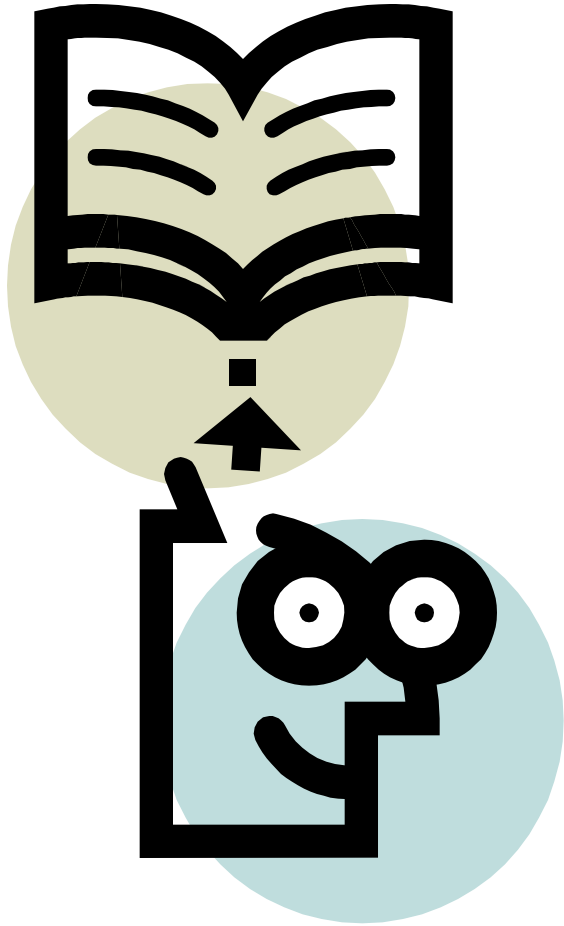




Self-Publishing 101: How to Get Your Book on Amazon



Class 3

Preparing a paperback cover

Preparing interior pages for print

Publishing a Print-on-Demand paperback
on Amazon using KDP

Quick review of the self-publishing process

Paperback cover

Use cover graphics from e-book
edition

Spine

Back cover

- Blurb
- Author bio and photo
- SKU and ISBN

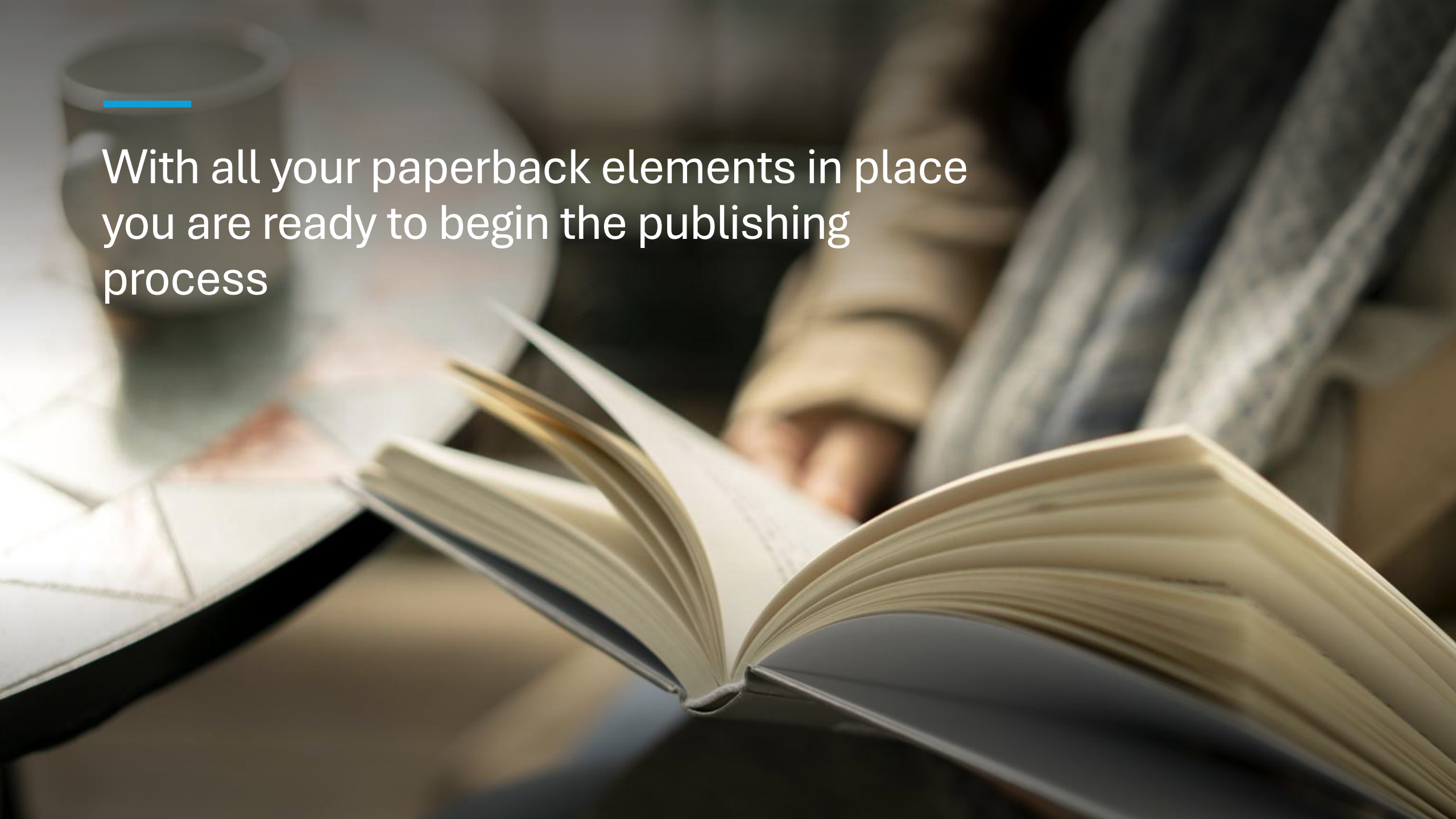
Create Interior Pages File

- **Create a PDF file**
- “For the best results, we recommend that you convert your manuscript file to a PDF before uploading it to KDP.”
- If you are comfortable with Adobe Acrobat (which makes .pdf files) do it yourself
- If you are not, hire it done.
- Your paperback interior pages file should follow accepted standards
 - Title page
 - Copyright and ISBN page on back of title page
 - Chapters start on right-facing pages
 - Book title on left pages, author name on right pages



Back-up Your
.pdf Interior
Pages file!

A grayscale image of a book's pages fanned out, creating a series of overlapping, curved lines that sweep from the bottom center towards the right side of the frame. The pages are thin and closely packed, with the edges creating a rhythmic, wave-like pattern. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper.

A close-up, shallow depth-of-field photograph of a person's hands holding an open book. The person is wearing a light-colored, textured sweater. The book's pages are cream-colored and slightly aged. In the background, a dark-colored cup sits on a light-colored surface. The overall mood is calm and focused.

With all your paperback elements in place
you are ready to begin the publishing
process

Go To KDP.com

The screenshot shows the Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) website. The browser's address bar displays `kdp.amazon.com/en_US/create`. The page header includes the KDP logo and navigation links: Bookshelf, Reports, Community, and Marketing. Below the header, a breadcrumb trail shows `Bookshelf > Create New`. The main heading is **What would you like to create?**, followed by the instruction: "Pick an option and we'll get you started. You can save your progress as you go." and a link to [Learn about the publishing process](#). Three options are presented in light blue boxes:

- 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](#)
- Hardcover**: Bind your [book in hardcover](#) and ship around the world. [Create hardcover](#)

The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the system clock as 11:56 AM on 2/2/2026, with a weather forecast of 72°F Sunny.

Fill in Book Details

Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing: x [KDP] Edit Title Details x +

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/GRNRE3BFQP9/details?ref_=kdp_BS_D_ta_de_main

Ask Google ☆

YouTube Maps News Dashboard | Kindle Di... Amazon.com. Spend I... Gmail (4,870 unread) - jhabe... Bluesky (@bsky.app)... Home - Quail Creek H... (20+) Facebook OnPoint Community...

Paperback Details

✓ Complete

Paperback Content

i In Progress...

Paperback Rights & Pricing

i Not Started...

Language

Choose the primary language your book is written in. [Supported languages](#)

English

Book Title

Enter your title as it appears on the book cover. If you add a subtitle, a colon will be inserted between the title and subtitle. Before continuing, check your spelling since this field cannot be updated after publication. [Book title guidelines](#)

Book Title

Lei, Lady, Lei

Subtitle (Optional)

A Pali Moon Short Story

Series (optional)

If your book is part of a series (or will eventually be), you can add it now. Alternatively, you can add it later using the options on the Bookshelf. [Learn how to start a series](#)

If you create a series, it'll build a product detail page on Amazon, showcasing all books in the series. Linked formats of your books will be automatically added to the series.

Add to series

78°F Sunny 3:15 PM 2/4/2026

Copy and Proofread Your Book Blurb

The screenshot shows the Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) 'Edit Title Details' page. The browser address bar shows the URL: `kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/GRNRE3BFQP9/details?ref_=kdp_BS_D_ta_de_main`. The page is divided into three main sections: Author, Contributors, and Description.

Author

Enter the primary author or contributor. Pen names are allowed. Note: before continuing, check your spelling since this field cannot be updated after publication. [Author guidelines](#)

Primary Author or Contributor

Prefix: JoAnn Middle name: Bassett Suffix:

Contributors

Add up to 9 contributors. They'll display on Amazon using the order you enter below.

Contributors (Optional)

Author: Prefix: First name: Middle nar: Last name: Suffix: Remove:

Description

Summarize your book. This will be your product description on Amazon, so customers can learn more about your book. [How do I format the description?](#)

Formatting toolbar: **B** *I* U | | Format | Source

Maui wedding planner Pali Moon is putting on what she calls a "happy meal" wedding--simple ceremony, two witnesses, and a couple of Costco lei. These little nuptials don't bring in much money, but they also don't take much of her time, so it's a win-win. A late night call, a missing bride, and a groom who's no longer answering his cell phone. Sheesh. She should just chalk it up to cold feet, right? Then they find a body.

Categories and Keywords

Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing: x Format Your Paperback x Update your book details x [KDP] Edit eBook Details | Amazon x +

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/kindle/A28DLQAQ94214R/details?ref=kdp_BS_D_ta_ed_main

Categories

Categories update
You can now choose three categories that match Amazon store categories. If you make changes, all your existing categories will be removed and this action cannot be undone. Your new categories will not go into effect until you submit and publish your book.

Your title's current categories
Fiction › Mystery & Detective › Cozy
Nonfiction › Travel › United States › West › Pacific

Choose up to three categories that describe your book. Note: You must select your primary marketplace and audience first.
[What are categories?](#) v

Choose categories

Keywords

Choose up to 7 keywords highlighting your book's unique traits. Keywords are typically short phrases, up to 50 characters, that customers use to narrow their book search on Amazon. Example: medieval fantasy books. [How do I choose keywords?](#) v

Your Keywords (Optional)

Hawaii Wedding

Maui Cozy mystery

Pali Moon

74°F Sunny 12:25 PM 2/2/2026

Determine Your Publication Date

The screenshot shows the Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing (KDP) 'Edit Title Details' page. The browser address bar shows the URL: `kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/GRNRE3BFQP9/details?ref_=kdp_BS_D_ta_de_main`. The page is divided into two main sections: 'Publication Date' and 'Release Date'.

Publication Date

The publication date tells readers when the book was originally published. If your book has not been published before, select the first option.

☒ Publication date and release date are the same

☐ My book was previously published

Not eligible

Scheduled release titles cannot be previously published.

Release Date

Choose when to make your book available on Amazon. [Learn more about release date options](#)

☐ Release my book for sale now

☒ Schedule my book's release

Set a date when your book becomes visible and purchasable on Amazon. This is not for pre-orders. If you're creating a pre-order using services outside of KDP, do not use this option. [How does scheduling a release work?](#)

05/01/2026 12:00 AM GMT [What time is this in my time zone?](#)

[Clear Date](#)

You can edit your title prior to release until April 25, 2026 11:59 PM GMT.

Your ISBN

Lei, Lady, Lei

Paperback Details Complete

Paperback Content In Progress...

Paperback Rights & Pricing Not Started...

ISBN

You can have KDP assign an ISBN for your book or you can add one you've already purchased. An ISBN is a unique ID retailers, libraries, and distributors use to search and identify your book. Each book and format (e.g. eBook vs paperback) have their own ISBN. [Compare ISBN options](#)

☐ Get a free KDP ISBN

☒ Add your own ISBN

Your ISBN and imprint must exactly match what you've registered outside of KDP. To avoid errors, check the spelling and for empty spaces where they shouldn't be. Do not list the company you purchased the ISBN from as the publisher (e.g. Bowker).

ISBN

Publisher (e.g. imprint)

100 remaining characters

Print Options

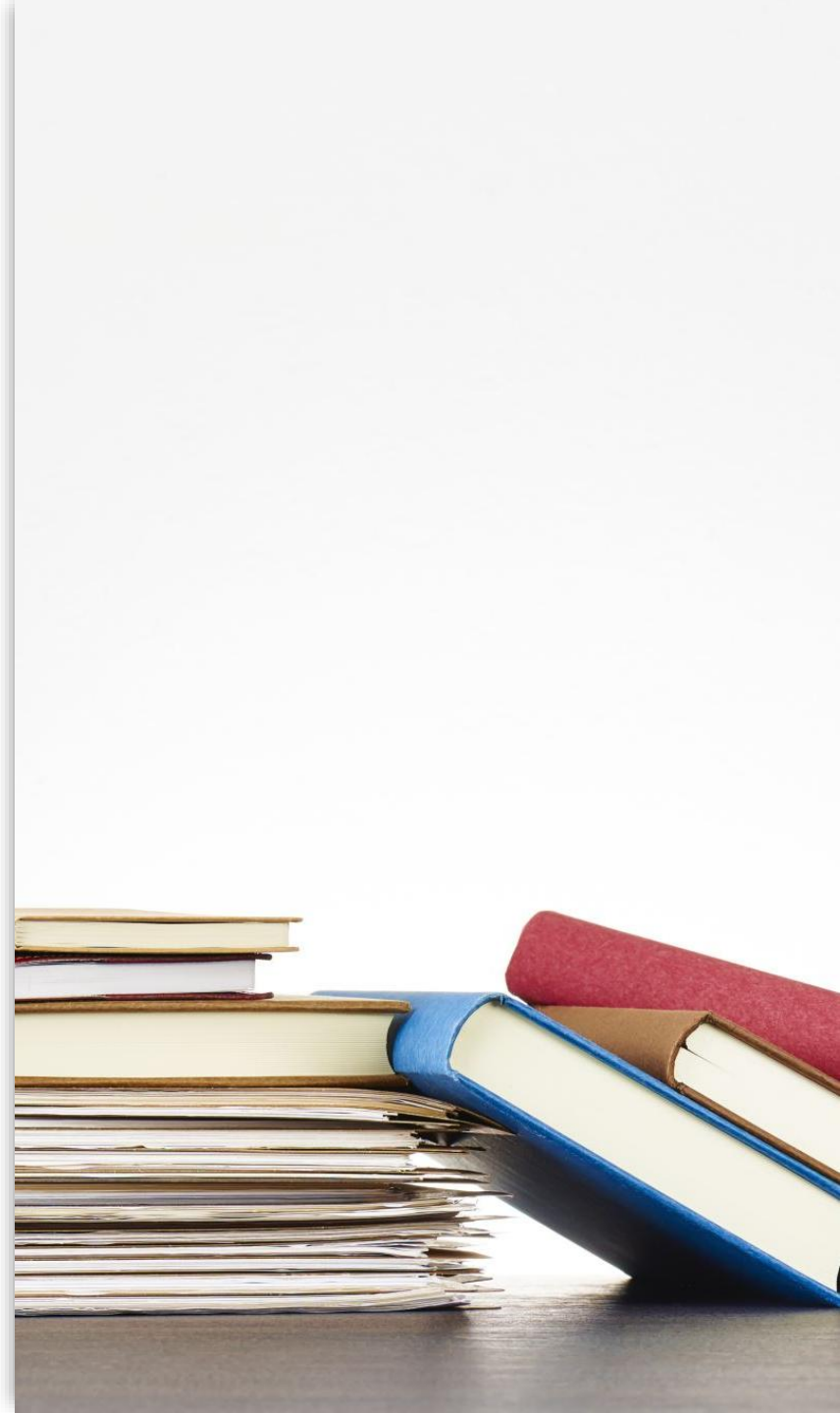
Choose how you'd like to print your book. We've pre-selected the most common settings to get you started. [How will printing cost be calculated?](#)

Ink and Paper Type

[Pick which ink and paper type you'd like to print your manuscript with.](#)

Book Identification Number

ISBN stands for **International Standard Book Number**, a unique identifier for books and book-like publications that helps retailers, libraries, and distributors identify specific editions for ordering, tracking, and sales. An ISBN, which is 13 digits long.





Purchase ISBN or Use Free ISBN?

- This is a personal choice
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 - Some people purchase ISBN numbers to give them more flexibility in marketing and distribution
 - You need a separate ISBN for each edition (e-book, paperback, hardcover)
 - What does a personal ISBN cost?
 - Bowker, the premiere seller of ISBNs in the U.S. charges \$125 for one and \$295 for 10 numbers purchased at the same time
-

Print Options

[KDP] Edit Title Content x +

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/GRNRE3BFQP9/content

Ask Google ☆ 🔍 🧑

YouTube Maps News Dashboard | Kindle Di... Amazon.com. Spend I... Gmail (4,870 unread) - jhabe... Bluesky (@bsky.app)... Home - Quail Creek H... Facebook (20+) Facebook OnPoint Community...

Print Options

Choose how you'd like to print your book. We've pre-selected the most common settings to get you started.

[How will printing cost be calculated?](#) ▾

Ink and Paper Type

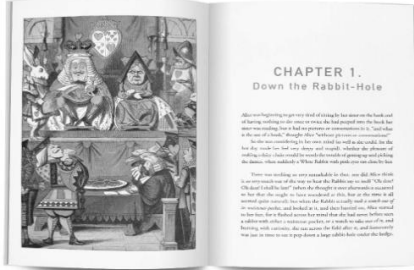
Pick which ink and paper type you'd like to print your manuscript with. ▾

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: 50-61 pound, 74-90 grams per square meter

Trim Size

Select the height and width you want your book to be. ▾

6 x 9 in
15.24 x 22.86 cm

Select a different size

Bleed Settings

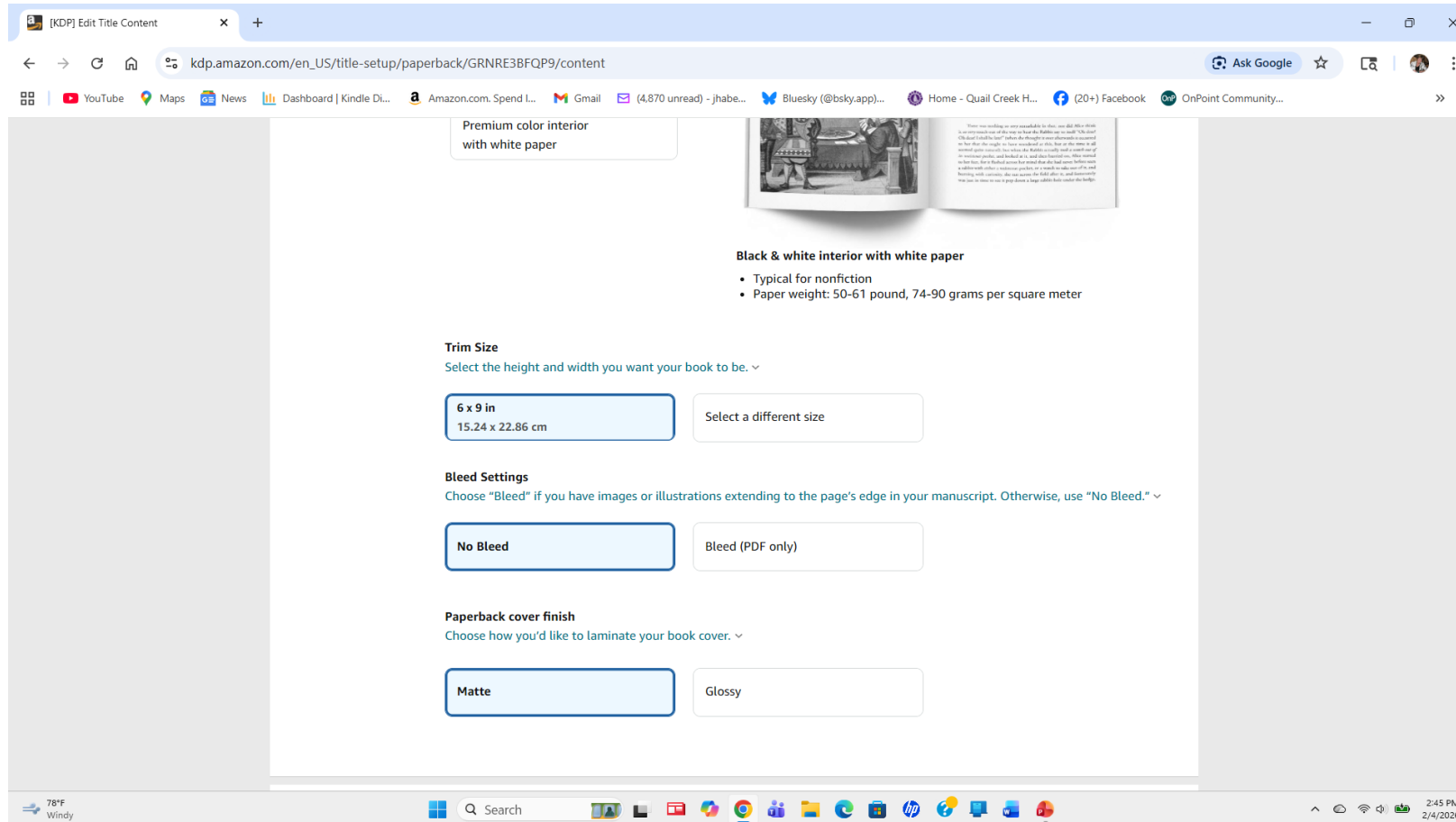
Choose "Bleed" if you have images or illustrations extending to the page's edge in your manuscript. Otherwise, use "No Bleed." ▾

78°F Windy

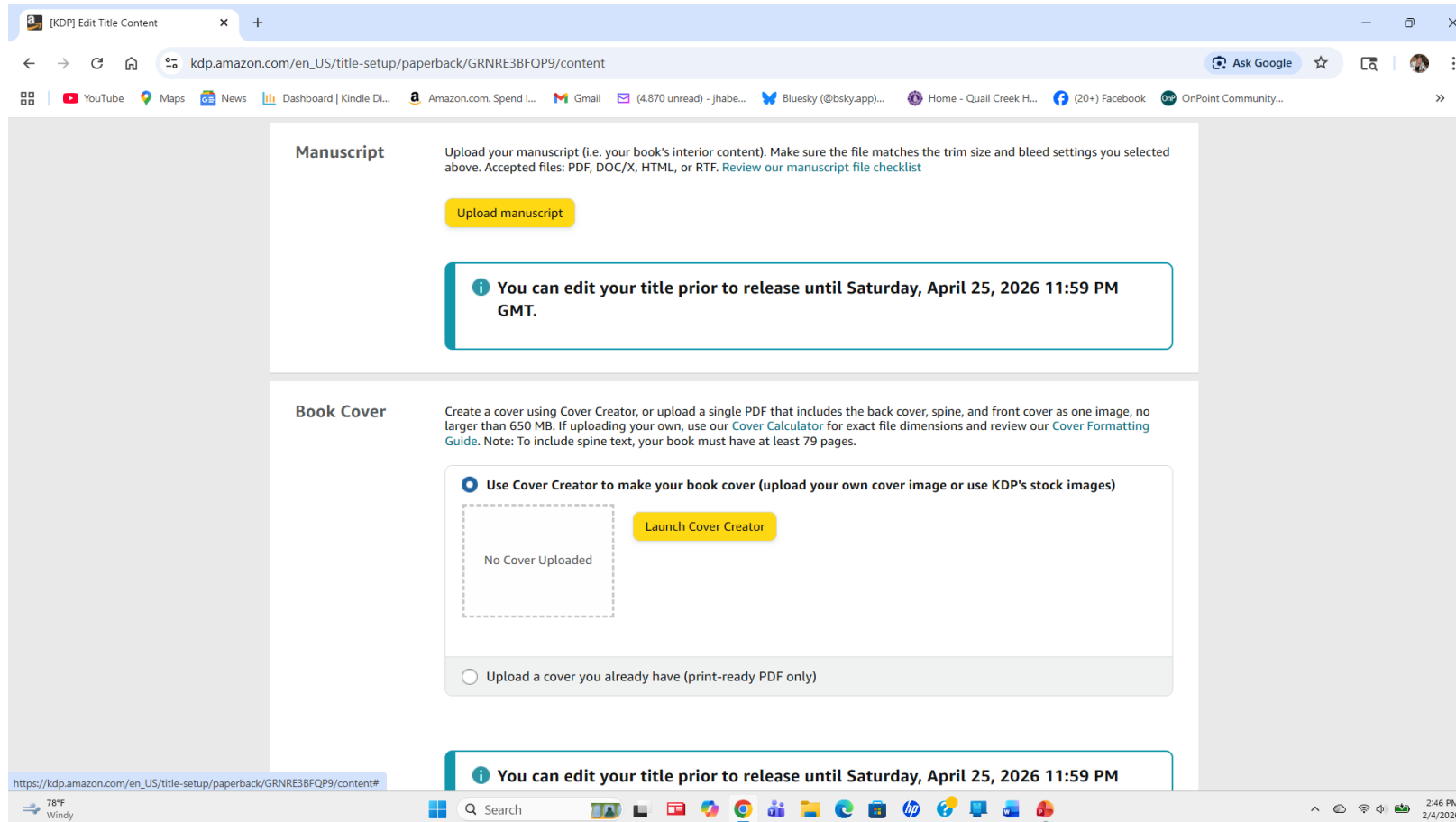
Search

2:44 PM 2/4/2026

More Print Options



The Big Upload!



A-I and Preview

[KDP] Edit Title Content

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/GRNRE3BFQP9/content

Ask Google

GMT.

AI-Generated Content

Amazon is collecting information about the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools in creating content.
[What is AI-generated content?](#)

Did you use AI tools in creating texts, images, and/or translations in your book?

☐ Yes

☐ No

Book Preview

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

[Launch Preview](#)

[< Back to Details](#)

[Save as Draft](#)

[Save and Continue](#)

Next step: Pricing

kdpselect

Make more money and reach more readers through Kindle Unlimited. [Learn More](#)

Total KDP Select Author Earnings
December 2025 • \$64.9 Million

kindleunlimited

77°F Sunny

Search

2:47 PM 2/4/2026

Final Check



DON'T SKIP THE
PREVIEW



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BEFORE PUBLISHING



LOOK THROUGH THE
ENTIRE BOOK

Distribution and Royalties

[KDP] Edit eBook Pricing | Amazon

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/kindle/A28DLQAQ94214R/pricing

Ask Google

YouTube Maps News Dashboard | Kindle Di... Amazon.com Spend L... Gmail (4,870 unread) - jhab... Bluesky (@bsky.app)... Home - Quail Creek H... (20+) Facebook OnPoint Community...

Territories

Select the territories where you have rights to sell this book. This will determine where the book is available for sale.
Which territory option should I pick?

All territories (worldwide rights) What are worldwide rights? ▾

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Primary marketplace

Pricing below is based on the primary marketplace you selected on the Details tab. To change your primary marketplace, return to the Details tab and make a new selection. If you change your primary marketplace, please reconfirm your list price before publishing your book.

Amazon.com ▾

Pricing, royalty, and distribution

Select a royalty plan and set your Kindle eBook list prices below. How does pricing and royalties work?

☒ 35% ☐ 70%

Your book file size after conversion is 0.17 MB.

Marketplace ▾	List Price ▾	Delivery ▾	Rate ▾	Royalty ▾
Amazon.com	0.99 USD Set a list price between \$0.99-\$200.00▾ All marketplaces are based on this price	\$0.00 n/a	35% ▾ 70%	\$0.35 n/a

The following list prices were converted based on the previous price you entered

Royalties based on print cost

[KDP] Edit Title Pricing

kdp.amazon.com/en_US/title-setup/paperback/P63W6WKCXRF/pricing?ref_=kdp_BS_D_ta_pr

Primary marketplace

the Details tab and make a new selection. If you change your primary marketplace, please reconfirm your list price before publishing your book.

Amazon.com

Pricing, royalties, and distribution

Enter the list price you'd like to sell your book for. It'll be available for purchase through the marketplaces listed below. To calculate your royalties, multiply your list price by the royalty rate. Then subtract printing costs. [How does pricing and royalties work?](#)

Marketplace	List Price	List Price + Est. VAT	Printing	Amazon Rate	Royalty	Expanded Distribution Rate	Royalty
Amazon.com	12.99 USD Min. \$11.08, Max. \$250.00 All marketplaces are based on this price	\$14.12	\$4.12	60%	\$2.36	40%	\$0.76

The following list prices were converted based on the previous price you entered

Amazon.co.uk	9.54 GBP Min. £9.28, Max. £250.00 Based on Amazon.com	£9.54 incl. UK VAT	£3.71	60%	£2.01	40%	£0.11
Amazon.de	10.94 EUR Min. €8.36, Max. €250.00 Based on Amazon.com	€11.71 incl. DE VAT	€4.18	60%	€2.38	Not offered in this marketplace	
Amazon.fr	10.94 EUR	€11.54 incl. FR VAT	€4.18	60%	€2.38	Not offered in this marketplace	

61°F Cloudy

Search

3:36 PM 2/13/2026

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Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing: x +

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Series status: **Live** ▾

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Submitted on April 3, 2015 ASIN: B00VMFVFNS

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Submitted on April 2, 2015 ASIN: 1508887896

Hardcover

+ Create hardcover Link existing hardcover

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Today's high To break record

Search

2:51 PM 2/4/2026

KDP University at kdp.amazon.com

The screenshot shows a web browser window with two tabs: "Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing" and "KDP University". The address bar shows the URL `kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200783400`. The browser's taskbar at the bottom displays various application icons and the system clock showing 2:54 PM on 2/4/2026.

The page layout includes a left sidebar with "Help Topics" and a main content area. The sidebar lists categories such as "Help", "Account & Taxes", "Book Formatting", "KDP Publishing", and "Orders & Book Copies". The main content area features a search bar, a breadcrumb trail for "KDP University", and sections for "KDP University", "Webinars", "Videos", "KDP Jumpstart", "User Guides", and "KDP Build Your Book (Paperback)".

Help Topics

- Help
 - KDP Help Center Home
- Beta: Audible audiobooks with virtual voice
 - Audible audiobooks with virtual voice
 - Getting started with audiobooks with virtual voice
 - Audiobooks with virtual voice eligibility and troubleshooting
 - Virtual voice audio samples
 - Pricing, royalties, and reports for audiobooks
 - Edit audio in the Virtual Voice Studio
 - Terms and Conditions for the Beta Version of Audiobooks with Virtual Voice
- Account & Taxes
 - Set up your KDP account
 - CreateSpace Account
 - Tax Information
- Book Formatting
 - Format Your Paperback
 - Format Your Hardcover
 - Format Your eBook
 - Tools and Resources
- KDP Publishing
 - Start publishing with KDP
 - Create a Book
 - Hardcover
 - Start a Book Series
- Orders & Book Copies

Search Topic or Keyword **Search Help**

User Guides > KDP University

KDP University

Writing, publishing, and then marketing your book can be a journey. But we're in this together, and we're here to help. KDP University provides you with a collection of pre-recorded webinars, videos, articles, and guides to help you take your best book to market.

Webinars

Learn how to successfully prepare, publish, and promote your book on KDP. [Learn more.](#)

Videos

Watch prerecorded videos that talk you through the tough topics: from tax forms and formatting to metadata and marketing and beyond. [See all videos.](#)

KDP Jumpstart

Follow our simple, end-to-end guide to publishing on Amazon...and learn some insider tips along the way! [Start now.](#)

User Guides

Use our helpful user guides to navigate the free tools that can turn your completed manuscript into an eye-catching eBook or paperback.

KDP Build Your Book (Paperback)

Free step-by-step guides that explain how to format your paperback manuscript and save it as a PDF that's ready to be uploaded to KDP.

- [Word for Windows](#)
- [Word for Mac](#)

Updating or Changing Your Published Paperback Book

- The below link takes you to the page on KDP that explains what CAN and CANNOT be changed after publishing
- https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G200736410
- These things **CANNOT** be changed:

Language	Primary Author		
ISBN choice	Book Title & Subtitle		
Trim Size	Royalty Rate		
Ink and Paper Type	Edition Number		

Review

- Get all your elements prepared in advance
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- Go to KDP.com and set up account
- Publish the e-book edition (use the Preview function)
- Create the paperback edition (Preview online and order review copy before release)
- Go to KDP Bookshelf to track sales and reader reviews



Questions?