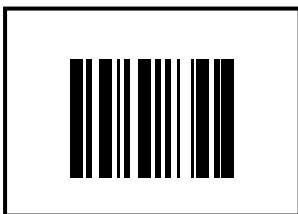
Bowkers sells lots of book publishing services. **Just buy the ISBN numbers.** Don't buy barcodes, QR codes, or other services. You can DIY these things for less money.

3. Select the ISBN package that's right for you.



4. Check out and purchase your ISBNs.

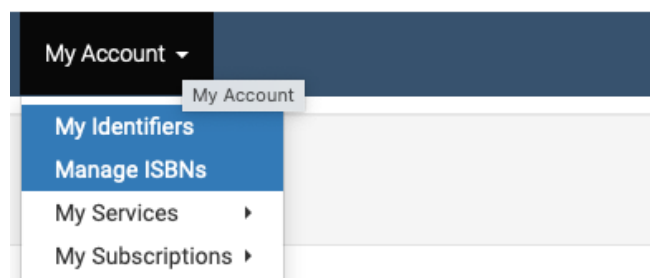
ASSIGN AN ISBN



Now you need to assign one of you ISBNs to your book.

1. Login to Bowkers
2. Select My Account → Manage ISBNs

Welcome Robert Herrick! No Drawing Required Sign Out



3. Select one of the unassigned ISBNs and Click Assign Title.

Bowker IDENTIFIER SERVICES Welcome Robert Herrick! No Drawing Required Sign Out Join VIP Mailing List  0

Register and Copyright Your Book ▾ Publish Your Book ▾ Market Your Book ▾ Learn ▾ FAQs ▾ My Account ▾ Search 

My Identifiers My Subscriptions My Services My Profile Data

ISBN Dashboard 10 ISBNs [Filter Table](#)

Search by Title ISBN-13 or ISBN-10 First < 1 > Last

Status ▾	Title ▾	ISBN-13 ▾	Media/Format ▾	Cover Image ▾	Barcode ▾
✓ Assigned	Ten Is Too Many! Clone	979-8-9859868-0-8	Paperback	Change	Buy Barcode
✓ Assigned	No Drawing Required: You Don't Have to Learn to Draw to Illustrate Your Children's Book Clone	979-8-9859868-1-5	Ebook	Change	Buy Barcode
✓ Assigned	No Drawing Required: You Don't Have to Learn to Draw to Illustrate Your Children's Book Clone	979-8-9859868-2-2	Paperback	Change	Buy Barcode
	Assign Title	979-8-9859868-3-9		Upload	Buy Barcode
	Assign Title	979-8-9859868-4-6		Upload	Buy Barcode

4. Fill out the information about your book.

Suggestion: Fill out the required sections. (Designated with a Red Asterisk.) You can fill in the other information later.

Assign Your Book's Title Data ISBN: 979-8-9859868-0-8 Form view [Short](#) [Expanded](#)

1. Title & Cover 2. Contributors 3. Format & Size 4. Sales & Pricing

Title Information

Book Title * [Help](#)
Ten Is Too Many!

Subtitle [Help](#)

Describe your book (114 of 350 words) [Help](#)
Can Elizabeth conquer the mountain of carrots on her plate? The tension increases as she chews through the competition. In a battle of skill and endurance, how long can she continue against her little orange nemesis? Its carrots vs kid in "Ten Is Too

Original Publication Date [Help](#) No HTML mark-up

Current Language [Help](#)
☐ English
☐ Abkhaz
☐ Achinese
☐ Acholi

Language(s) selected:

Book Cover Image

- File Type: JPG only
- Minimum File Size: 4KB
- Maximum File Size: 5MB



Updated August 9, 2022

[Choose File](#) no file selected

5. Upload the Thumbnail Book Cover JPG.

Book Cover Image

- File Type: JPG only
- Minimum File Size: 4KB
- Maximum File Size: 5MB



Updated August 9, 2022

Choose File no file selected

Upload/Change Cover Image

6. Regarding the Pricing Data.

You can set it to:

Write for Info (No set price or free)

Currency: US Dollars

Price Type: Retail Price

If necessary, It can be changed later.

Note: This is NOT where the sale price of your book is set. That is done on the KDP site.

UNITED STATES Price Data

Currency	Price	Price Type	Price Availability
US Dollars		Retail Price	
Book Price * Help			
☐ Set Dollar Amount ☒ Write for Info (No set price or free)			
Currency * Help			
US Dollars			
Price Type * Help			
Retail Price			

You will need the following information for the KDP page.

ISBN #

Book Title

Company Name (Imprint)

COPY THIS INFORMATION EXACTLY AS YOU ENTERED IT.

Publisher Imprints

† No Drawing Required UNITED STATES

[+ Add Imprint](#)

Kindle Direct Publishing (Amazon) Customers.

If you have been asked for your imprint name by **Kindle Direct Publishing or another Amazon division**, you are being asked for **No Drawing Required**.

For MyIdentifier purposes, an imprint is a trade name or brand name used instead of your company/organization/publisher name to identify a line of books.

DO NOT ADD an imprint that is the same name as your company/organization/publisher name.

Note: If you want a different name to appear as the publisher. Go to My Account → My Profile Data → My Company. At the book of the page you can create a new imprint.

Publish Your Book

Publish Your Book

All your hard work is getting ready to pay off. Soon, you'll have a copy of your book in your hands! It's time to publish your print book on Amazon KDP.

It's up to you to fill in the blanks as you did on the Bowker's page.

I'll point out any sections that need special attention.

Note: The screen grabs in this section on self-publishing are from various books. Do NOT rely on any numbers or settings in these images. The information in the accompanying text and online sources is where you should get your settings.

KDP HOME PAGE

1. Login to your KDP account.
2. Click on the + Create Button.

The screenshot displays the Amazon KDP Home Page for a book titled "Walter The Worried School Bus" by Robert Herrick. At the top, there is a yellow "Launch Preview" button. Below this, the "Summary" section provides details about the book's printing specifications: Ink and Paper Type (Black & white interior with white paper), Bleed Settings (No Bleed), Paperback cover finish (Glossy), and Trim Size (5 x 8 in). To the right of the summary, the "Your Printing Cost" is listed as \$8.07 per book on Amazon.com, with equivalent prices in Euros for Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.de, Amazon.fr, and Amazon.es. The "Your Books" section shows the book's status as a Kindle eBook with "LIVE Updates in review" and a price of \$2.99 USD. It also indicates that the book is in "DRAFT" status for the paperback format, last modified on July 23, 2022. Action buttons for "Continue setup" are provided for both the Kindle eBook and paperback formats. At the bottom, there are options to "+ Create hardcover" or "Link existing hardcover", along with a link to "Why offer multiple formats?".

What would you like to create?

3. Select Paperback

What would you like to create?

Pick an option and we'll get you started. You can save your progress as you go.
[Learn about the publishing process](#)



Kindle eBook

Publish **digitally to Kindle** and other hand-held devices. Includes comics and manga.

Create eBook



Paperback

Make your **title available in print** and ship around the world.

Create paperback



BETA Hardcover

Bind your **book in hardcover** and ship around the world.

Create hardcover



Series page

Collect your books together and build a single, [Amazon Series page](#).

Create series page



NEW Kindle Vella

Publish **serialized stories** to share with readers - one episode at a time.

Start a story

SECTION 1: Paperback Details

- The Book Title needs to be **EXACTLY** as you entered it on the Bowkers site.
- Fill in the rest of the descriptive information about your book.

kindle direct publishing Bookshelf | Reports | Community | Marketing

Paperback Details
 Complete

Paperback Content
 Complete

Paperback Rights & Pricing
 Complete

Language Choose your paperback's primary language (the language in which the book was written). Learn more about languages supported for paperbacks.

English

Book Title Enter your title as it appears on the book cover. This field cannot be changed after your book is published. Learn more about book titles.

Book Title

Ten Is Too Many

Subtitle (Optional)

Adult Content Does this book contain language, sexual content, or images inappropriate for children under 18 years of age?

☒ No

☐ Yes

Save as Draft Save and Continue

Next step: Content

SECTION 2: Paperback Content

6. Print ISBN

7. Select “Use my own ISBN.”
8. Enter the ISBN. You may need to remove the hyphens.
9. Enter the Imprint (Company Name) EXACTLY as you entered it on the Bowkers site.
9. Leave the Publication Date Blank,

Ten Is Too Many

Paperback Details
 Complete

Paperback Content
 Complete

Paperback Rights & Pricing
 Complete

Print ISBN Choose the best option for your book. What's an ISBN? ▾

☐ Get a free KDP ISBN

☒ Use my own ISBN

ISBN

Imprint What is an imprint? ▾

Publication Date Enter the date on which your book was first published. Leave this blank if you are publishing your book for the first time. How is my book's publication date determined? ▾

Publication Date (Optional)
 
 Clear Date

SECTION 2: Paperback Content (continued)

10. Print Options

11. **Ink and Paper Type:**
Select “Black & White interior with white paper.”
12. **Trim Size:** Select 5X8 in. (or whatever trim size you choose for your book)
13. **Bleed Settings:** Select “Bleed (PDF only)”
14. **Paperback cover finish:**
Select Glossy.

Print Options The default options selected below are based on the most common selections. How will printing cost be calculated? ▾

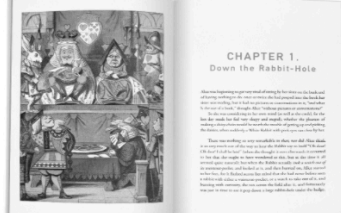
Ink and Paper Type
What ink and paper types does KDP support? ▾

Black & white interior with cream paper

Black & white interior with white paper

Standard color interior with white paper

Premium color interior with white paper



Black & white interior with white paper

- Typical for nonfiction
- Paper weight: 55 pound, 90 grams per square meter

Trim Size
What is a trim size? ▾

5 x 8 in
 12.7 x 20.32 cm

Select a different size

Bleed Settings
What are bleed settings? ▾

No Bleed

Bleed (PDF only)

Paperback cover finish
What is a cover finish? ▾

Matte

Glossy

SECTION 2: Paperback Content (continued)

Import Your PDF into Kindle



Manuscript

15. Click “Upload paperback manuscript.”
16. Upload your PDF manuscript file that you exported from Comic Life.

Book Cover

17. Upload your PDF Cover file.

Manuscript

Upload a manuscript of your book interior content. For best results, we recommend using a formatted PDF file to create your book. You can also upload a DOC (.doc), DOCX (.docx), HTML (.html), or RTF (.rtf). Hebrew, Japanese, Latin, and Yiddish only support PDF manuscripts. [Learn more about manuscripts](#) or [download a KDP template](#) for your preferred trim size.

Upload paperback manuscript

Manuscript "He Needs a Hero.pdf" uploaded successfully!

Book Cover

We recommend a book cover for a good reader experience. You can create a cover using our Cover Creator tool or upload your own book cover. [Learn more about book covers](#) or [download a KDP template](#) to create your own cover.

☐ Use Cover Creator to make your book cover (upload your own cover image or use KDP's stock images)

☒ Upload a cover you already have (print-ready PDF only)

Upload your cover file

Cover uploaded successfully!

Does your cover include a barcode?

☐ Check this box if the cover you're uploading includes a barcode. If you don't check the box, we'll add a barcode for you. [Learn more about barcode size and placement.](#)

Preview Your Book



Book Preview

18. Click “Launch Previewer” This is covered in the next section.

Summary

This shows your printing cost and other information about your book.

Book Preview

Preview your file to check for formatting and print quality issues. [Learn more about formatting and print quality on KDP.](#)

Launch Previewer

Summary

[Learn more about printing costs on KDP.](#)

Ink and Paper Type: Black & white interior with white paper
Bleed Settings: No Bleed
Paperback cover finish: Glossy
Trim Size: 5 x 8 in
Page Count: 602

Your Printing Cost

\$8.07 per book on Amazon.com

£6.72 on Amazon.co.uk
€7.82 on Amazon.de
€7.82 on Amazon.fr
€7.82 on Amazon.es
€7.82 on Amazon.it
€7.82 on Amazon.nl
zł38.89 on Amazon.pl
kr78.33 on Amazon.se
¥1379 on Amazon.co.jp
\$10.74 on Amazon.ca
\$15.11 on Amazon.com.au

< Back to Details

Save as Draft

Save and Continue

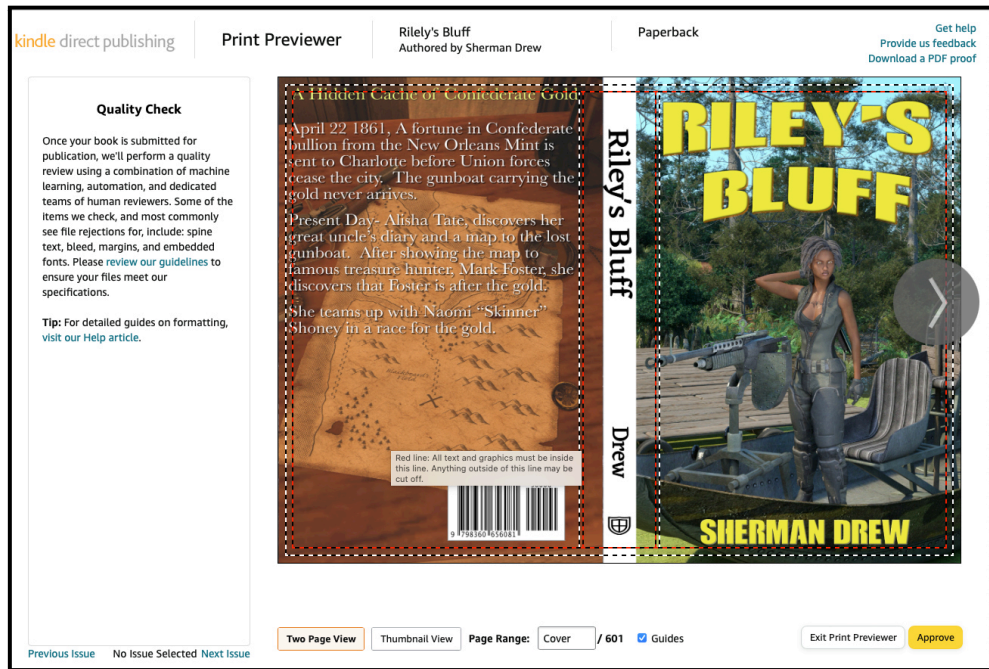
Next step: Pricing

We’re going to jump into the Kindle Previewer and then come back to finish up with Section 3.

The Kindle Previewer

The Kindle previewer checks your manuscript for any errors that could ruin your printed books. The majority of errors will be having your graphics outside the safe zone.

NOTE: If you used Atticus to export your PDF, you shouldn't have any errors. If you do, change the Bleed Setting (step 13) on the Paperback Content page. Save the settings and Launch the book in the Kindle Previewer again.

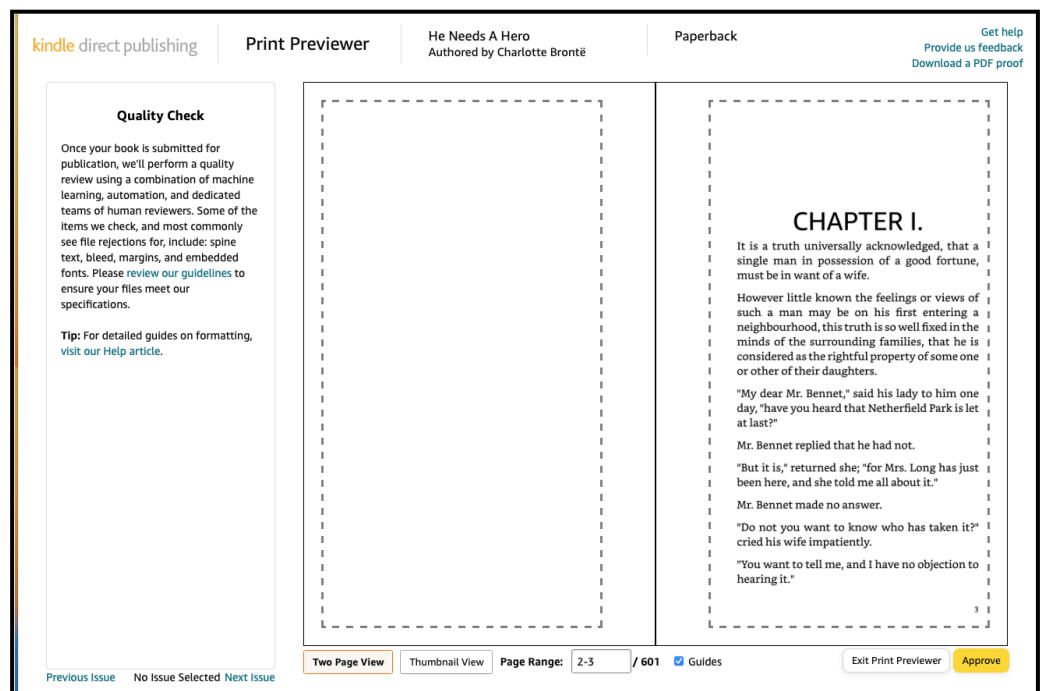


You can page through your book. Pay attention to the safe zone lines. It's better to have plenty of room around your graphics than to take things right to the edge.

FYI: This image is of a Kindle Create formatted print book of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice*.

This example is why Atticus is recommended for formatting novels.

Also, the wide margins at the center of the book are because this book has 600+ pages.



WHAT ERRORS LOOK LIKE IN THE PRINT PREVIEWER

The Previewer will list the errors it finds on the left side of the page. You can click on the page number to see the error. A red triangle with an exclamation point will flag the error. Here the IRAY RENDER SETTINGS text is too close to the Safe Zone.

ERROR

If your book has errors, it won't meet our quality standards. To publish your book, you will need to fix the errors.

This text is outside the margins. [Learn how to change the margins in your original file.](#)

130

Quality Check

Once your book is submitted for publication, we'll perform a quality review using a combination of machine learning, automation, and dedicated teams of human reviewers. Some of the items we check, and most commonly see file rejections for, include: spine text, bleed, margins, and embedded fonts. Please [review our guidelines](#) to

Rendering Controls

LOAD YOUR SETTINGS

Select this preset from the Dimension Preset Dropdown to reload your settings.

RENDER SETTINGS TAB

The Render Settings Tab controls how your 3D world is converted into a 2D picture that you will use in your book.

You need to check some things to make sure things are set up correctly.

Daz Studio saves changes that you make to the Render Settings. You won't need to check these every time.

- *Check that the Engine Dropdown, located at the top of the tab, is set to NVIDIA Iray.*

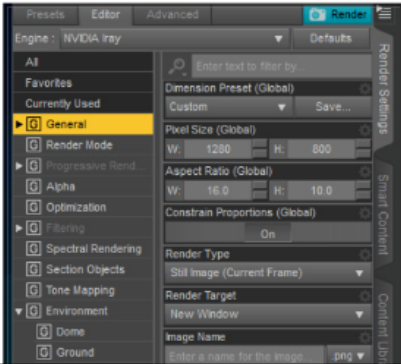
IRAY RENDER SETTINGS

GENERAL CONTROLS DROPDOWN

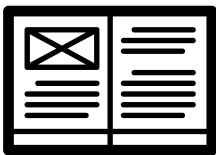
This section controls the size that your images are rendered.

Dimension Preset (Global) - Load and Save your rendering presets.

Pixel Size (Global) - This is the size in pixels that your image will render. Change this to make your 2D picture larger or smaller.

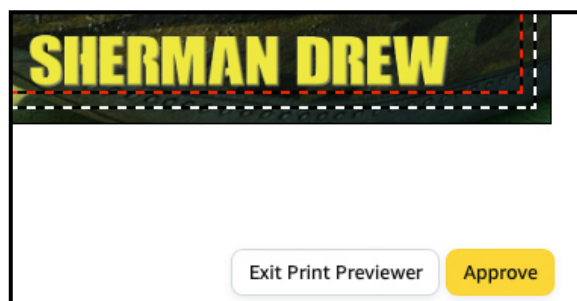


Note: Make sure that any graphic **that extends into the bleed area** goes all the way to the edge of the bleed. (Don't leave any white space in the bleed area.) If you do, you will get an email from Kindle when they do the final check on the book. The email will tell you to increase the page size by .125 inches. Instead, check for white space and resubmit .



FIX ANY PROBLEMS

Exit the Print Previewer and fix any problems in Atticus, then upload the new PDF. Once things look good, Click the Approve button.



Publish Your Book

Approving or Exit Print Previewer will take you back to “Paperback Content.. Go to the bottom of the screen and “Save and Continue.”

SECTION 3: Paperback Content (continued)

Paperback Details
✓ Complete

Paperback Content
✓ Complete

Paperback Rights & Pricing
✓ Complete

Territories

Select the territories for which you hold distribution rights. [Learn more about distribution rights.](#)

☒ **All territories (worldwide rights)** [What are worldwide rights?](#) ▾

☐ Individual territories [What are Individual Territory rights?](#) ▾

Primary marketplace

Choose the location where you expect the majority of your book sales.

Amazon.com ▾

Pricing, royalty, and distribution

Enter the list price you'd like to sell your book for. Your book will be distributed in the marketplaces listed. You also have the option to make your book available to bookstores and other distributors, reaching readers beyond Amazon. [How does pricing and royalties work?](#)

Marketplace ▾	List Price ▾	Printing ▾	Amazon ▾		☐ Expanded Distribution ▾	
			Rate ▾	Royalty ▾	Rate ▾	Royalty ▾
Amazon.com	\$ 8.99 USD Min. \$6.08, Max. \$250.00 ▾ All marketplaces are based on this price	\$3.65	60%	\$1.74	☐ 40%	\$0.00

Pricing, royalty, and distribution

19. Enter your book price into the List Price box. You can play about with different numbers to see what your royalty will be.

You have control over your book’s price and can change it at any time.

Suggestion: Check out similar books on Amazon to get an idea of what to price your book.



ORDER AN AUTHOR PROOF

20. Click on the Green “Request printed proofs of this book.”

This will let you order proofs of your book. The proofs come with a grey “Not For Resale” banner across the front of the book.

Request printed proofs of this book that you can order from the Amazon cart. When the book status changes to "Live," you'll be able to [order author copies](#).

[< Back to Content](#)
[Save as Draft](#)
[Publish Your Paperback Book](#)

Request Proof Copies

Order proof copies of your book before publication. Proof copies are printed using your latest uploaded book files which may differ from your book's live version. They will also have a "Not for Resale" watermark on the cover and a unique barcode but no ISBN. You pay only the printing cost for your selected marketplace times the number of copies. Shipping and applicable taxes will be applied at checkout. [Learn more](#)

Rilely's Bluff PROOF:

By Sherman Drew , Charlotte Brontë

ORDER QUANTITY

1

You can order up to 5 copies at a time

MARKETPLACE OF YOUR ORDER [LEARN MORE](#)

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Total Cost (excluding shipping and taxes): *Please select a marketplace*

Does not include shipping and applicable taxes. Within 4 hours of submitting your request, you will receive an email with a link to complete your proof order. Please complete your purchase within 24 hours of receiving this email. [Learn more](#)

[Back to Pricing](#)
[Submit Proof Request](#)

TIP: Once you have a manuscript and cover upload and have fixed any errors, **order an author proof**. The price is extremely reasonable, and you will find things to fix that you didn't see in the print previewer.

You can fix your manuscript and order new author proofs as often as you need to.

EXPORT THE PDF AND UPLOAD IT TO KINDLE AGAIN.

It's a good idea to order another author proof and make sure everything looks good.

The print quality of your book will vary slightly with each printing run.

In the tests I've run, it looks like Kindle makes some color adjustment on the images to optimize them for printing. So, don't spend too much time “fine-tuning” your images.

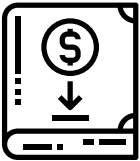
HOW DO YOU KNOW IF A BOOK IS FINISHED AND READY FOR PUBLICATION?

- Does it look professional?
- Is it spelled and punctuated correctly?
- Are there any errors that draw your attention? Can you fix them and still stay within budget?
- Will fixing the problem sell more copies of your book?

There is no point when a book is finished. You just decide that it is finished.

You can always fix the problem and upload a new version.

However, that should never be a reason to upload an inferior product. You only get one chance to make a first impression on your readers.

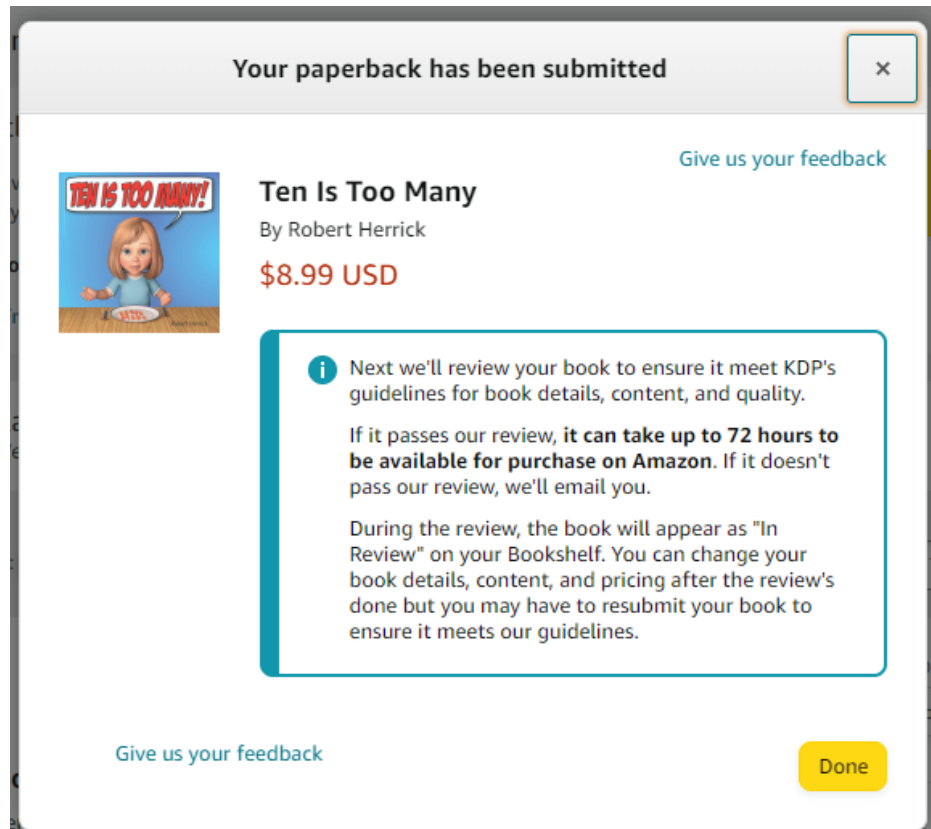


SUBMISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

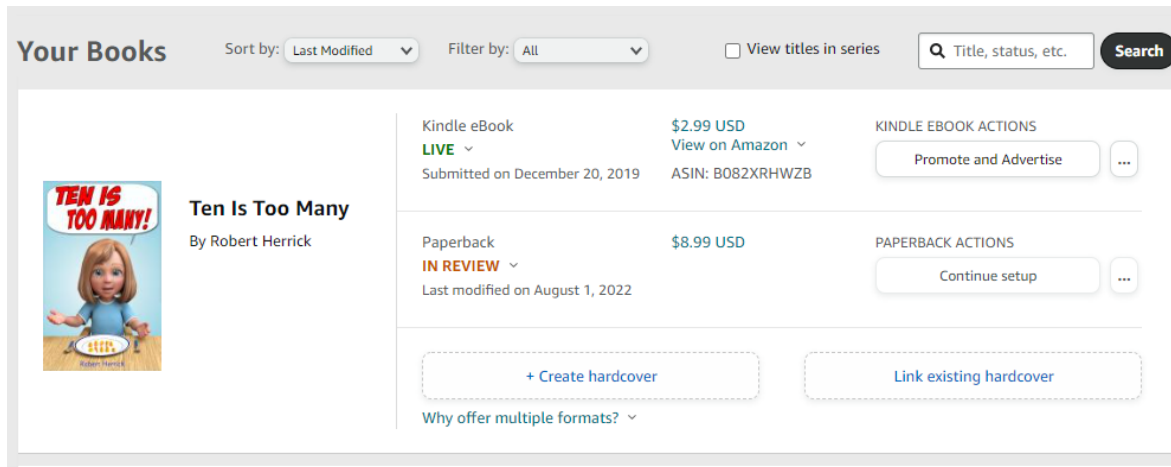
21. Once the problems are resolved, press the “Publish Your Paperback Book” button.

Publish Your Paperback Book

KDP will do a final review and will accept your book. You will get the following popup.



Your book will appear on your KDP home page.



In a few days, you will receive an email from Kindle Direct Publishing letting you know that your paperback book has been published!

Congratulations!

Your Book is Published!

THE MYSTERY ERROR

You need to know about an error that isn't well documented on KDP.

Hopefully, all went well when you published your book. However, if you press the "Publish Your Paperback Book" button and get the following error.

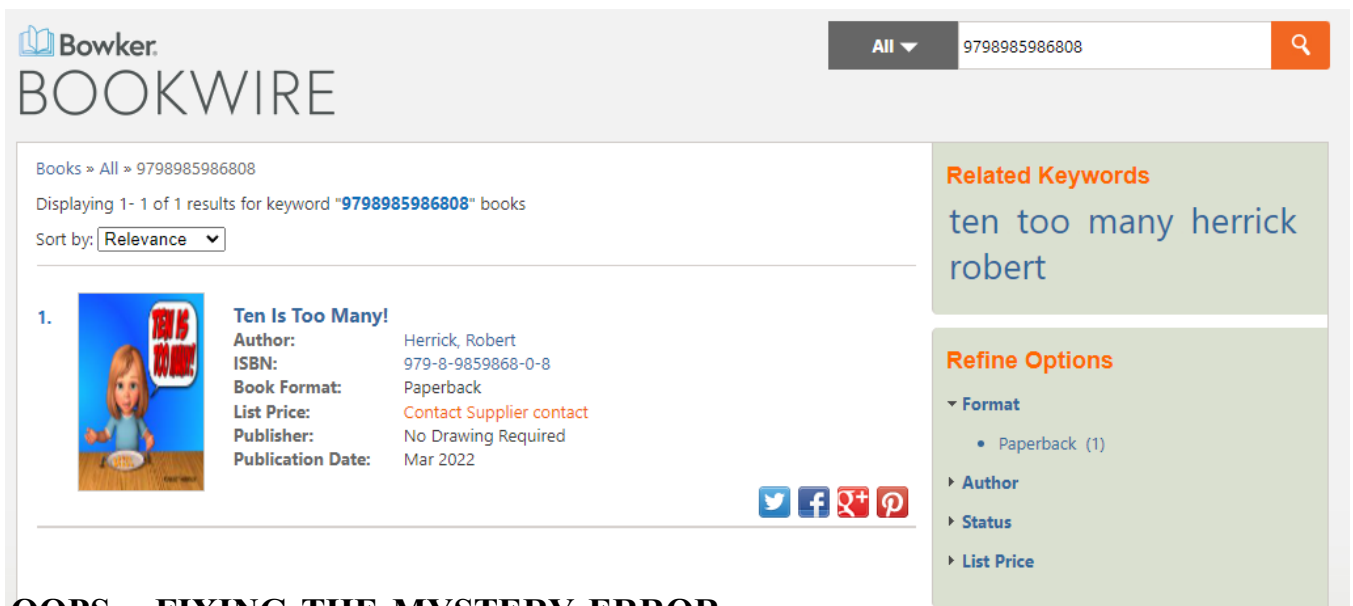


You check all the sections on KDP and can't find any highlighted error.

That usually means is that your title and/or the ISBN number don't match the information entered on Bowkers.

You can check what is entered on Bowkers.

- Go to <https://www.bookwire.com>
- Enter your ISBN in the search box.



Bowker. BOOKWIRE

Books » All » 9798985986808

Displaying 1- 1 of 1 results for keyword "9798985986808" books

Sort by: **Relevance**

1.  **Ten Is Too Many!**
 Author: Herrick, Robert
 ISBN: 979-8-9859868-0-8
 Book Format: Paperback
 List Price: [Contact Supplier contact](#)
 Publisher: No Drawing Required
 Publication Date: Mar 2022

Related Keywords
 ten too many herrick robert

Refine Options

Format
 • Paperback (1)

Author
 Status
 List Price

OOPS - FIXING THE MYSTERY ERROR

Here is an example of how to fix the error.

I goofed up when I went to publish my book. I added an exclamation mark to my KDP book title. Adding the exclamation mark to the KDP book title solved the problem.

Book Title

Ten Is Too Many!

BOWKERS BOOK TITLE

Book Title

Enter your title as it app titles.

Book Title

Ten Is Too Many

KDP BOOK TITLE

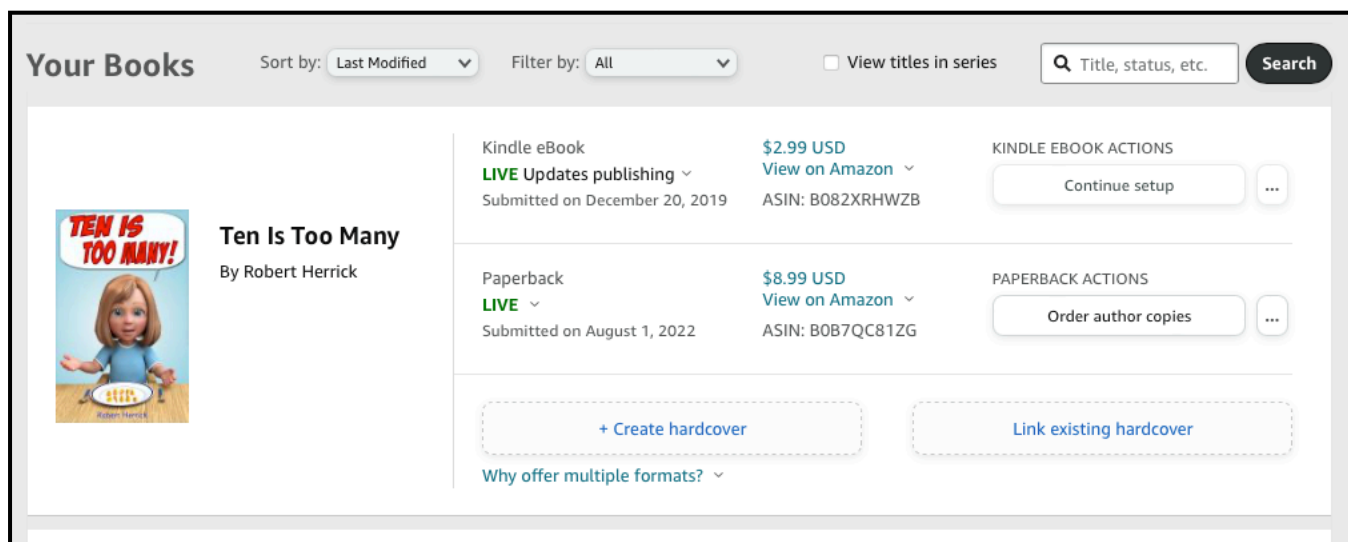
Publish Your eBook

Publish Your eBook



You're in the home stretch!

1. Log in to your Kindle Account
2. Locate your book on the home page.
3. Click the "+ Create eBook" button.



Most of the information from the print book will be duplicated in your eBook information.

Publishing an eBook on Kindle is almost identical to publishing a print book.

Kindle eBook Details
✓ Complete

Kindle eBook Content
✓ Complete

Kindle eBook Pricing
✓ Complete

Language

Choose your eBook's primary language (the language in which the book was written). [Learn more about languages supported on Kindle.](#)

English

Book Title

Enter your title as it appears on the book cover. This field cannot be changed after your book is published. [Learn more about book titles.](#)

Book Title

Walter The Worried School Bus

Save as Draft

Save and Continue

Next step: Content



IMPORT YOUR EBOOK EPUB INTO KINDLE

DIGITAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT (DRM)

4. Set DRM to Yes

UPLOAD EBOOK MANUSCRIPT

5. Click the “Upload eBook Manuscript to load the ePub file you exported from Atticus.

Kindle eBook Details
✓ Complete

Kindle eBook Content
✓ Complete

Kindle eBook Pricing
✓ Complete

Manuscript

Please read our [KDP Content Guidelines](#) and upload a manuscript containing interior content for your Kindle eBook. [View supported file types](#) ▾

Digital Rights Management (DRM)
Enable DRM on this Kindle eBook. [How is my Kindle eBook affected by DRM?](#) ▾

☒ Yes
☐ No

Recommended formats for Kindle eBooks: docx, EPUB and KPF. [See a full list here](#). Note: Starting August 1, 2021, we will no longer support files in MOBI format when publishing new reflowable eBooks or updating the content for previously published eBooks. [Learn more](#).

i Use Kindle Create to transform your manuscript to an eBook with professional book themes, images, and Table of Contents. [Click here to download for free](#).

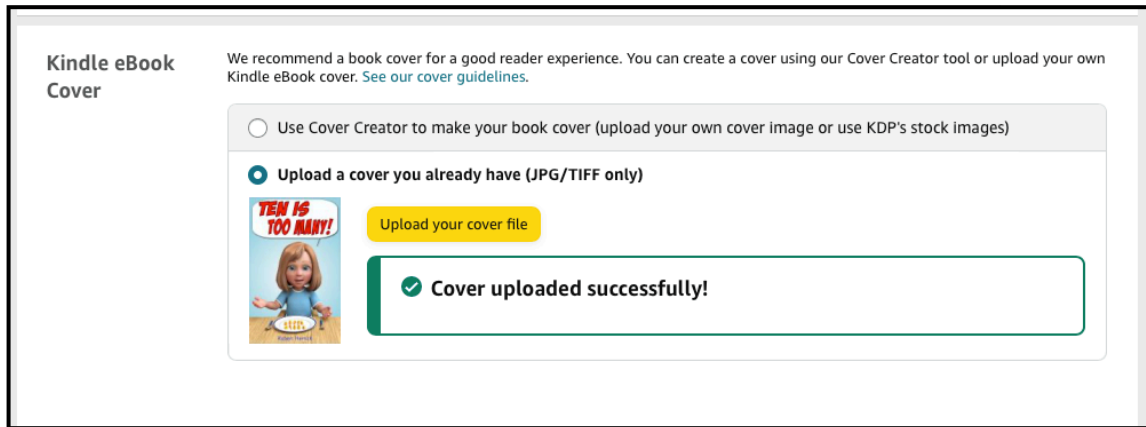
5. [Upload eBook manuscript](#)

✓ **Manuscript "Ten s too Many eBook Comic Layout.kpf" uploaded successfully!**
 File processing complete. Manuscript check complete.

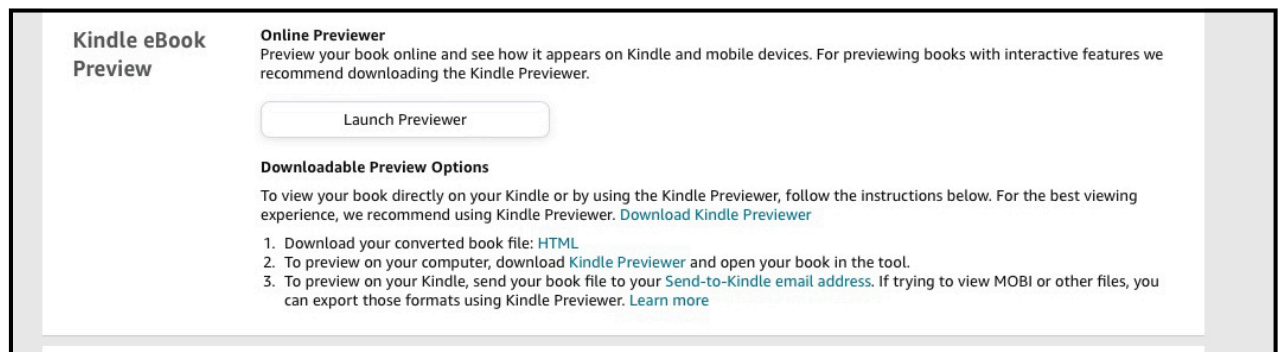
✓ **Spell Check**
 There are no spelling errors.

KINDLE EBOOK COVER

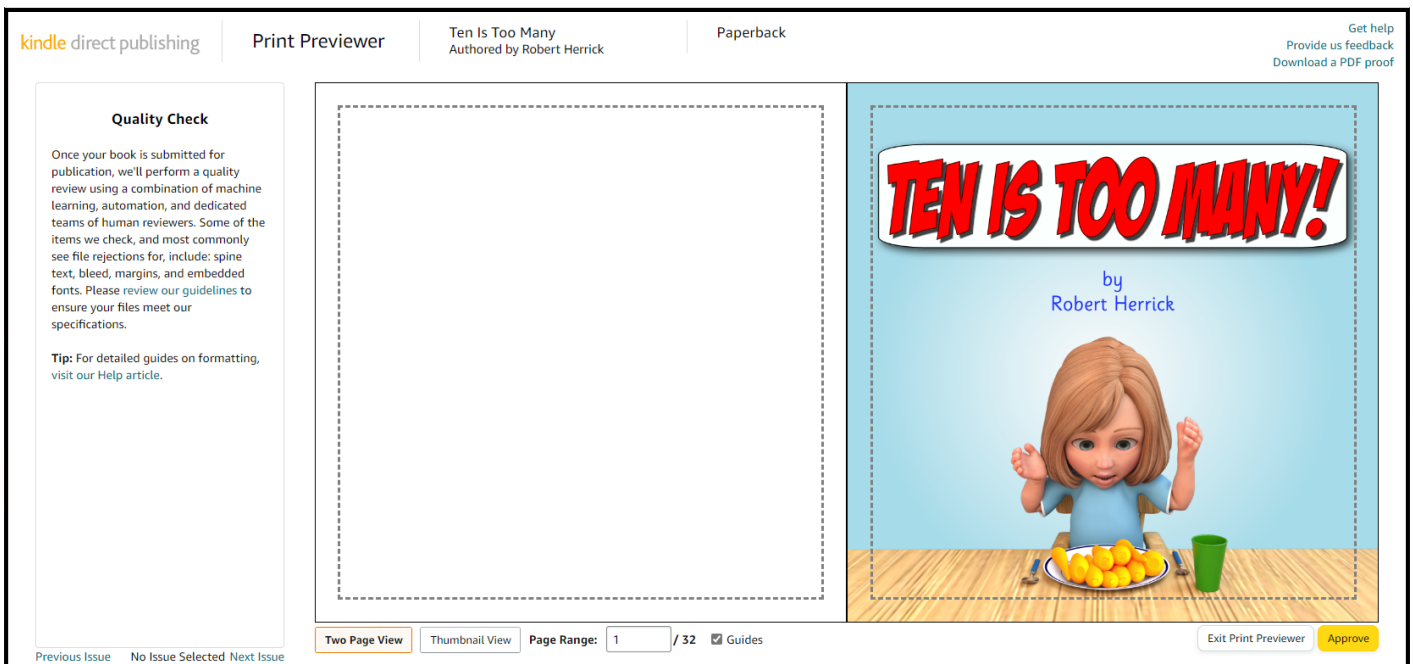
6. Upload the Thumbnail Cover you created earlier.



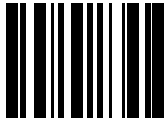
7. Launch Previewer



8. Preview and Approve Your Book



REGARDING ISBNs FOR EBOOKS



ISBNs for eBooks are optional. The main advantage of adding an ISBN number to an eBook is that it looks more professional and is easier for retailers to locate. Do what you think is best for your eBook.

The screenshot shows a form for Kindle eBook details. On the left, under 'Kindle eBook', is the 'ISBN' field. To its right, under 'ISBN (Optional)', is a message: 'Kindle eBooks are not required to have an ISBN. [What is an ISBN?](#)' followed by a text input box. Below this is the 'Publisher (Optional)' field, also with a text input box. At the bottom, there are three buttons: '< Back to Details', 'Save as Draft', and 'Save and Continue' (highlighted in yellow). Below the 'Save and Continue' button, it says 'Next step: Pricing'.

EBOOK PRICING

KDP SELECT ENROLLMENT

Amazon Kindle offers a program to market your eBook exclusively on Amazon Kindle. Since the Comic View version will only work on Kindle readers and viewers, this might be a good option for you. However, you must decide if that is what is best for your book.

Read the Kindle Select program documentation thoroughly before enrolling.

The screenshot shows the 'Kindle eBook Pricing' page. At the top, there are three tabs: 'Kindle eBook Details' (marked 'Complete'), 'Kindle eBook Content' (marked 'Complete'), and 'Kindle eBook Pricing' (marked 'In Progress...'). The main content area has three sections:

- KDP Select Enrollment:** Includes a link to 'Maximize My Royalties with KDP Select (Optional)' and a description of the program. It also has a link to 'Visit the Promotions Page to manage your KDP Select Enrollment'.
- Territories:** Includes a description of selecting territories. Below this are two radio button options: 'All territories (worldwide rights)' (selected) and 'Individual territories'. Each has a link to 'What are... rights?'.
- Primary marketplace:** Includes a description 'Choose the location where you expect the majority of your book sales.' and a dropdown menu currently set to 'Amazon.com'.

LINKS:

Self-Publishing and KDP Select: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/select

KDP Select: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200798990

PRICING, ROYALTY AND DISTRIBUTION

You have two royalty options to choose from. Read the KDP documentation on eBook Royalties. (see link) to determine which rate is suitable for your book.

8. Enter your eBook price in the List Price to see the costs and royalty.

- Most self-published novels sell for \$5.99 or less.

Pricing, royalty, and distribution

Select a royalty plan and set your Kindle eBook list prices below

☒ 35%
☐ 70%

i Your book file size after conversion is 7.14 MB.

Marketplace	List Price	Delivery	Rate	Royalty
Amazon.com	\$ 2.99 USD Must be \$1.99-\$200.00 All marketplaces are based on this price	\$0.00 \$1.07	35% 70%	\$1.05 \$1.34
The following list prices were converted based on the previous price you entered				
Amazon.in	₹ 239 INR Must be ₹69-₹10999 Based on Amazon.com	₹202 without IN GST ₹0	35%	₹71
Amazon.co.uk	£ 2.49 GBP	£0.00	35%	£0.87

LINK: KDP eBook Royalties: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200644210

BOOK LENDING

Read the Book Lending information to decide if it is something you want to allow.

Book Lending

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It can take up to 72 hours for your title to be available for purchase on Amazon.

By clicking Publish below, I confirm that I have all rights necessary to make the content I am uploading available for marketing, distribution and sale in each territory I have indicated above, and that I am in compliance with the [KDP Terms and Conditions.](#)

< Back to Content

Save as Draft

Publish Your Kindle eBook

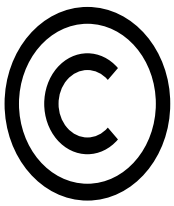
10. PUBLISH YOUR EBOOK!

Congratulations!
Your eBook is Published!

Copyright Your Book

Congratulations!
You're a self-published author.

This is a great accomplishment. Your hard work and imagination have transformed into a picture book you can touch, read and share.



COPYRIGHT YOUR BOOK

Now is an excellent time to copyright your book. Filing a copyright will help protect your intellectual property. Registering a copyright isn't difficult. You create an account on the Library of Congress website. Fill out the form, upload your PDF and pay the filing fee.

Filing a copyright is not required. If you have questions, check out the Library of Congress website or talk to an attorney.

TIP: Registering a copyright is easy. Don't pay someone to do it for you.

LINKS:

Library of Congress Copyright Office: <https://copyright.gov>

Copyright Office FAQ: <https://copyright.gov/help/faq/>

LOC Registration Portal: <https://copyright.gov/registration/>

The Next Steps

MARKETING YOUR BOOK

Marketing your book is the most challenging part of being a self-published author. It is also your biggest expense.

Set a marketing budget for your book. Understand the costs of any marketing campaign before you commit to it. Remember that marketing needs to bring in more money than you spend on it. Make a plan. Monitor your costs. Be realistic. Don't spend more than you can afford.

BOOKSTORES AND LIBRARIES

If you want to get your book into libraries, you should do a few more things to make it easier for librarians to order your book.

- Put your book on IngramSpark
- Get a Library of Congress Control Number (LCCN) by creating an account in the PrePub Book Link. (See links below.) The LCCN is placed on your copyright page.
- Get a cataloging-in-publication (CIP) data block that you put on your copyright page.
 - NOTE: an LCCN and CIP are not required. However, you should get them if you want to present your book to stores and libraries as professionally published.

Once published/distributed on IngramSpark, your book will be available for bookstores and libraries to order. Some local stores might, but some have a policy of not ordering self-published books.

OFFSET PRINTING

If you get a big order (you have the purchase order in hand), look into getting a local printer to print copies on an offset press. The minimum order size is usually 1000 copies.

LINKS:

IngramSpark: www.ingramspark.com

Library of Congress (LOC) PrePub Book Link: <https://www.loc.gov/publish/prepubbooklink/about/index.html>

LOC PCN Program: <https://www.loc.gov/publish/pcn/about/process.html>

LOC PCN Author User Guide: <https://www.loc.gov/publish/prepubbooklink/author-self-publisher-user-guide/>

How to Get Your Book into Public Libraries: <https://www.authorlearningcenter.com/publishing/distribution-sales/w/libraries/7658/how-to-get-your-book-into-public-libraries-and-why-it-matters>

CIP blocks for Independent Publishers: www.cipblock.com

The Business of Self- Publishing

The Best Self-Publishing Advice: Never print more copies than you can give away!



If you jumped to this section first, congratulations!

If not, PAY ATTENTION!

IT'S A BUSINESS

Odds are you would like your book to generate income for you. You put a lot of work into it, and want some reward for your efforts.

You need to treat this like the business that it is.

- Set your budget. Stick to it!
- Know your costs before you start.
 - Production
 - Art, Editing, Design, Layout, Development Costs
 - Marketing / Advertising
 - Shipping / Returns
 - Legal - Copyright, Contracts, Distribution agreements
 - Equipment, Software, Internet
 - Taxes, Business Licenses

USE PRINT-ON-DEMAND

Use POD when you are first starting. Order a few author copies and test market your books. You might only break even on your POD copies.

Trust me, it's better to spend \$50 on test marketing than to have \$5,000 worth of books sitting unsold in your garage.

The time to get your books printed at a local printer is you have the purchase order in hand for a thousand (or more) copies.

FYI: A thousand copies is usually the minimum order for a local offset printer.

The Myths of Self-Publishing

WHAT YOU ARE THINKING	TRANSLATION
• I need to place a big order to keep the price down. • The book will sell itself. • Artists will illustrate my book for a percentage of the profits. • I am going to make a lot of money. • A publishing company will see my book and want to publish it.	• I want to fill my home with books I need to sell. • No! It won't. You are going to have to market and promote your book. • Nope. • You might. But spend money like you are giving your book away for free. • Unlikely. This will only happen if your book is successful. So, why would you want to give them 80% of the profit?

I WANT TO SELF-PUBLISH

There are a lot of reasons that people want to self-publish their books. These include everything from making a legacy book for their children and grandchildren to taking charge of your book's destiny.

The good news is that self-publishing has changed significantly over the past ten years.

The old adage, "never print more books than you can give away", is still true. But eBooks and Print-On-Demand (POD) books have changed the game. Creating your book and making it available online is very affordable, especially if you do everything yourself.

The hardest and most expensive part of self-publishing a successful book isn't creating or publishing the book. **The hardest part is marketing and selling the book.**

I don't want to discourage you from self-publishing, but I want you to go into it with your eyes open.

WHY I WROTE THIS BOOK

Self-publishing a picture book is a big commitment.

As a self-publisher, I'm tired of "full-service" companies that offer to assist self-publishers and charge thousands of dollars for things that people can easily do themselves.

Tip: If you are considering having them produce your book, take a look at what the final cost per copy of those books will be. Adding extra dollars to the cost of the book is money you won't see. Also, make sure you keep all your rights.

There are also companies that will handle the distribution. But they want a percentage of your sales. They don't have any special access to distributors. You can place the book with any distributor.

In the U.S., most of your sales will come from Amazon and IngramSpark. So why give up part of your profits?

As you learned in this book, you can create your own illustrations, and format, and publish your book.

MORE ADVICE

- Be realistic about your time, budget and goals.
- Publish your book for the joy of creating something you put your heart and soul into and can be proud of.
- Don't count on future sales to cover the costs. It's like gambling. Only spend what you can afford to lose.
- You might not make money with your first book. Make sure you have the resources to create additional books.
- Once you self-publish your first book, you will have the skills to create many more.
- There are many factors in a book's success that are out of your control.
- Traditional or self-publishing is not a retirement plan. Don't quit your day job.
- Do not count sales to friends and relatives. When making decisions about how many copies you can sell.

HIRING HELP

If you have bigger plans, you can do the other jobs yourself, or you can find people to help. If you do, **make sure you have a contract in place with them, so there is no question as to who owns the rights to your work.**

RIGHTS

As the creator of your book, you have a lot of different rights that you can license to other people. These include movie rights, foreign rights, toy rights, etc. These are worth the money! Always talk to an attorney before you sign away any rights to your intellectual properties.

Additional Information

Additional Information

The Cheapest Way to Publish	61
Print Book Terms	67
Create Your Own Artwork	72
Create Your Own Book Cover	77
Create the Book Cover	80
Good Luck!	86

The Cheapest Way to Publish

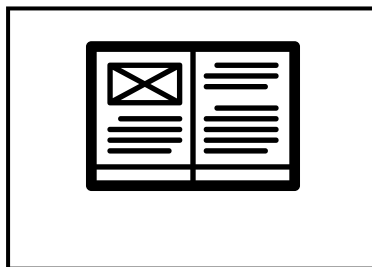
You can publish your book and eBook on Kindle for (almost) free. As stated in multiple sections of this book, **this is NOT the recommended way to publish your book.**

First, Create Your Manuscript

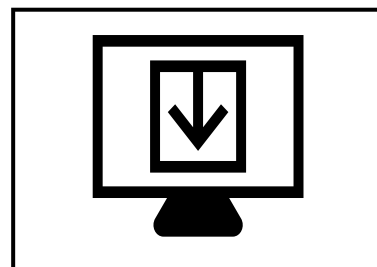
Write Your Story



Format Your Doc File

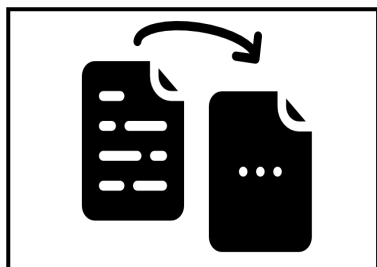


Install Kindle Create

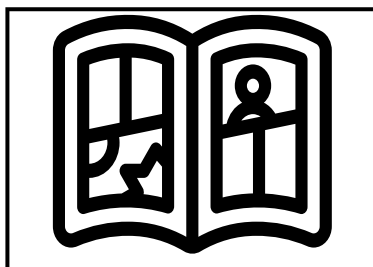


Next, Format Your Book

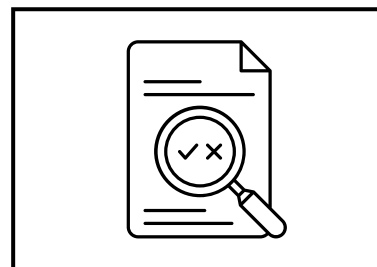
Import your DOC with Kindle Create



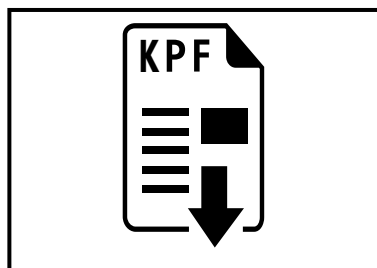
Convert to Kindle Format



Review Your book



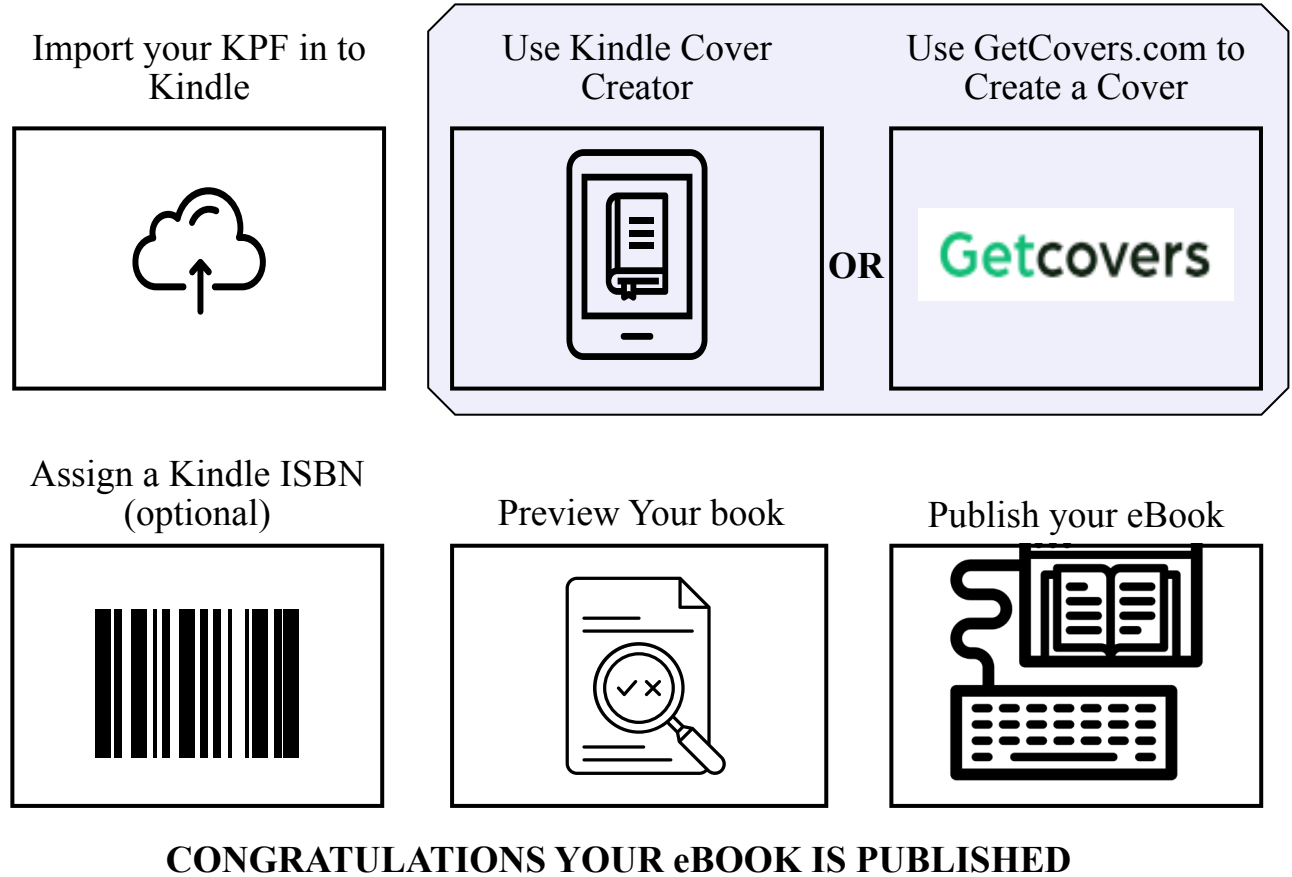
Export Your Kindle KDF



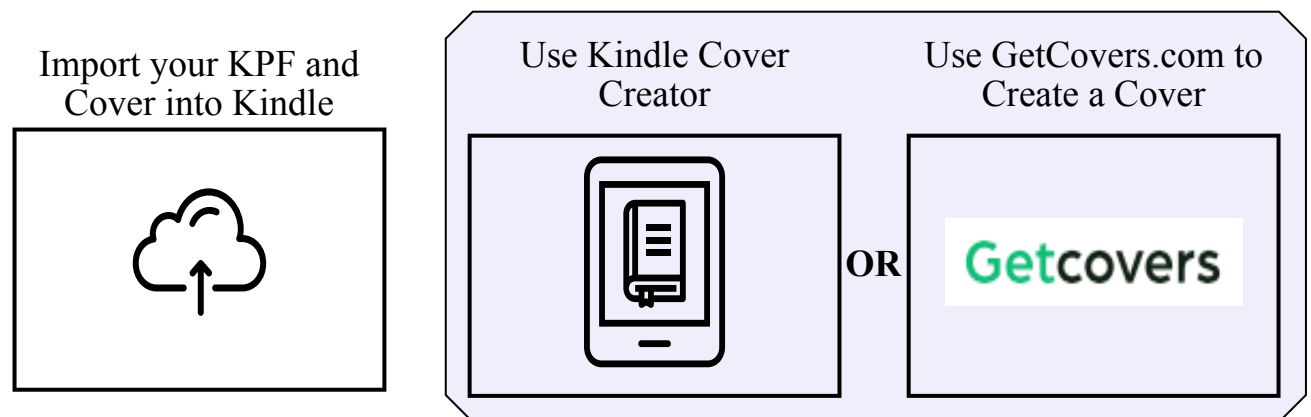
NOTE: You will be importing the .KPF file that is created when you Generate your manuscript in Kindle Create.

The same .KPF file will be uploaded for the eBook and Print Book. You will NOT be uploading an ePub and PDF file.

Next, Publish Your eBook

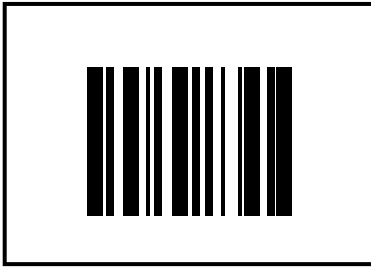


Next, Publish Your Print Book



LINK: GetCovers: <https://getcovers.com>

Assign a Kindle ISBN



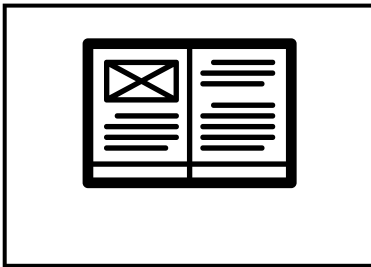
Preview Your book



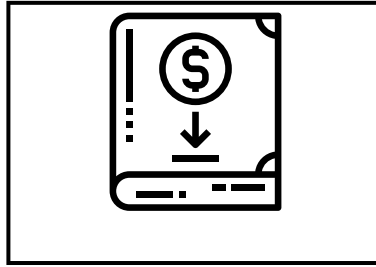
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Fix any Problems

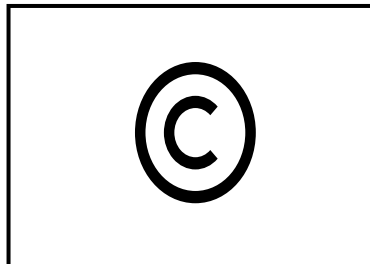


Publish Your Print Book



CONGRATULATIONS YOUR PRINT BOOK IS PUBLISHED

Copyright Your Book





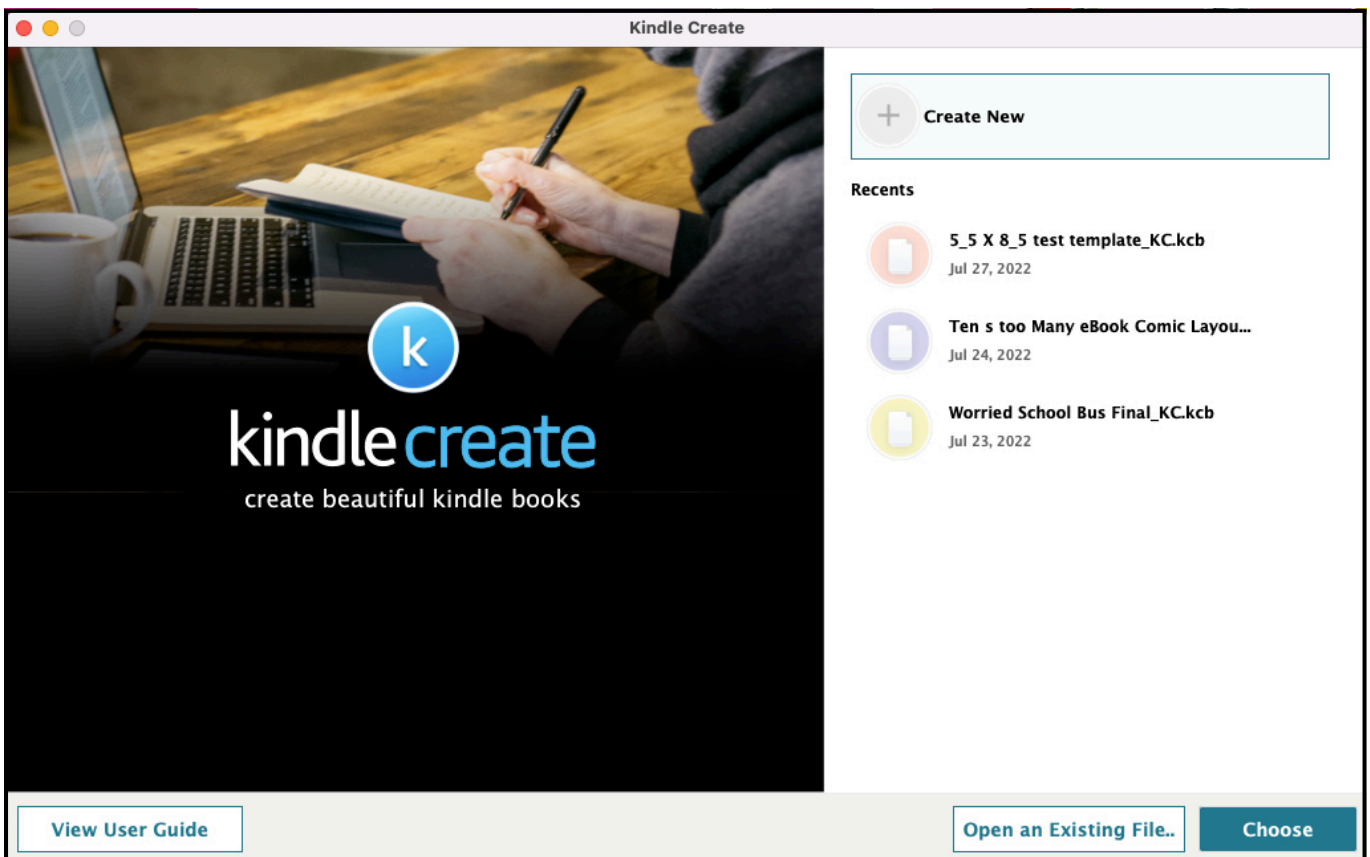
1. Download and Install Kindle Create.



LINK: Kindle Create: <https://www.amazon.com/Kindle-Create/b?ie=UTF8&node=18292298011>

2. Open Kindle Create.

3. Click Create New.



LINK: Prepare Comic eBooks with Kindle Create :
https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/GJMRD9F78MS9F43R

INEXPENSIVE COVER OPTIONS

BUY A COVER FROM GETCOVERS.COM

Getcovers.com is an affordable cover creation service. For under \$40, you can get a custom-made book cover.

USE KINDLE COVER CREATOR

KDP provides a Cover Creator Application to help you create your book cover.

However, per the KDP Cover Creator webpage:

***“Can I download Cover Creator and the cover I design in the tool?
Cover Creator and covers made using stock images available in the
Cover Creator tool cannot be downloaded for use outside the KDP
website.”***

Kindle Cover Creator is found on the Paperback Content page. Next to where you upload your manuscript.

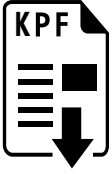
Cover Creator can make a basic book cover from a limited selection of templates.

MAKE YOUR OWN COVER

Follow the instructions in the Create Your Own Book Cover section. You can use your own artwork, or photographs for the cover illustrations.



8. EXPORT YOUR EBOOK

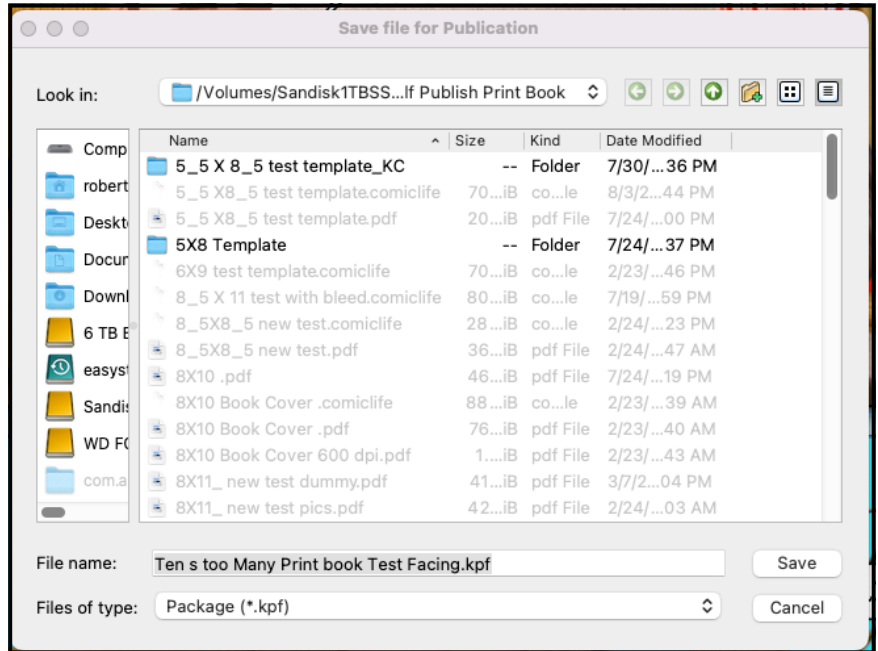


You're going to export your project to a publishable (KPF) file.

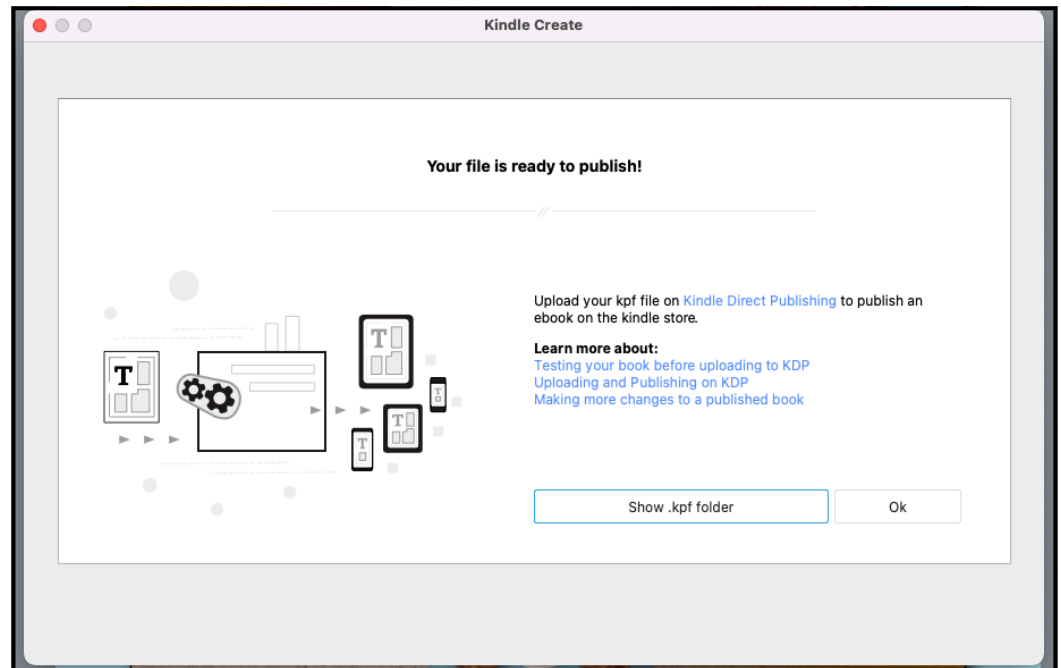
1. Click the Generate icon.



2. Save the KPF package file.



3. Your file is ready to publish!



Print Book Terms

Print Book Terms

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

Let's go over how a book is printed and some printing terms. There won't be a test on any of this information. It's just to introduce you to some concepts we'll be covering. So don't worry if you don't understand it all right now.

ISBN NUMBER

The ISBN is a unique identifier for a book that specifies its format, edition, and publisher. Most people know it as the barcode on a book. In the U.S., they are purchased from Bowker's identifier services.

LANDSCAPE VS PORTRAIT

Most books are printed in portrait orientation. Portrait orientation is where the height of the image is larger than or equal to the width. Landscape orientation works better for most picture ebooks.



LANDSCAPE ORIENTATION



PORTRAIT ORIENTATION

PIXEL

- eBook resolution is measured in pixels.
- A pixel is the smallest unit in a digital image. A JPG or other 2D image is made up of millions of pixels. Pixel is short for Picture Element.

DPI

- Print resolution is measured in DPI. *DPI stands for Dots per Inch.* Every inch of a printed page is made up of (the DPI) a number of dots.

RESOLUTION

- Resolution is the number of pixels that make up the width of an image times the number of pixels that make up the height of an image.

ASPECT RATIO

- *Aspect ratio is the ratio between the width and height of the image.*
- It is expressed as the Width and Height separated by a colon. W : H
- For example: If the aspect ratio is 8:5. For every 8 pixels across, you will have 5 down.

WHY ASPECT RATIO MATTERS:

The aspect ratios of print and ebooks are different. It means full page art from eBooks won't fit on the Print book page (and vis-a-versa). We'll cover this in detail in the next section.



KINDLE FIRE HD 10 LANDSCAPE
ASPECT RATIO 5:8



ARTWORK CROPPED TO:
8.5 x 8.5 PRINT PORTRAIT
ASPECT RATIO 1:1



PICTURE ASPECT RATION MATCHES
THE EBOOK PAGE



PICTURE ASPECT RATION DOES NOT
MATCH THE EBOOK PAGE

HOW A BOOK IS PRINTED

Let's briefly discuss how your book will be printed.

So that illustrations can fill the page, the book's pages are printed on paper larger than the final book size.

The image fills the entire piece of paper. Because of this, the image "bleeds" over the edge of the paper. Then the paper is cut (trimmed) to the size of the book.

The *page bleed* allows for some paper alignment errors during the printing process. It ensures there won't be any unprinted space on the page, which would show up as white lines on the edge of your book.

Finally, there is a safe zone in the center of the page, where you put the important parts of the image.



TRIM SIZE, BLEED AND THE SAFE ZONE

Bleed Line - The "extra" part of the image that extends past the trim line. This area is cut off before the book is bound. This ensures that the image covers the entire page.

Trim Line - The line where the paper is cut after the page is printed. The final size of the book.

Safe Zone - The area where text and important parts of the image will be "safely" printed.



Correct: The picture and text are inside the safe zone.



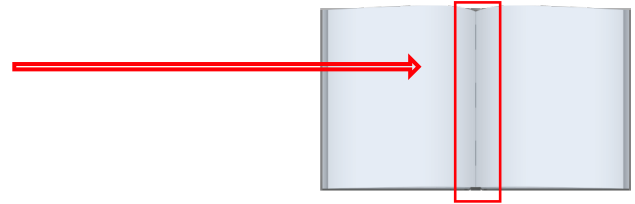
Wrong: The picture and text will get cut off when the book is printed and trimmed.

FACING PAGES

The left and right pages of an open book. The pages “face” each other.

GUTTER

The inside margin between the facing pages.



TRIM SIZE

The height and width of your printed book.

Images created for print books are MUCH larger than those for ebooks. If the image isn't large enough, it will be blurry and pixelated when printed.

Converting DPI TO Pixels and Vis-a-Versa

Since Dots = Pixels, this is an easy conversion.

For example, 8X10 is a nice size for a children's book. You will need an image that covers the entire page plus the Bleed Area.

The width in pixels would be $(8 + .125) * 300 \text{ (DPI)} = 2438$

The height in pixels would be $(10 + .250) * 300 \text{ (DPI)} = 3075$

Print books need at least 300 DPI. 400 DPI is better, but (usually) no bigger than 450 DPI.

Information about the DPI, Bleed Size, Trim Size, and Safe Zone will be found on the website of the book publisher you decide to use.

THE TAKEAWAY ABOUT CREATING IMAGES FOR PRINT

- The aspect ratio and image resolution (DPI) of a print book are different than eBooks.
- Books are measured in inches, not pixels.
 - To convert pixels to inches: times the Dots per inch * dimension.
- The image size for any images that will fill your pages needs to be the size of the Bleed.

LINKS:

KDP: Set Trim Size, Bleed, and Margins - https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/GVBQ3CMEQW3W2VL6

OR search Google for “KDP Trim Size”

***Create Your
Own Artwork
Without learning
how to draw!***

CREATE YOUR OWN ILLUSTRATIONS WITHOUT LEARNING HOW TO DRAW

It's true! You don't have to learn to draw to illustrate your children's book. Daz Studio is a free 3D program that uses your computer to draw illustrations for you.

Daz Studio uses the same character technology as computer-animated movies.



With Daz Studio, you use 3D characters and sets to quickly create a 3D scene. Then the 3D scene is converted into a 2D image, ready to be used in your books.

You don't create the characters and settings. Talented artists have already created them.



Daz Studio is not a drawing or painting program. You pose and direct the characters; you don't draw them.

Best of all, Daz Studio software is free. The costs involved are in purchasing the 3D characters and sets. These are reasonably priced and can be reused throughout your books.

Using Daz Studio can save you thousands of dollars.

I wrote “No Drawing Required” to help you learn Daz Studio. . It is written specifically for children’s book authors and is filled with tips and techniques to save you time and money.

Daz Studio isn’t complicated, but there are some concepts and processes you’ll need to learn. We’ll take baby steps through these with easy-to-follow walkthroughs.

You might even make money creating illustrations for other authors.

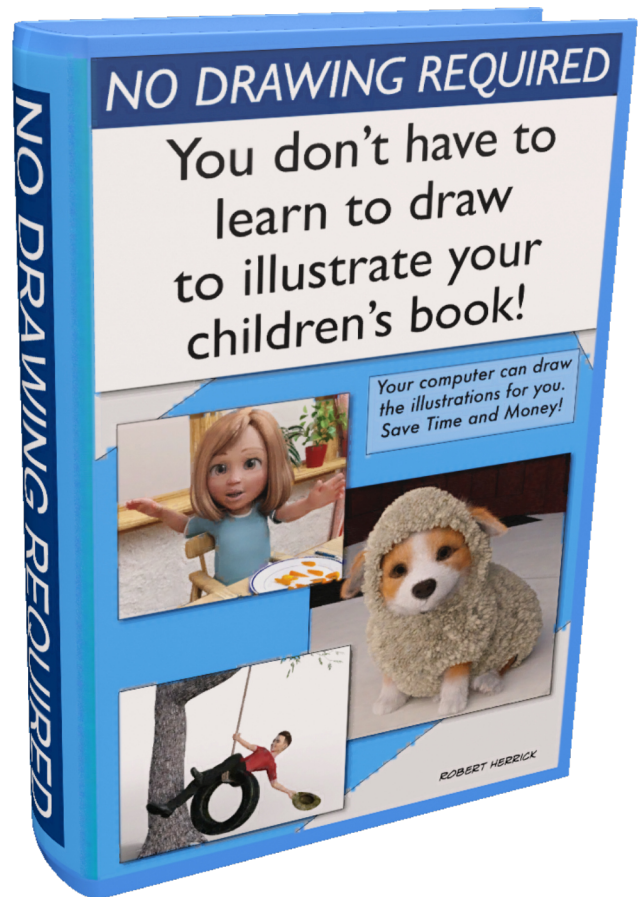
Every day you wait is another day that your book could be making you money.

YOU DON’T HAVE ANYTHING TO LOSE.

Before you hire an illustrator, watch the *Ten easy steps to create artwork for your children’s book* video at NoDrawingRequired.com



Since Daz Studio software is free and you’ve already read this far, check out Daz Studio and No Drawing Required. If you don’t get the desired results, then you can hire an illustrator.



ADVANTAGES OF CREATING YOUR ARTWORK WITH DAZ STUDIO

- Fast - Produce a finished illustration in hours
- NO art skill is required to create professional artwork.
- Daz Studio is free.
- Control your costs.
 - Estimate your art costs before you spend any money.
- Reuse 3D models in other books.
 - Once you pay for a 3D model, you can use it in as many illustrations as you want.
- Fun. Watch as your illustrations appear at the push of a button.
- Easy to learn.
 - With *No Drawing Required*, learning to illustrate your children's books won't take long.
 - Confident building, Baby steps approach.
- You're in charge.
 - You understand your book better than anyone else. You aren't at the mercy of someone else to create the illustrations.



LINKS:

Hire An Illustrator

SCBWI Illustrator Gallery - <https://www.scbwi.org/illustrator-gallery/>

UpWork: <https://www.upwork.com/hire/illustrators/landing/>

Hireillo : <https://www.hireanillustrator.com/>

Do It Yourself (and save \$\$\$)

No Drawing Required: NoDrawingRequired.com

IF YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL ARTIST

Check out *No Drawing Required*. Daz Studio can create reference material for your artwork without hiring models. You can pose and light the virtual characters. Easily solves perspective problems. Daz Studio also simulates wind and fabric folds. Save time and effort by previsualizing your characters.

PREVISUALIZE YOUR CHARACTERS TO CREATE ART REFERENCES.

Here are examples of the same figure in two different poses. The hair and dress had a soft materials simulation run on them. Simulating how the hair and cloth would lay in the scene.

Different lighting effects have been applied to some of the models.



Create Your Own Book Cover

Create Your Own Book Cover



PUBLISHING SOFTWARE

To create a book cover, you'll need software to layout your pages with pictures and text. You will then export your layout to a PDF file.

My recommendation is Comic Life from Plasq. It is inexpensive, easy to use, and very powerful. I use it to publish my children's books.

There is a free 30-day trial.



FYI:

There are lots of software programs that create PDF files. Microsoft Word and other word processing programs can export in PDF. But, I don't recommend that you use word processing programs. Formatting and layout are much easier with a desktop publishing program.

Common Desktop publishing software includes Microsoft Publisher, Adobe InDesign, Affinity Publisher, QuarkXPress. These are all great publishing programs, but they can be complicated to learn.

If you already have a desktop publishing program that you like, you should use it.

TIP:

If you have good computer skills and want a robust program at a budget price, I recommend Affinity Publisher from Serif Software.

Photo-editing software can also come in handy. Affinity Photo is a good, inexpensive choice. affinity.serif.com

LINKS:

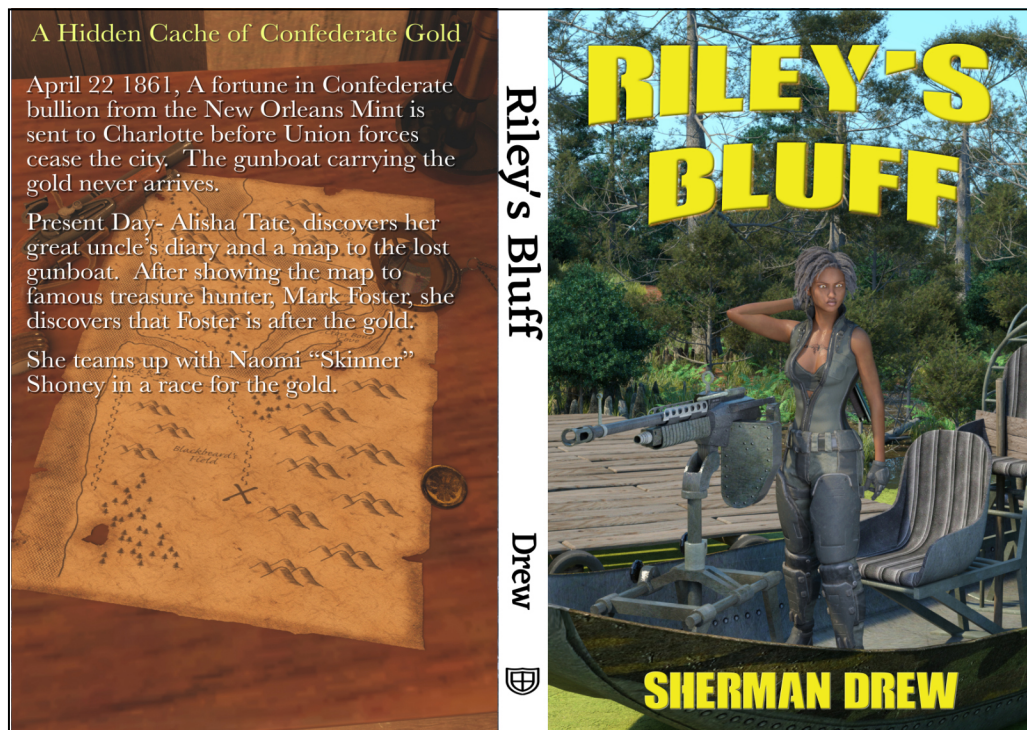
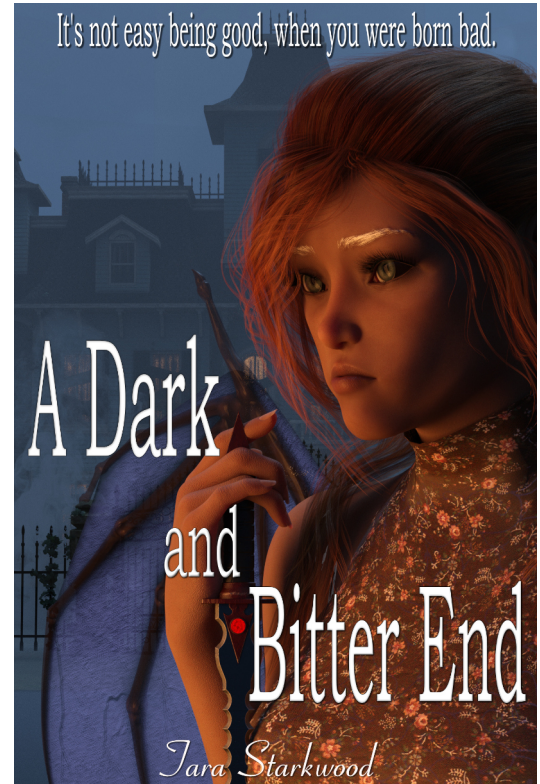
ComicLife from Plasq.com

Affinity Publisher from Serif Software. affinity.serif.com

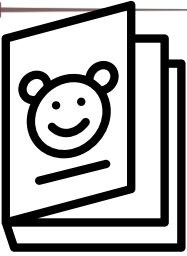
COVER ARTWORK

One option is to use Daz3D studio to create your artwork. The advantage of using Daz3D studio is that you have complete control over how your art looks. You can use the 3D models to quickly create additional illustrations and cover designs.

Or you can hire an illustrator to create your cover graphics.



Create the Book Cover



Creating a book cover isn't difficult. You'll use the template that Kindle provides for you. Then you'll place your text and graphics over the template and export it as a PDF.

1. Go to Kindle's Cover Calculator

<https://kdp.amazon.com/cover-calculator>

2. Enter your Book Information

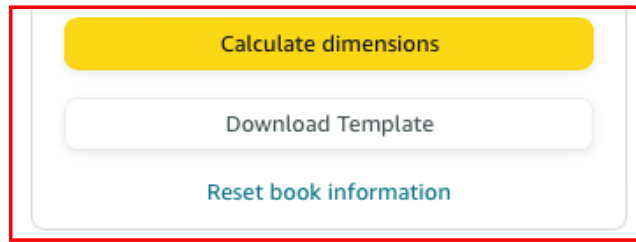
Enter Your Book Information
Binding type
Paperback
Interior type
Black & white
Paper type
White paper
Page-turn direction
Left to Right
Measurement units
Inches
Interior trim size
5 x 8 in
Page count
Number of pages at your formatted trim size.
[Learn more about trim size and page count](#)
230
Calculate dimensions
Download Template
[Reset book information](#)

3. Press Calculate Dimensions

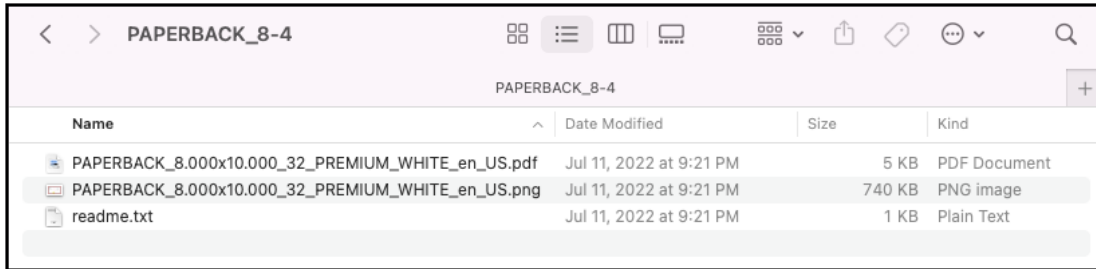
#	Description	Width (in)	Height (in)	#	Description	Width (in)	Height (in)
1	Full Cover	10.768	8.25	6	Spine	0.518	8
2	Front Cover	5	8	7	Spine Safe Area	0.393	7.75
3	Safe Area	4.875	7.75	8	Spine Margin	0.062	0.062
4	Bleed	0.125	0.125	9	Barcode Margin	0.25	0.25
5	Margin	0.125	0.125				

The “Full Cover” Width and Height are going to be the size of your Comic Life project.

4. Press Download Template



5. Open the downloaded zip file.



6. Extract the .png file to a directory that has your graphic files for the book.

IMPORTANT TIP: Extract (Move) the .Png file from the zip file.
DON'T paste the .PNG into the Comic Life file without removing it from the zip.
 If you don't, when you close your zip file. Your Comic Life program might not be able to find the png. You will get a graphic of a picture and question mark to show that the image is missing.



7. Open Comic Life.

8. Select Blank (with Styles)

9. Go to Page Setup

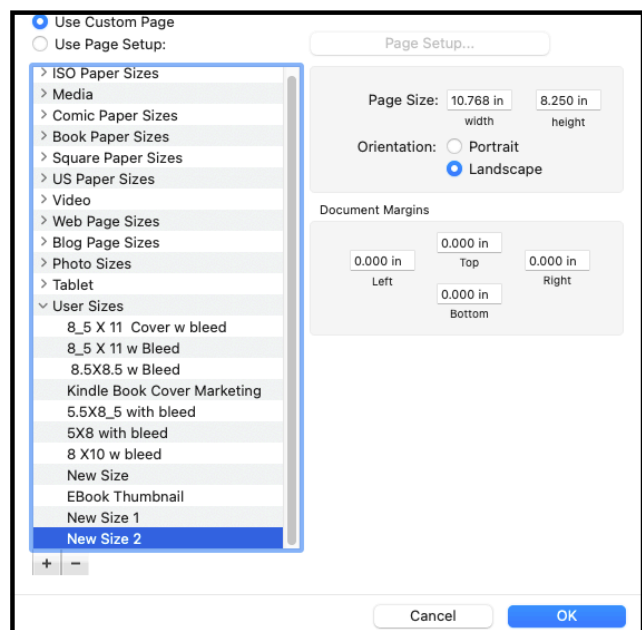
10. Press the + to start a New Size

11. Set the Orientation to Landscape

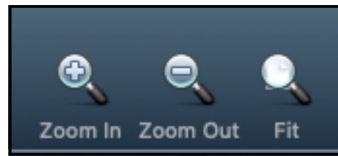
12. Enter the Width and Height in Page Size from the Kindle Dimension (from Step 3)

13. Set all the margins to 0

14. Press OK

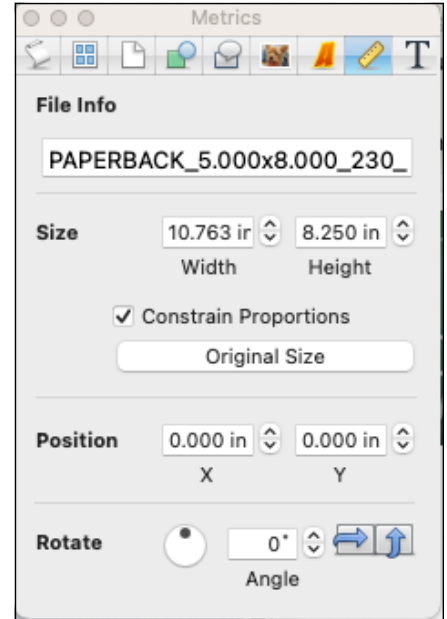


14. Click Fit, so you can see the entire page.

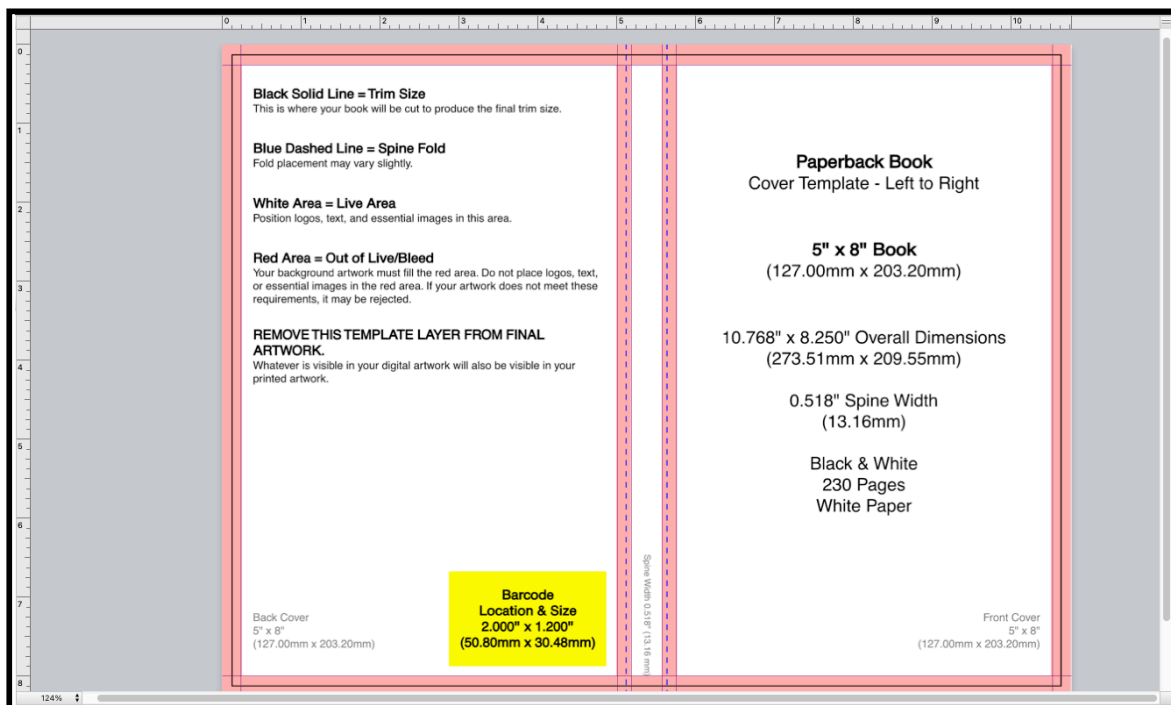


PLACING THE COVER TEMPLATE ON THE PAGE

1. Drop the PNG file you extracted in Step 6 onto the page.
2. Open the Inspector and click on the Ruler (Metrics).
3. Click on the PNG image. Then Click the Original Size button in the inspector.
4. Set the X and Y Position to 0.



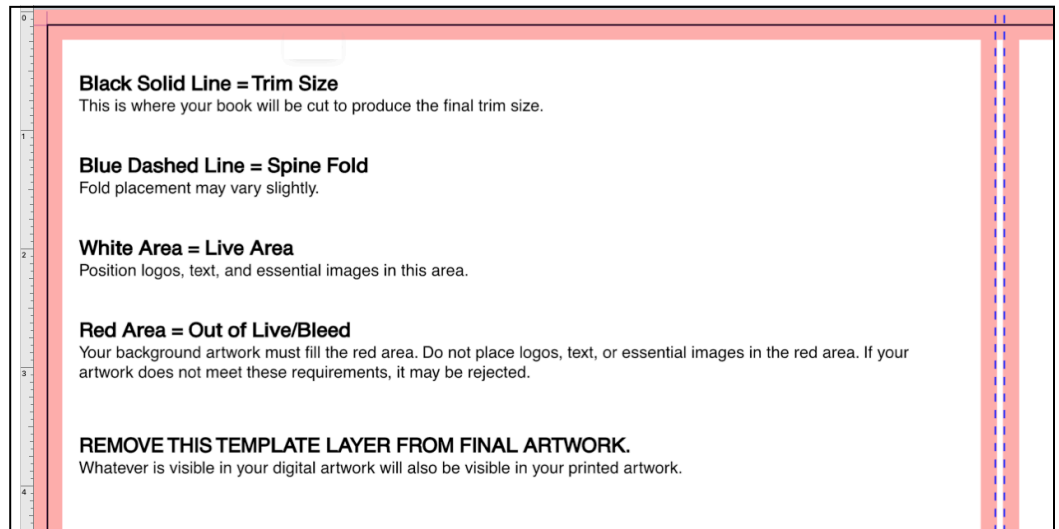
Now you have the template positioned correctly on the page.



Next, you need to set the alignment bars to the margins. Except, this time, you are going to use the margins on the template.

5. Click and Drag the Alignment Guide from the ruler to the Black Solid Line (Trim Size) on the Template. Repeat this until all four sides are finished.

6. Click and Drag the Alignment Guide to the Blue Dashed Line (Spine Fold). Repeat to cover the second line.



7. Lock the Alignment Guides. Main Menu → View → Lock Alignment Guides

Instead of deleting the Template, you can move it to the Master page.

8. Click on the Template.

9. Main Menu → Arrange → Move Element To Master Page.

TO HIDE THE TEMPLATE

10. Open the inspector. Choose the Page tab.

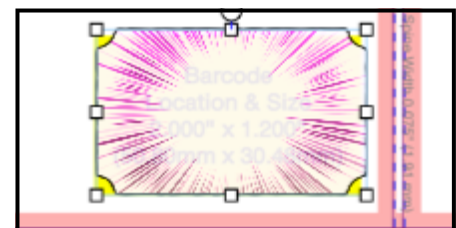
11. Uncheck the Draw Master Page Elements box.



UPC CODE AREA

12. So you don't place anything over the UPC Code Area. Drop a panel over the UPC Code Area and lock it into place.

13. When you have finished your cover design, hide it (Opacity = 0) or delete it.



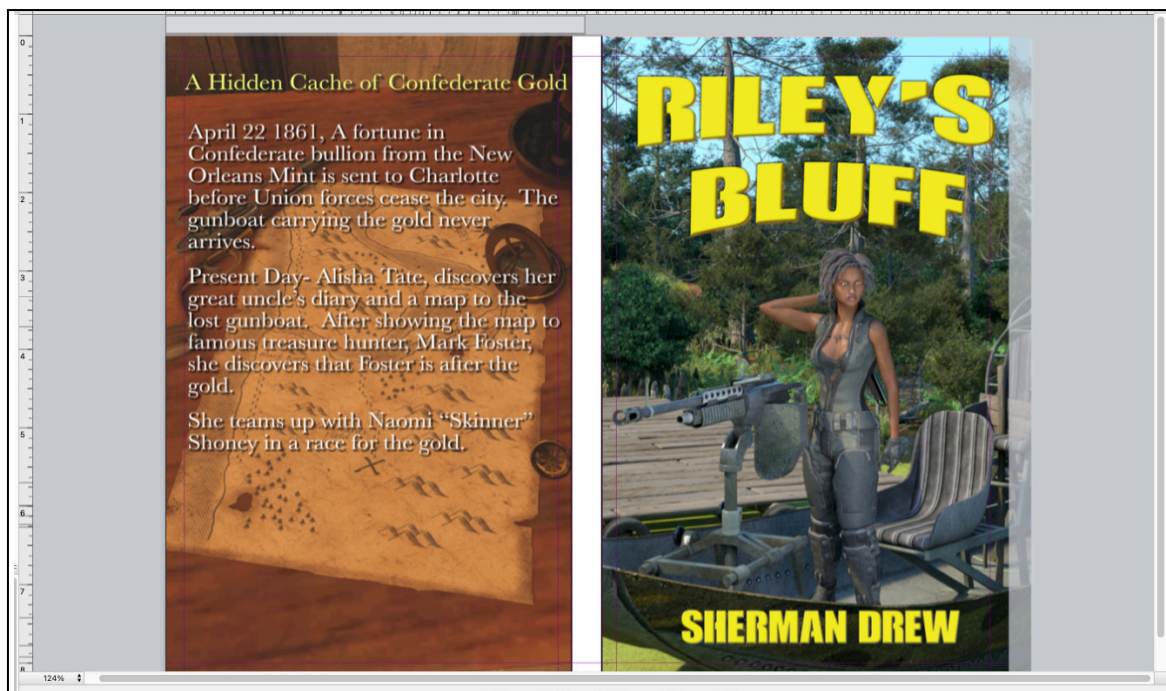
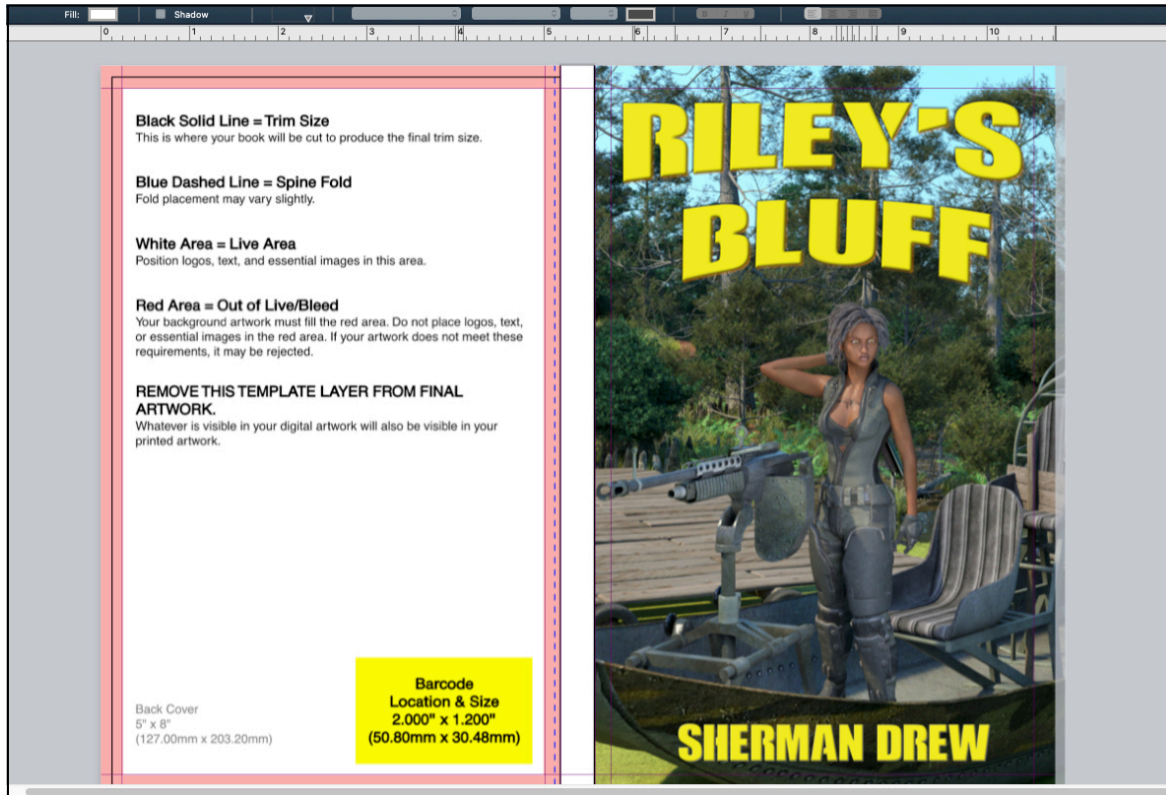
Note: you can place a color or design in the UPC Code Area. The UPC code will be placed on top of it when the book is printed. So plan accordingly.

ADD COVER ART AND TEXT

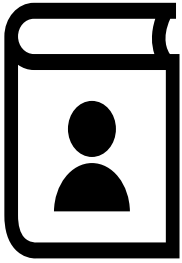
14. Now import your cover graphics onto the page.

15. Place your title and other text on the page.

Tip: Place your graphics in Panels. Use a panel for the spine text too.



CREATE THE THUMBNAIL COVER



You need to create one more book cover. The thumbnail cover of your front cover. This will be used when Amazon, Books in Print, and other online services offer your book. The image you are creating is much larger than a thumbnail, but that is how it is usually displayed.

The aspect ratio of the image is the same, so you will just need a .JPG image of your front cover.

Bowkers and Kindle eBooks will want this image when you set up your book.

Here are the recommended dimensions and format for the cover.

Format: JPEG (.jpeg/.jpg) format

Dimensions: Ideal dimensions for cover files are 2,560 pixels in height x 1,600 pixels in width.

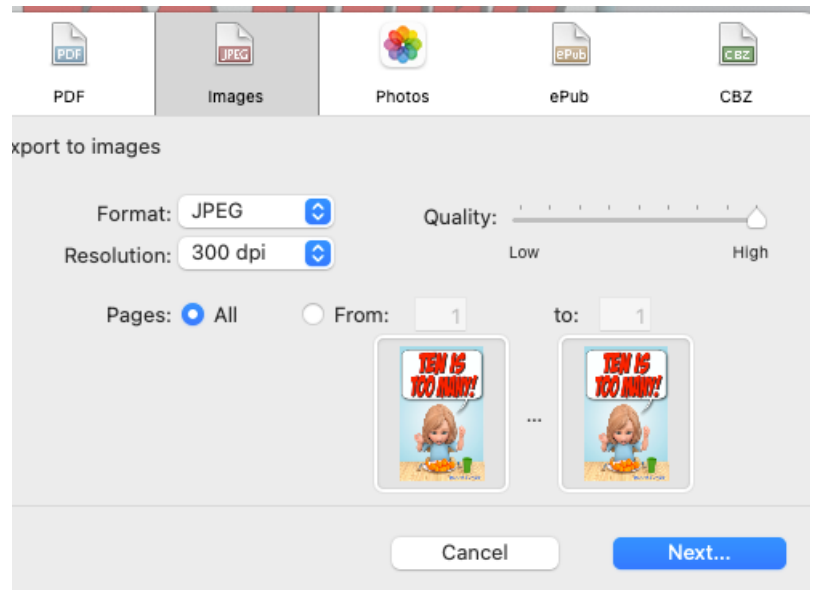
We're going to do a quick calculation and turn that from pixels to inches.

1600/300 (DPI) = 5.34 inches Wide

2560/300 (DPI) = 8.54 inches High

YOU CAN FOLLOW THESE STEPS **OR** EXPORT YOUR COVER AS A JPG AND CROP IT TO SIZE WITH A PHOTO EDITING TOOL.

1. Create a New Project
2. Open the Page Setup
 - Main Menu → File → Page Setup
3. Click + to Create a New Page Size
4. Select Portrait
5. Enter 5.34 W X 8.54 H.
6. Set the Margins to 0
7. Click OK
8. Export the file as a 300 DPI, High Quality, JPG image.



DON'T EXPORT THE THUMBNAIL COVER AS A PDF.

Save it to a place where you can find it. You'll need it on the Bowker's site and the Kindle eBook site.

LINKS:

EbookCover Dimensions: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200645690

Good Luck!

I wish you the best of luck in your self-publishing journey.

Please tell others about this book and how they can get it for free at NoDrawingRequired.com.

I hope this book has helped you save money and get your picture book published.

If you have any questions or you've found this book to be helpful, please email me at Robert@NoDrawingRequired.com

If you have any complaints, send them to me too. I want this to be a go-to resource for self-published book authors, and I can't do that without your help.

I look forward to hearing from you!

Regards,

Robert Herrick
Nov 2022

“It’s not about money or connections. It’s the willingness to outwork and outlearn everyone when it comes to your business. And if it fails, you learn from what happened and do a better job next time.”

— Mark Cuban