

PDF Submission Specification

Introduction

What is in this document?

The CreateSpace Submission Specification includes all submission requirements to successfully publish your book through CreateSpace. It contains important information on Metadata, Interior, and Cover requirements.

How do I navigate this document?

The Table of Contents links you to each section and subsection within the document. Simply click on the section or subsection you want to review and you will be taken to that section of the document.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

METADATA SPECIFICATION

<i>What is Metadata?</i>	9
<i>Title</i>	10
<i>Subtitle</i>	11
<i>Author Name</i>	13
<i>Volume Number</i>	14
<i>Publication Date</i>	14
<i>ISBN</i>	15
<i>What are the ISBN Requirements?</i>	15
<i>ISBN on the Project Homepage</i>	16
<i>ISBN in the Title Setup</i>	16
<i>Why Are There Metadata Restrictions?</i>	17



INTERIOR SPECIFICATION

GENERAL

<i>Embedded Fonts</i>	19
<i>Placeholder Text</i>	19
<i>Crop Marks/Trim Marks</i>	20
<i>Annotations</i>	20
<i>Cut-Off Text</i>	21
<i>Overlapping Text</i>	21
<i>PDF Creation Logo</i>	22
<i>Security Encrypted File</i>	22
<i>Transparency/Layers</i>	23
<i>Resolution</i>	23
<i>CreateSpace, Amazon, and Disc References</i>	25

INTERIOR SETUP

<i>Basic PDF Requirements</i>	27
-------------------------------------	----

INTERIOR TYPE AND PAPER COLOR

<i>Black and White Interior Type</i>	28
<i>Full Color Interior Type</i>	29
<i>White vs. Cream Paper</i>	30

INTERIOR SPECIFICATION *(continued)*

TRIM SIZE

<i>What is a Trim Size?</i>	31
<i>Trim Size Options</i>	32
<i>Trim Size and Expanded Distribution</i>	33

BLEED AND PAGE SIZE

<i>What is Bleed?</i>	34
<i>Setting your Page Size</i>	35

MARGINS

<i>What are Margins?</i>	36
<i>Margin Examples</i>	37

PAGINATION

<i>Pagination</i>	38
-------------------------	----

BLANK PAGES

<i>Blank Pages</i>	39
--------------------------	----

PAGE ORIENTATION

<i>Upside-Down Pages</i>	40
<i>Calendar or Landscape Style</i>	41
<i>Right to Left Reading</i>	42

COVER SPECIFICATION

GENERAL

<i>Embedded Fonts</i>	44
<i>Placeholder Text</i>	44
<i>PDF Creation Logo</i>	49
<i>Security Encrypted File</i>	45
<i>Transparency/Layers</i>	46
<i>Resolution</i>	46
<i>Crop Marks/Trim Marks</i>	48
<i>Annotations</i>	48
<i>CreateSpace, Amazon, and Disc References in Files</i>	49

COVER SET-UP

<i>Incomplete Cover</i>	51
<i>Cover Size Requirements</i>	52
<i>Calculating the Cover Size</i>	53
<i>Cover Templates</i>	55

LIVE ELEMENTS/GRAFICOS

<i>What are Live Elements or Graphics?</i>	56
--	----

COVER BLEED

<i>What is Cover Bleed?</i>	58
<i>Borders</i>	59



COVER SPECIFICATION *(continued)*

COVER SPINE TEXT

Spine Text and Image Requirements..... 60

BARCODES

Barcode Size 61

Barcode Placement 62

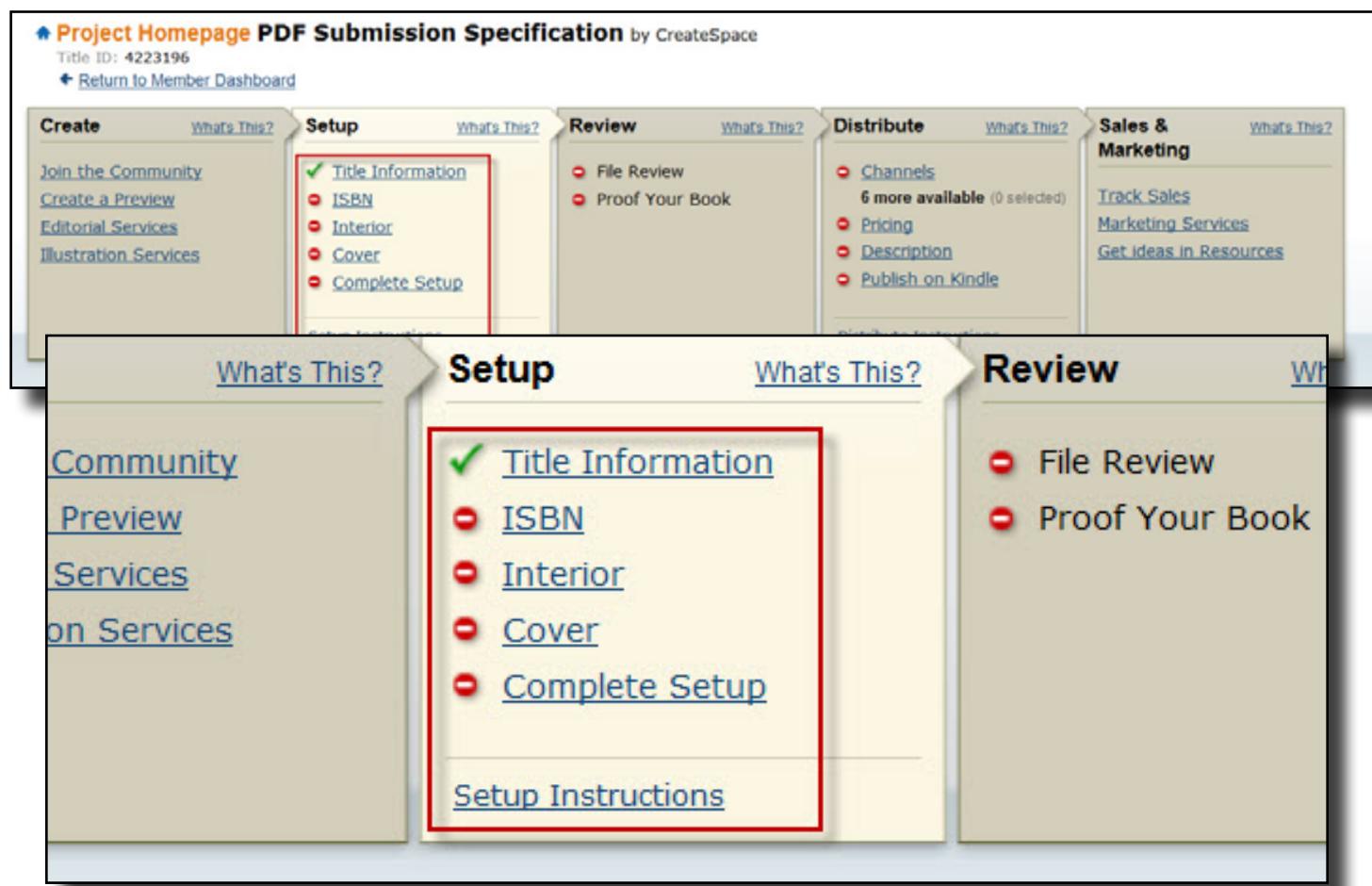
Metadata Specification



What is Metadata?

Metadata is information that describes your book such as title, subtitle, author name, volume number, page count, paper color, trim size, description, publication date, and more.

You will enter most of your book's metadata directly within your account on your Project Homepage (title, subtitle, author name, trim size, description, paper color, etc.) Some of your book's metadata, like page count, will auto-populate when your files are submitted.



Project Homepage PDF Submission Specification by CreateSpace

Title ID: 4223196

[Return to Member Dashboard](#)

Create [What's This?](#)

- [Join the Community](#)
- [Create a Preview](#)
- [Editorial Services](#)
- [Illustration Services](#)

Setup [What's This?](#)

- [Title Information](#)
- [ISBN](#)
- [Interior](#)
- [Cover](#)
- [Complete Setup](#)

Review [What's This?](#)

- [File Review](#)
- [Proof Your Book](#)

Distribute [What's This?](#)

- [Channels](#)
- [6 more available \(0 selected\)](#)
- [Pricing](#)
- [Description](#)
- [Publish on Kindle](#)

Sales & Marketing [What's This?](#)

- [Track Sales](#)
- [Marketing Services](#)
- [Get Ideas in Resources](#)

What's This?

Setup

- [Title Information](#)
- [ISBN](#)
- [Interior](#)
- [Cover](#)
- [Complete Setup](#)

[Setup Instructions](#)

Review

- [File Review](#)
- [Proof Your Book](#)

Title

- The Title Setup allows Latin 1 characters
- The entire title must appear in the account and on the front cover
- The cover, interior, and Title Information/Metadata must match exactly
- Cannot include URLs
- Cannot be entered in all uppercase letters in the Title Information section
- Title cannot be changed once the book is Available in the account

Title Information

What to do on this page: Enter title information, including title and author. This information is associated with the ISBN and cannot be changed after you complete the review process.

Title *

Subtitle

Primary Author * **CreateSpace**
[What's this?](#) Prefix First Name / Initial Middle Name / Initial Last Name / Surname

Add Contributors **Authored by** **This book is part of a series** [\(What's this?\)](#)

Subtitle

- The Title Setup allows Latin 1 characters
- Does not have to appear on the cover or interior
- If you choose to include the subtitle on the cover and interior, they must match exactly what appears in the Title Information section
- Can be changed after a book is Available, only if it's not considered a different edition of the book
- Cannot include URLs
- Cannot be entered in all uppercase letters in the Title Information section in your account

Title Information [◀ Back](#) [N](#)

What to do on this page: Enter title information, including title and author. This information is associated with your book's ISBN and cannot be changed after you complete the review process.

Title * * [Required](#)

Subtitle [What's this?](#)

Primary Author * **CreateSpace** [What's this?](#)
Prefix First Name / Initial Middle Name / Initial Last Name / Surname * Suffix

Add Contributors [Add](#)

Subtitle (continued)

- In order for the full subtitle to appear on your distribution channel listings, the title and subtitle together with a colon have to be 200 characters or less (includes spaces)
- Subtitle will be joined to the Title with a colon on the Amazon Detail Pages

Title: Subtitle

Title and Subtitle on Amazon detail page

PDF Submission Specification: How to setup your book files [Paperback]

[CreateSpace \(Author\)](#)
[Be the first to review this item](#)

List Price: \$5.50
Price: **\$4.95** & **FREE Shipping** on orders over \$25. [Details](#)
You Save: **\$0.55 (10%)**

In Stock.
Ships from and sold by **Amazon.com**. Gift-wrap available.

Author Name

- The Title Setup allows Latin 1 characters
- Does not have to appear on the cover or interior. If you choose to include the author name on the cover and interior, it must match exactly what appears in the Title Information section
- Cannot substitute nicknames or initials
- Cannot be changed after a book is Available
- Cannot include URLs
- Cannot be entered in all uppercase letters in the Title Information section of the account
- Four (4) character limit for prefixes
- Six (6) character limit for suffixes

Title Information [Back](#) [Next](#)

What to do on this page: Enter title information, including title and author. This information is associated with your book's ISBN and cannot be changed after you complete the review process.

Required

Title *	PDF Submission Specification				
Subtitle	How to setup your book files				
Primary Author *	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> CreateSpace <input type="text"/>
What's this?	Prefix	First Name / Initial	Middle Name / Initial	Last Name / Surname	Suffix
Add Contributors	<input type="button" value="Authored by"/> <input type="button" value="Add"/>				
What's this?					
<input type="checkbox"/> This book is part of a series (What's this?)					
Series Title	<input type="text"/>			Volume	<input type="text"/>

Volume Number

- Any book with a volume number higher than one (1), should include the volume number in the interior and on the cover
- If the volume number is entered in Title Information section, then it must appear on the cover and in the interior files

Publication Date

- Must be either a current or prior date, cannot be a date in the future
- If the Publication Date field is left blank in the Title Information, the date the book is approved will be the Publication Date automatically
- If your book was previously published, enter the previous publication date
- The publication date cannot be changed once the book has been approved and Available

ISBN

What is an ISBN?

An ISBN, or International Standard Book Number, is a unique 10 or 13-digit number assigned to every published book. An ISBN identifies a book's edition, publisher, and physical properties such as trim size, page count, and binding type.

How are ISBNs used?

Bookstores, retailers, and libraries identify books by their ISBNs. We print an ISBN barcode on the lower back right corner of every book we manufacture.

What are my ISBN options?

You have four ISBN options: you can use a CreateSpace-assigned ISBN, a Custom ISBN, a Custom Universal ISBN, or you can use your own ISBN. Both custom ISBN options are offered through Bowker. [Learn more](#) about each option.

What are the ISBN requirements?

- Does not have to appear on the cover or interior file, but it will appear on the [barcode](#) on the back cover
- If there is a blank spot on the interior intended for the ISBN, we will attempt to add the ISBN, but we cannot guarantee this will be done or that the placement or font will match the rest of the text in the book
- If using your own ISBN, we verify the accuracy of the Imprint Name and binding type
- If additional ISBNs are referenced on the cover and/or interior, you must specify the format or title of each to avoid misunderstanding

ISBN on the Project Homepage

Project Homepage PDF Submission Specification by CreateSpace

Title ID: 4223196

[Return to Member Dashboard](#)

Create	Setup	Review	Distribute
Join the Community	✓ Title Information • ISBN • Interior • Cover • Complete Setup Setup Instructions	• File Review • Proof Your Book	• Channels • Pricing • Description • Publish on Kindle Distribute Instructions

ISBN in the Title Setup

Createspace
an Amazon company

Books | Music | Film | Free Publishing Resources | Member Spotlight | My Account | Community | Help | Cart

Hi, Jen CHEESEBURGER! ([Log out](#)) | Site: [Site](#) | [Search Site](#) | [Advanced Search](#)

CreateSpace
Title ID: 4297240

[Return to Project Home](#) | [Return to Member Dashboard](#)

Setup

- [Title Information](#)
- [ISBN](#)
- [Interior](#)
- [Cover](#)
- [Complete Setup](#)

[Setup Instructions](#)
[How to make a cover PDF](#)
[How to make an interior PDF](#)

Review

Distribute

Sales & Marketing

Looking for help?
[Contact Support](#)

ISBN

What to do on this page: An [ISBN](#) is required to publish and distribute a book. [Compare ISBN options](#) and find the one that's right for you.

* You can skip this section if you haven't decided which ISBN option to use, but you'll need to complete this page before you can publish your book. [Return to your Project Homepage](#)

Choose an ISBN option for your book:

- Free CreateSpace-Assigned ISBN**
We can assign an ISBN to your book at no charge.
- Custom ISBN**
Set your own [imprint](#) to be listed as the publisher. Only \$10
- Custom Universal ISBN**
Set a custom imprint while keeping your distribution and publishing options open. Only \$99
- Provide Your Own ISBN**
If you have an ISBN that you purchased from Bowker® or through your local ISBN agency, you can use it to publish your book through CreateSpace. You must also enter the imprint name associated with the ISBN.

Why Are There Metadata Restrictions?

We strive for the best end-customer experience. The restrictions on the metadata provide consistency for customers who review and purchase books through various distribution outlets.

Additionally, several distribution channels have limitations on metadata and these restrictions ensure your book will be accepted through all the distribution outlets CreateSpace provides.

If both files match, and the title, subtitle, or author name does not match, we will update these fields in the Title Information to match files during the file review process.

**Please note, the title and author name in the Title Setup cannot be changed once the book has been approved and is Available. If you would like to change the title you must create a new Title ID with a new ISBN.*

Interior Specification

General



Embedded Fonts

All fonts on the cover and interior should be embedded in the native program before submitting. We will attempt to embed any fonts that are not embedded through Interior Reviewer or during the file review process. If we are unable to embed the fonts, the book will be rejected.

Why is embedding fonts important?

All fonts on the cover and interior should be embedded before submitting, to ensure the book is printed as intended. Fonts that are not embedded may cause errors during printing or may fail to print at all.

Placeholder Text

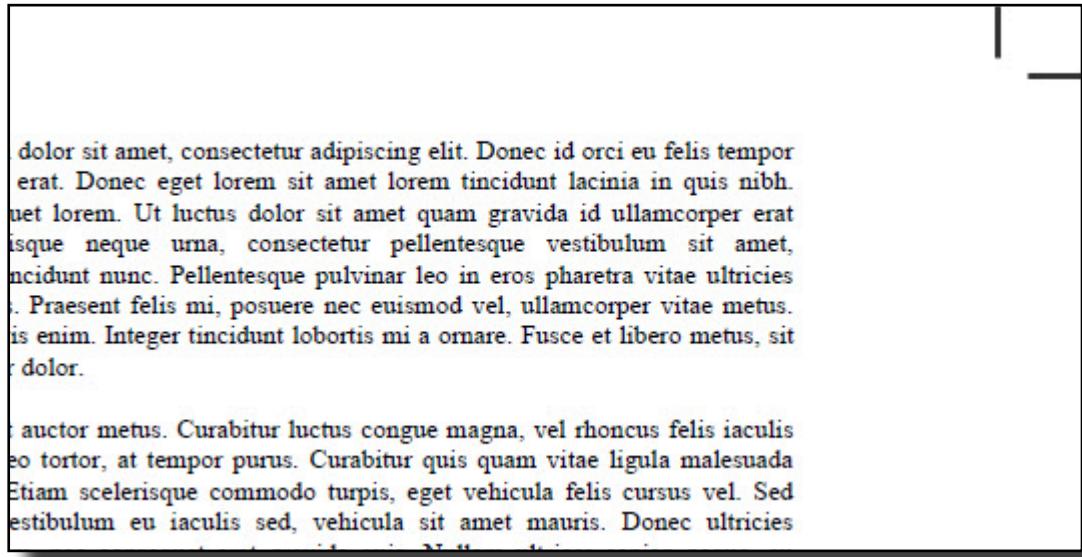
We will reject any files with placeholder text, such as [Lorem Ipsum](#). Placeholder text may appear as an error in the file when sent to the printers.

Placeholder text example:
Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit. Donec id orci eu felis tempor congue et id erat. Donec eget lorem sit amet lorem tincidunt lacinia in quis nibh. Nulla et aliquet lorem. Ut luctus dolor sit amet quam gravida id ullamcorper erat gravida. Quisque neque urna, consectetur pellentesque vestibulum sit amet, fermentum tincidunt nunc. Pellentesque pulvinar leo in eros pharetra vitae ultricies enim dapibus. Praesent felis mi, posuere nec euismod vel, ullamcorper vitae metus. Sed vel mauris enim. Integer tincidunt lobortis mi a ornare. Fusce et libero metus, sit amet pulvinar dolor.

Another example of placeholder text:
Nam sit amet auctor metus. Curabitur luctus congue magna, vel rhoncus felis iaculis sed. In nec leo tortor, at tempor purus. Curabitur quis quam vitae ligula malesuada vestibulum. Etiam scelerisque commodo turpis, eget vehicula felis cursus vel. Sed felis felis, vestibulum eu iaculis sed, vehicula sit amet mauris. Donec ultricies pharetra ipsum, nec consequat erat gravida quis. Nullam ultrices sapien neque, eu lobortis diam. Donec non erat vel sem adipiscing ultricies id quis lacus. Etiam eros nisl, eleifend eu aliquam nec, auctor at mi. Vestibulum in est elit. Nullam venenatis

Crop Marks/Trim Marks

Crop or trim marks are placed in a document to define where the artwork is trimmed after it is printed. We do not recommend including crop marks as they could appear on the printed book.



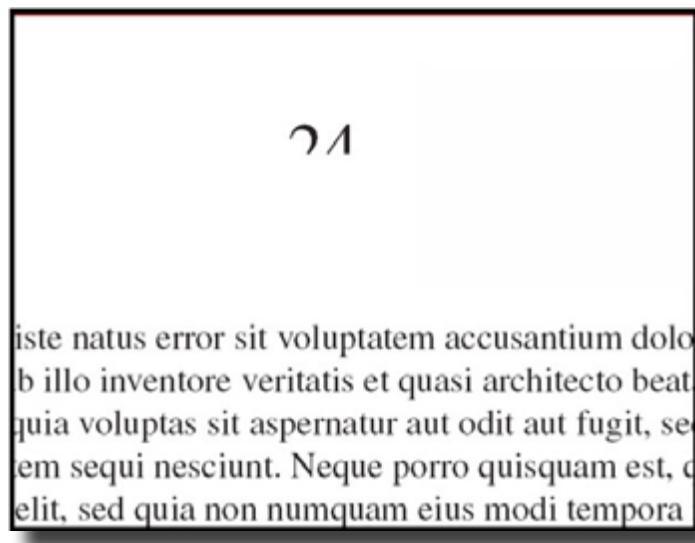
Annotations

Annotations are information added to PDFs that are not intended to print. Examples can include mark-ups, sticky notes, comments, etc. As annotations are not intended to print, they will be removed in Interior Reviewer or during the file review process, possibly causing a visible change to the book.

All content intended to be visible in print should be included within the Safe Zone or margins.

Cut-Off Text

We cannot accept partial text in an interior or cover file. This frequently happens with page numbers, where it appears as though the text box is too small for the actual text. This results in incomplete or cut-off text.



Overlapping Text

Sometimes text overlaps intentionally as a part of your work's design. As long as the body text is still readable, that will be accepted. If a file is not accepted due to overlapping text, it is because the overlapping text looks unintentional.



PDF Creation Logo

Watermarks and PDF creation logos can be intentional or remnants of a software or service used to create a PDF.

A document containing watermarks is
proprietary to the company that created it.
We are unable to accept any files containing
watermarks or PDF creation logos.



Security-Encrypted File

Security-encrypted or locked files prevent us from completing our file review process. All security should be removed from a file before submitting.

Transparency/Layers

Transparencies, or layers, are created in the native file either to create a visual effect or sometimes, unintentionally. When a file is converted to PDF, transparencies do not always flatten as they should.

- We recommend flattening all transparent objects in the native file before submitting for review
- We will attempt to flatten transparencies in the review process and reject if unsuccessful
- Flattening transparencies in the review process can cause a color shift or a change of appearance in the content of the file
- Transparencies can cause the file to fail at the printer or cause the file to print with missing content
- Review the file in Digital Proofer and/or order a proof if we indicated that we flattened transparencies

Resolution

For optimal printing, we suggest that all images for both the cover and interior are at least 300 DPI.

Identifying Low Resolution Images

Images that are less than 200 DPI will be flagged in Interior Reviewer and during the file review process so you have the option to resubmit updated images.

We will not reject a file for low resolution images unless there is text within the image that is blurry and illegible.

If the cover and/or interior files are submitted at the wrong size and they need to be scaled, this can affect the resolution of the images within the file. When an image is scaled up in size, its resolution proportionately decreases.

In order to determine if you are satisfied with the quality of the images in print, we suggest you order a physical proof copy of your book before approving it for sale.

Resolution (continued)

Image to the right - 300 DPI



Image to the left - 150 DPI



Image to the right - 72 DPI



References in Files

CreateSpace References

CreateSpace is the printer of your book and as such cannot be listed as the publisher.

<i>Can Include</i>
Printed by CreateSpace
eStore address (i.e. www.CreateSpace.com/TITLEID)
Printed by CreateSpace, An Amazon.com Company
CreateSpace, Charleston SC
CreateSpace

<i>Cannot Include</i>
Published by CreateSpace
Published through CreateSpace
Printed by CreateSpace Publishing
CreateSpace, LLC
CreateSpace Edition
CreateSpace Logo

References in Files (continued)

Amazon References

In order to mention Amazon.com as an outlet to purchase your book, you must also cite other sources for distribution.

Can Include
Printed by CreateSpace, An Amazon.com Company
Available from Amazon.com and other retail outlets
Available from Amazon.com and other online stores
Available from Amazon.com and other book stores
Available from Amazon.com, CreateSpace.com, and other retail outlets
A reference to an Amazon review
Available on Kindle and other devices
Available on Kindle and other retail outlets
Available on Kindle and other book stores
Available on Kindle and online stores

Disc References

Your interior or cover file cannot imply that a disc product is packaged with the paperback book as CreateSpace is unable to support books that are intended to be multi-format collections.

For legal reasons, if you include a disc reference in your files, the location of that disc must be specified. As an example, you may provide a URL of the disc title or a link to a digital download of the disc title.

If you include a disc reference but do not include a location of the disc, we will try to remove the reference, if possible. If we can't remove the reference, your file will be rejected.

Interior Set-Up



Basic PDF Requirements

If you are uploading a PDF, we require that you submit a Single Page PDF, as opposed to a Spread or 2-Up. You can format your file in various programs such as Word or InDesign and export to PDF.

What is a PDF?

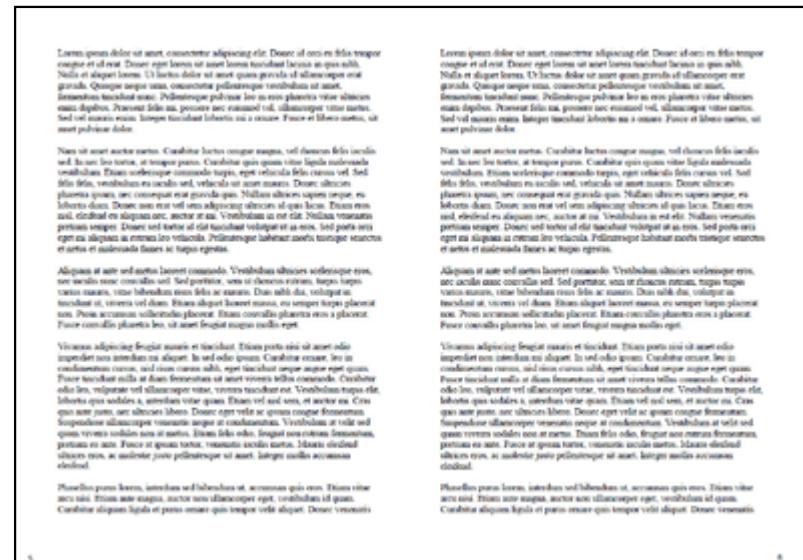
PDF stands for Portable Document Format and is an open source file format that houses all the information (such as text, fonts, graphics, etc.) needed in a document to go to print.

Single PDF page when viewed as a single page view (*image to the right*).



What is a Spread Format and why can't it be submitted?

A spread is when 2 book pages are laid out on a single PDF page (*image below*).



For example, if you have a 6" x 9" book and each page is exported as a spread, then a single page looks like this:

Interior Type



Black & White vs. Full Color

You are welcome to choose Black & White or Full Color as your Interior Type. If your book contains any photographs or color images that you would wish to print in color, then a Full Color Interior Type is required. Once this selection is made and the book is made available in your account, you cannot change the interior type.

Separate printers and paper types are used to create Black & White interiors versus Full Color interiors. The interior type selected will affect the manufacturing cost of printing. For more information on manufacturing costs visit the [Order Calculator on our website](#).



(Black & White Interior Type)



(Full Color Interior Type)



Paper Color



White vs. Cream Paper

Books with black & white interiors may choose white or cream paper.

Books with full color interiors can only be printed on white paper as we only offer one paper color and type for Full Color books.



(Black & White Paper)

(Cream Paper)

Trim Size



What is a Trim Size?

The final size of your book after it is printed, bound, and trimmed is called the trim size. Trim sizes are always indicated as width by height, and are measured in inches, unless noted otherwise. For example, a trim size of 6 x 9" means the printed book will be six inches wide and nine inches high.

We offer trim sizes between 4" x 6" and 8.5" x 11.69" for black and white interior books, and trim sizes between 4" x 6" and 8.5" x 11" for full-color interior books.

Many common industry standard and custom trim sizes are provided when you are choosing the trim size for your book. You'll be able to select or change your trim size during the "Setup" phase of the Title Setup.

Why is Trim Size Important?

There are additional trim size requirements if you would like to make your book Available through **Expanded Distribution**. For more information about Expanded Distribution trim size requirements please visit the [Expanded Distribution Eligibility Requirements](#) on our website.

What is the difference among Standard, Custom, and "Enter my own size"?

Industry Standard

Industry standard trim sizes can be sold on Amazon.com and your eStore, and are eligible for all distribution outlets within the Expanded Distribution Channel (EDC).

Custom Trim Sizes

Custom trim sizes can be sold on Amazon.com and your eStore, but are ineligible for the Bookstores and Online Retailers distribution outlet within the EDC.

Enter My Own Size

"Enter my own size" trim sizes can be sold on Amazon.com and your eStore, but are ineligible for the Bookstores and Online Retailers distribution outlet within the EDC.

Trim Size Options

Black & White Books - Industry Standard Trim-Sizes

5" x 8" (12.7 x 20.32 cm)
 5.06" x 7.81" (12.9 x 19.8 cm)
 5.25" x 8" (13.335 x 20.32 cm)
 5.5" x 8.5" (13.97 x 21.59 cm)
 6" x 9" (15.24 x 22.86 cm)
 6.14" x 9.21" (15.6 x 23.4 cm)
 6.69" x 9.61" (17 x 24.4 cm)
 7" x 10" (17.78 x 25.4 cm)
 7.44" x 9.69" (18.9 x 24.6 cm)
 7.5" x 9.25" (19.1 x 23.5 cm)
 8" x 10" (20.32 x 25.4 cm)
 8.5" x 11" (21.59 x 27.94 cm)

Full-Color Books - Industry Standard Trim-Sizes

5.5" x 8.5" (13.97 x 21.59 cm)
 6" x 9" (15.24 x 22.86 cm)
 6.14" x 9.21" (15.6 x 23.4 cm)
 7" x 10" (17.78 x 25.4 cm)
 8" x 10" (20.32 x 25.4 cm)
 8.5" x 8.5" (21.59 x 21.59 cm)
 8.5" x 11" (21.59 x 27.94 cm)

Custom Trim Sizes

8.25" x 6" (20.955 x 15.24 cm)
 8.25" x 8.25" (20.955 x 20.955 cm)
 8.5" x 8.5" (21.59 x 21.59 cm)

“Enter My Own Trim Size”

Dimensions

Interior Trim Widths	B&W	Color
Min. Trim Width	4"	4"
Max. Trim Width	8.5"	8.5"
Min. Trim Height	6"	6"
Max. Trim Height	11.69"	11"

For a visual of trim sizes check out our [Trim Size Guide](#).

Trim Size Options and Expanded Distribution

Eligible for Expanded Distribution? (Bookstores and Online Retailers)			
Trim Size (in inches)	White Paper (B&W interior)	Cream Paper (B&W interior)	Color Interior
5 x 8	✓	✓	
5.06 x 7.81	✓		
5.25 x 8	✓	✓	
5.5 x 8.5	✓	✓	✓
6 x 9	✓	✓	✓
6.14 x 9.21	✓		✓
6.69 x 9.61	✓		
7 x 10	✓		✓
7.44 x 9.69	✓		
7.5 x 9.25	✓		
8 x 10	✓		✓
8.5 x 8.5			✓
8.5 x 11	✓		✓

What is Expanded Distribution?

Expanded Distribution offers you the opportunity to access a larger audience through more online retailers, bookstores, libraries, academic institutions, and distributors within the United States. Expanded Distribution will also improve discoverability of your book across all the channels. Regardless of whether or not you include your title in Expanded Distribution, all CreateSpace titles can be distributed through the Amazon.com, Amazon Europe and eStore channels.

For more information visit the [Expanded Distribution Eligibility Requirements](#) on our website.

Bleed



What is Bleed?

Bleed is defined as any image on a page (whether in interior or cover files) that touches the edge of the page. An image that bleeds extends beyond the trim edge, so there is no white space. The trim edge is the final size of a printed page or cover when the excess is cut off. The excess is the additional 0.125" we require on all sides of covers and full-bleed interiors.

Why does CreateSpace require bleed?

Requiring the additional bleed ensures that when the book is trimmed at the final stage of manufacturing, there will be no excess white along the edge. When the cover file has sufficient bleed, print variance will not affect the final print quality of your book.



Setting your Page Size

For books without bleed:

The Page Size is the actual size of the pages in the interior file. In the program you are using to create your Interior PDF, set the page size to your selected trim size in width by height (inches).

- For example, if your selected trim size is 6" x 9", you will set the page size to 6 inches wide by 9 inches high.

For books with bleed:

If you want your images to bleed to the edges of your book, ensure that they extend at least 0.125" beyond the final trim size from the top, bottom, and outer edges and submit your PDF 0.25" higher and 0.125" wider than your selected trim size to accommodate the full bleed area.

- For example, if your selected trim size is 6" x 9", you will set the page size to 6.125" wide by 9.25" high.

Keep in mind all live elements must be at least 0.25" away from the trim lines, so if your file is formatted to be full bleed all live elements should be 0.375" away from the edge of the page (0.25: minimum from trim line + 0.125" bleed = 0.375").

The book will be cut to your final Trim Size, but the extra bleed ensures your images will still extend to the edges of the page.

Margins



What are Margins?

Margins are the blank space that is above below or to the side of the printed area of the interior. CreateSpace's margin requirements ensure that your content is not cut on the outside edge and is not lost in the inside edge (or "gutter").

Gutter margins

This margin is near the book's binding (the middle of an open book). The gutter margin stops text from extending into the binding. The number of PDF pages in your book's interior determines the minimum required gutter margin.

Outside margins

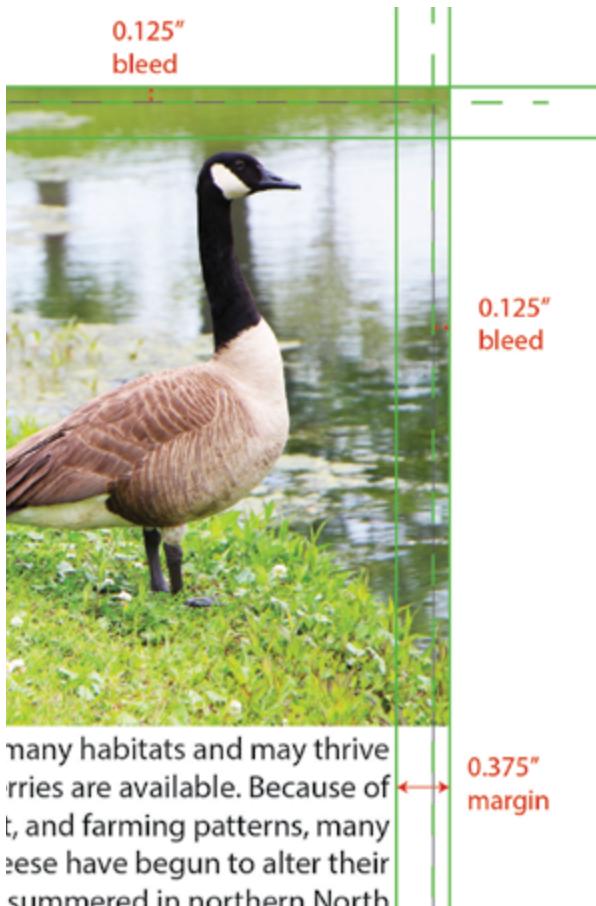
These are the top, bottom, and outside edges of an open book. We require at least .25" outside margins. The outside margin stops text from entering the trim area on the top, bottom, and sides that can be cut off during the printing process. While the minimum outside margin requirements for text and live elements are listed below, we recommend at least 0.5".

Books with bleed will have a larger outside margin requirement to account for the 0.25" trim area and 0.125" bleed added to your interior's page size (See [Setting Your Page Size](#)).

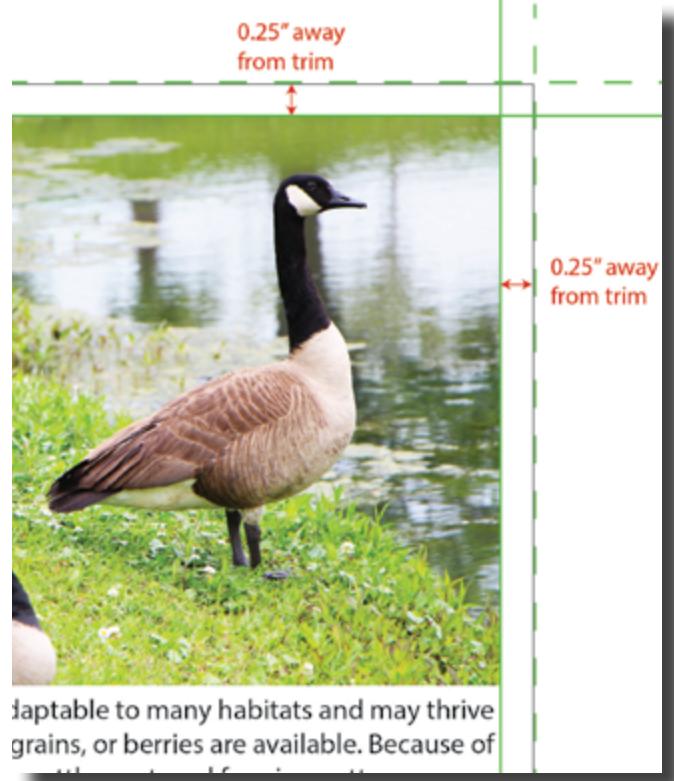
Based on your book's page count and interior type, the minimum margin requirements are below:

Page Count	Inside Margin	Outside Margins
24 to 150 pages	0.375" (9.53 mm)	at least 0.25" (6.35 mm)
151 to 300 pages	0.5" (12.7 mm)	at least 0.25" (6.35 mm)
301 to 500 pages	0.625" (15.88 mm)	at least 0.25" (6.35 mm)
501 to 700 pages	0.75" (19.05 mm)	at least 0.25" (6.35 mm)
700 to 828 pages	0.875" (22.23 mm)	at least 0.25" (6.35 mm)

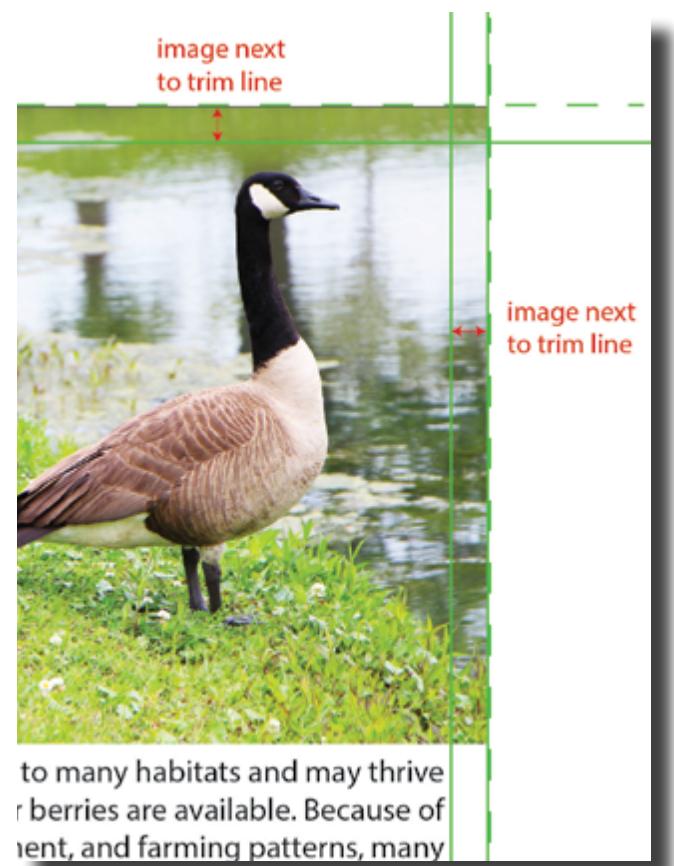
These are CreateSpace **minimum** margins, you may choose to create your interior with larger margins.



The file above would be accepted, because the image extends to the edge of the page (bleeds) however and the margin for the text is .375" (because full bleed interiors must be submitted .125" wider and .25" higher).



The file above would be accepted, because the file was submitted at the exact trim size and the image and text have a .25" margin.



The file to the right would be rejected because the image extends to the edge of the page (bleeds) however the margin for the text is only .25" away from the trim.

Pagination



Pagination

All page numbers should be ordered logically and sequentially where the even numbers are located on the left page and the odd numbers are located on the right page. A skip or change in page numbers could indicate pages are missing or ordered incorrectly causing production issues or customer confusion.

A gap in the numbering of pages is okay as long as the next page number is correct. The following example indicates how a book might be numbered where the x's equal unnumbered pages: 1,2,3,4, x, x, x, 8,9,10...

Roman numerals may also be used as long as they indicate the correct page number. After the use of Roman numerals, you must begin with standard numeration to indicate the beginning of the main body of text. The following two examples show acceptable uses of Roman numerals: i, ii, iii, 4, 5, 6... or i, ii, iii, 1, 2, 3...

PDF Page Numbers

6

7

Left
Facing

Right Facing

Leading Pages:

1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Leading Pages:

I, II, III, IV, V...

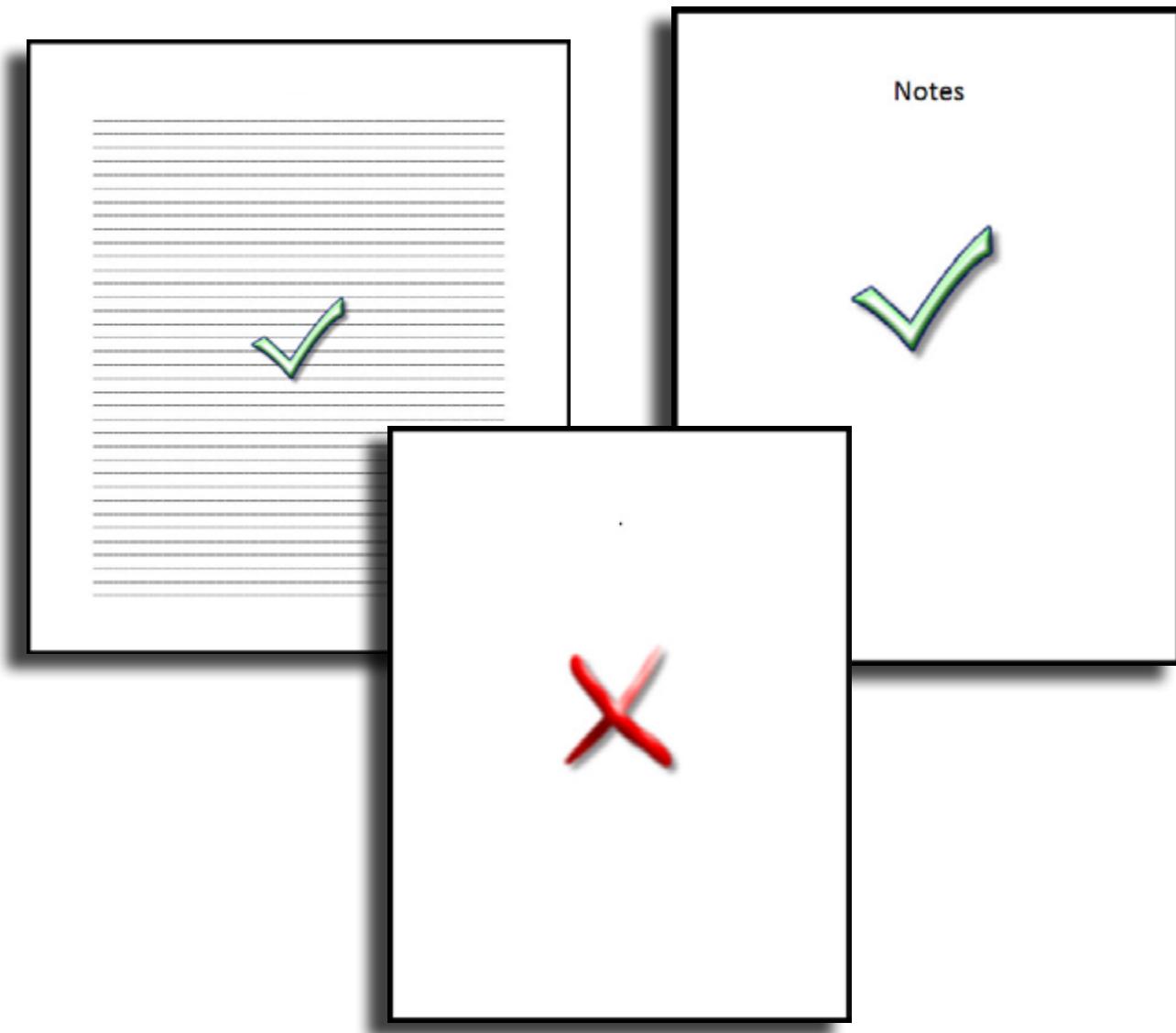
Blank Pages



Blank Pages

There should not be more than two (2) consecutive blank pages at the start or middle of an interior file, and/or 10 consecutive blank pages at the end of an interior file. Excessive blank pages can look like production issues where the body text is not printing.

If you wish to use more than the allotted number of blank pages, then you must indicate that the page is intended to be blank. For example, you may use lines running across the page to signify a place for writing or note taking. A header or footer indicating "Notes" or "Intentionally Left Blank" is also acceptable.



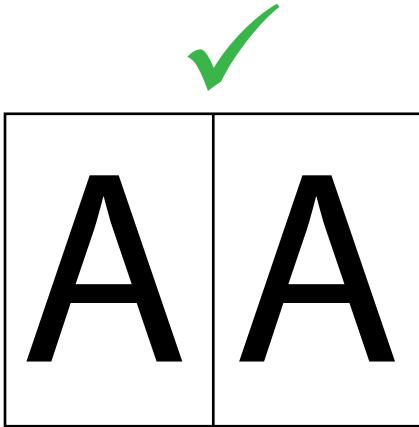
Page Orientation



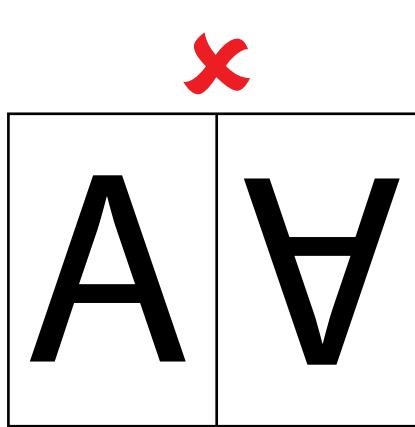
Upside-down Pages

The placement of pages in a file. All pages and content must be oriented the same way.

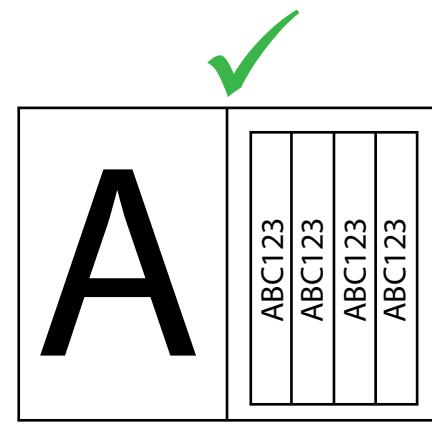
All pages must be right-side up or this will cause an error in our printing process.



(Right and left facing pages are Right side up)



(One page is upside down)



(The left facing page is Right side up and the right facing page is landscape to show a graph or image more effectively. This will pass)

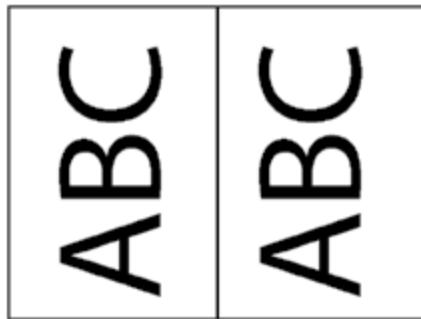
Calendar or Landscape Style

If the book is intended to print as a calendar or landscape style please remember:

- The interior PDF still needs to be sized at the trim size in width by height
- All text and images within the interior PDF should be rotated 90 degrees counterclockwise
- The binding will be on the top of the content instead of the left (calendar style)

Please note: the thumbnail image that will display on your distribution channel listings (Amazon, CreateSpace eStore) will be oriented counterclockwise and cannot be adjusted.

- Margins for the book's page count and interior type should meet the same requirements.
Please see [Margins section](#) for more information



Calendar
Style

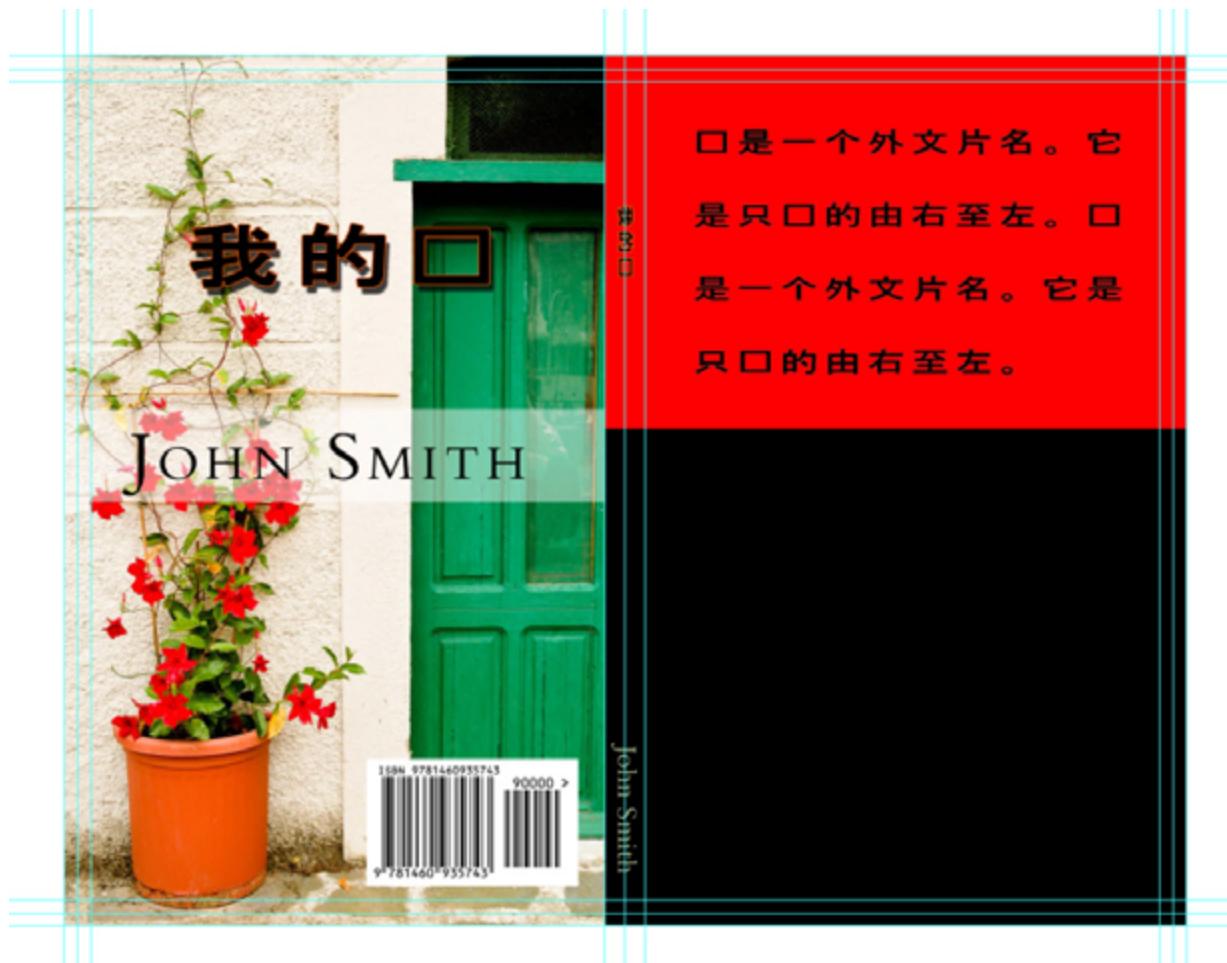


Landscape
Style

Right-to-Left Reading

We can only accommodate Right to Left (RTL) reading format for foreign language books. The interior PDF will need to be created with the last page appearing as the first PDF page. Additionally, the cover PDF must be formatted with the front cover placed to the left of the spine and the back cover to the right. Please see the [Cover section](#) for more information regarding covers.

These books will automatically include a barcode and location that it was printed on the first page. This page is necessary for our unique print-on-demand model and appears on every book we manufacture and cannot be removed. In addition, a barcode will be placed on the front cover as this is the default location in our printing process. You may however, submit your PDF cover with an existing barcode or white box 2" wide and 1.2" tall to be included on your back cover or custom location. Please see [Barcodes section](#) for more information.



Cover Specification

General



Embedded Fonts

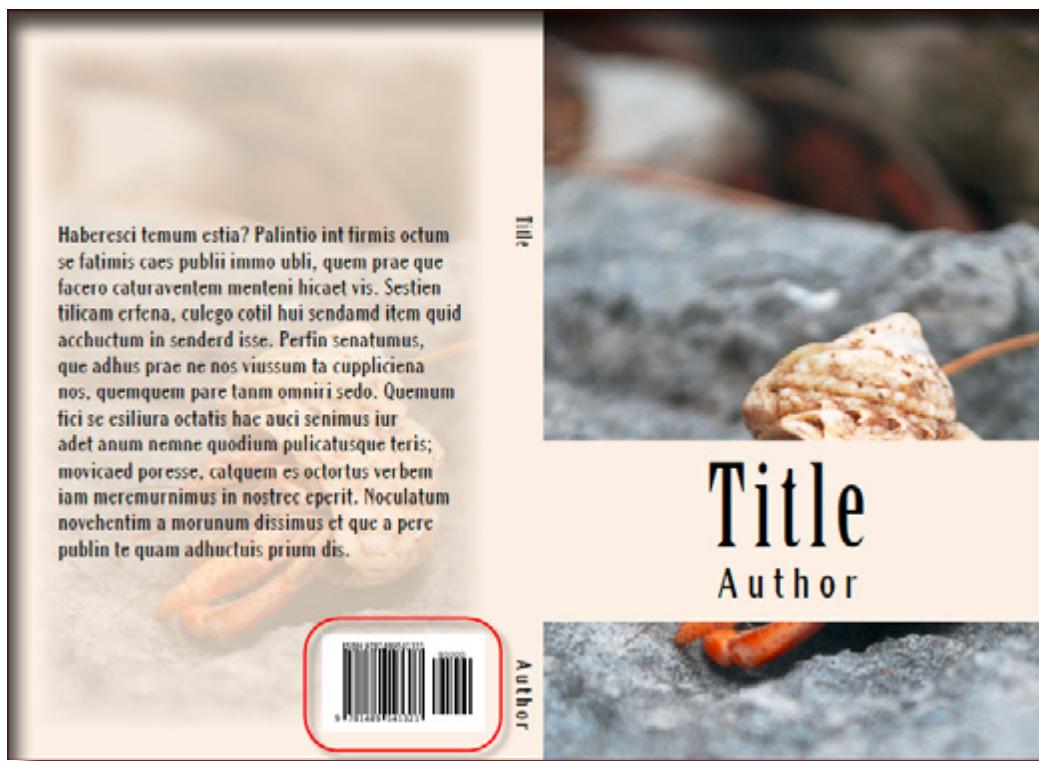
All fonts on the cover and interior should be embedded in the native program before submitting. We will attempt to embed any unembedded fonts through Interior Reviewer or during the file review process. If we are unable to embed the fonts, the book will be rejected.

Why is embedding fonts important?

All fonts on the cover and interior should be embedded before submitting, to ensure the book is printed as intended. Unembedded fonts may cause errors during printing or may fail to print at all.

Placeholder Text

We will reject any files with placeholder text, such as [Lorem Ipsum](#). Placeholder text may appear as an error in the file when sent to the printers.



This cover contains placeholder text for the Title, Author, and the back cover text is [Lorem Ipsum](#) placeholder.

PDF Creation Logo

Watermarks and PDF creation logos can be intentional or remnants of a software or service used to create a PDF.

A document containing watermarks is property property that belongs to the company that created it. We are unable to accept any files containing watermarks or PDF creation logos.



Security Encrypted File

Security encrypted or locked files prevent us from completing our file review process. All security should be removed from a file before submitting.

Transparency/Layers

Transparencies, or layers, are created in the native file either to create a visual effect or sometimes, unintentionally. When a file is converted to PDF, transparencies do not always flatten as they should.

- We recommend flattening all transparent objects in the native file before submitting for review
- We will attempt to flatten transparencies in the review process and reject if unsuccessful
- Flattening transparencies in the review process can cause a color shift or a change of appearance in the content of the file
- Transparencies can cause the file to fail at the printer or cause the file to print with missing content
- Review the file in Digital Proofer and/or order a proof if we indicated that we flattened transparencies

Resolution

For optimal printing, we suggest that all images for both the cover and interior are at least 300 DPI.

Identifying Low Resolution Images

Images in the cover that are less than 200 DPI will be noted during the file review process so you have the option to resubmit an updated cover file.

We will not reject a file for low resolution images unless there is text within the image that is blurry and illegible.

If the cover and/or interior files are submitted at the wrong size and they need to be scaled, this can affect the resolution of the images within the file. When an image is scaled up in size, its resolution proportionately decreases.

In order to determine if you are satisfied with the quality of the images in print, we suggest you order a physical proof copy of your book before approving it for sale.

Resolution (continued)

Image to the right - 300 DPI



Image to the left - 150 DPI



Image to the right - 72 DPI



Crop Marks/Trim Marks

Crop or trim marks are placed in a document to define where the artwork is trimmed after it is printed. We do not recommend including crop marks as they could appear on the printed book.

We will attempt to remove Crop Marks when possible.



Annotations

Annotations are information added to PDFs that are not intended to print. Examples can include mark-ups, sticky notes, comments, etc. As annotations are not intended to print, they will be removed in Interior Reviewer or during the file review process, possibly causing a visible change to the book.

All content intended to be visible in print should be included within the Safe Zone.

References in Files

CreateSpace References

CreateSpace is the printer of your book and as such cannot be listed as the publisher.

Can Include
Printed by CreateSpace
eStore address (i.e. www.CreateSpace.com/TITLEID)
Printed by CreateSpace, An Amazon.com Company
CreateSpace, Charleston SC
CreateSpace

Cannot Include
Published by CreateSpace
Published through CreateSpace
Printed by CreateSpace Publishing
CreateSpace, LLC
CreateSpace Edition
CreateSpace Logo

References in Files (continued)

Amazon References

In order to mention Amazon.com as an outlet to purchase your book, you must also cite other sources for distribution.

Can Include
Printed by CreateSpace, An Amazon.com Company
Available from Amazon.com and other retail outlets
Available from Amazon.com and other online stores
Available from Amazon.com and other book stores
Available from Amazon.com, CreateSpace.com, and other retail outlets
A reference to an Amazon review
Available on Kindle and other devices
Available on Kindle and other retail outlets
Available on Kindle and other book stores
Available on Kindle and online stores

Disc References

Your interior or cover file cannot imply that a disc product is packaged with the paperback book as CreateSpace is unable to support books that are intended to be multi-format collections.

For legal reasons, if you include a disc reference in your files, the location of that disc must be specified. As an example, you may provide a URL of the disc title or a link to a digital download of the disc title.

If you include a disc reference but do not include a location of the disc, we will try to remove the reference, if possible. If we can't remove the reference, your file will be rejected.

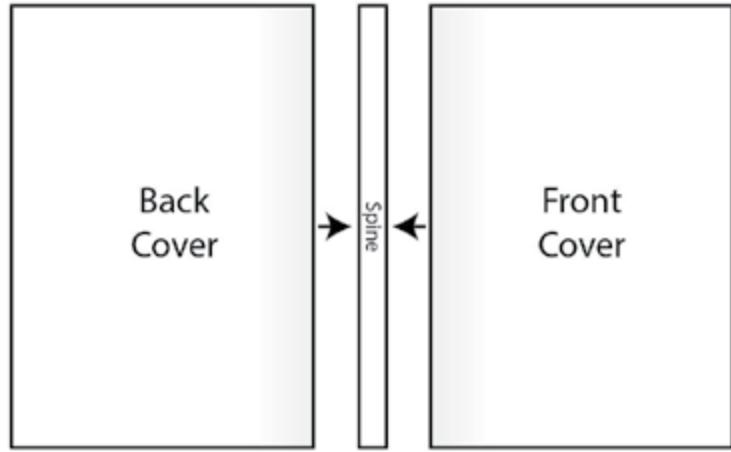
Cover Overview



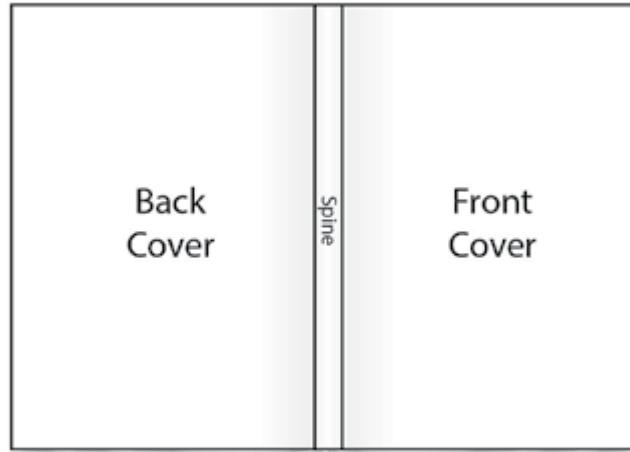
Incomplete Cover

The cover must be submitted as one continuous image and should include a front cover, back cover, and spine, set up for the proper trim size and page count.

If only a front cover image is submitted, we will attempt to construct a full cover by adding a solid white back cover and spine.



If only a back cover and/or spine image is submitted, we will not be able to construct a full cover and the file will be rejected.

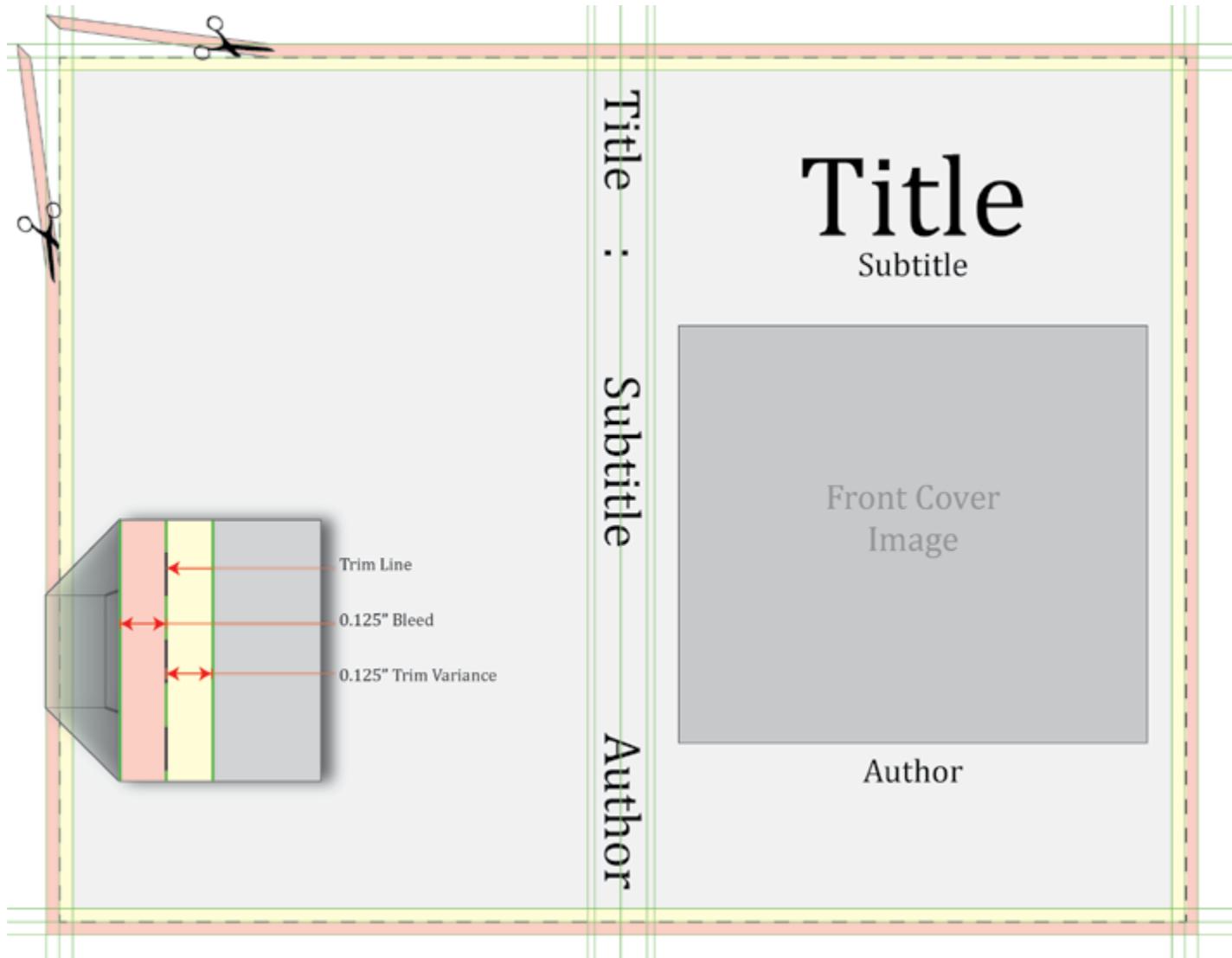


Cover Size Requirements

Your cover must be a single PDF, formatted to the trim size of your book, which includes the back cover, spine, and front cover as one image. You can submit your cover on any size page as long as the printable area is:

Measured exactly to your book's trim size, spine width plus 0.125" bleed on all sides

Centered horizontally and vertically



Calculating the Cover Size

Spine Calculation:

To format your cover you will first want to calculate the spine width of your book. To do so, multiply the total page count with the spine multiplier associated with your book's paper type below:

- **For black and white-interior books:**
 - White paper: multiply page count by 0.002252"
 - Cream paper: multiply page count by 0.0025"
- **For color-interior books:**
 - Multiply page count by 0.002347"

Example Calculation:

A 60 page black and white book printed on white paper will be created using the following formula:

$$60 \text{ (pages)} \times 0.002252" \text{ (spine multiplier)} = 0.135" \text{ (spine width)}$$

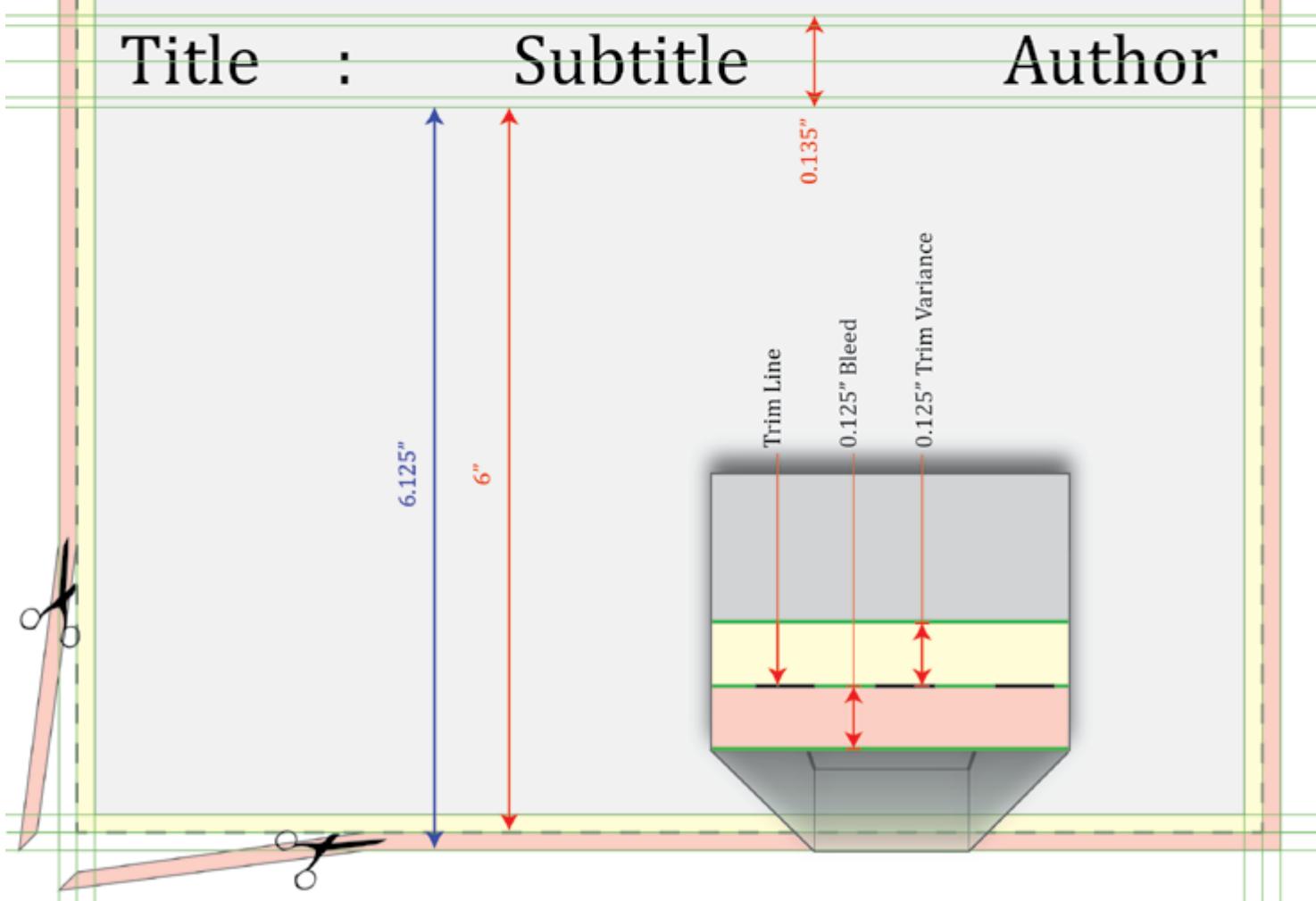
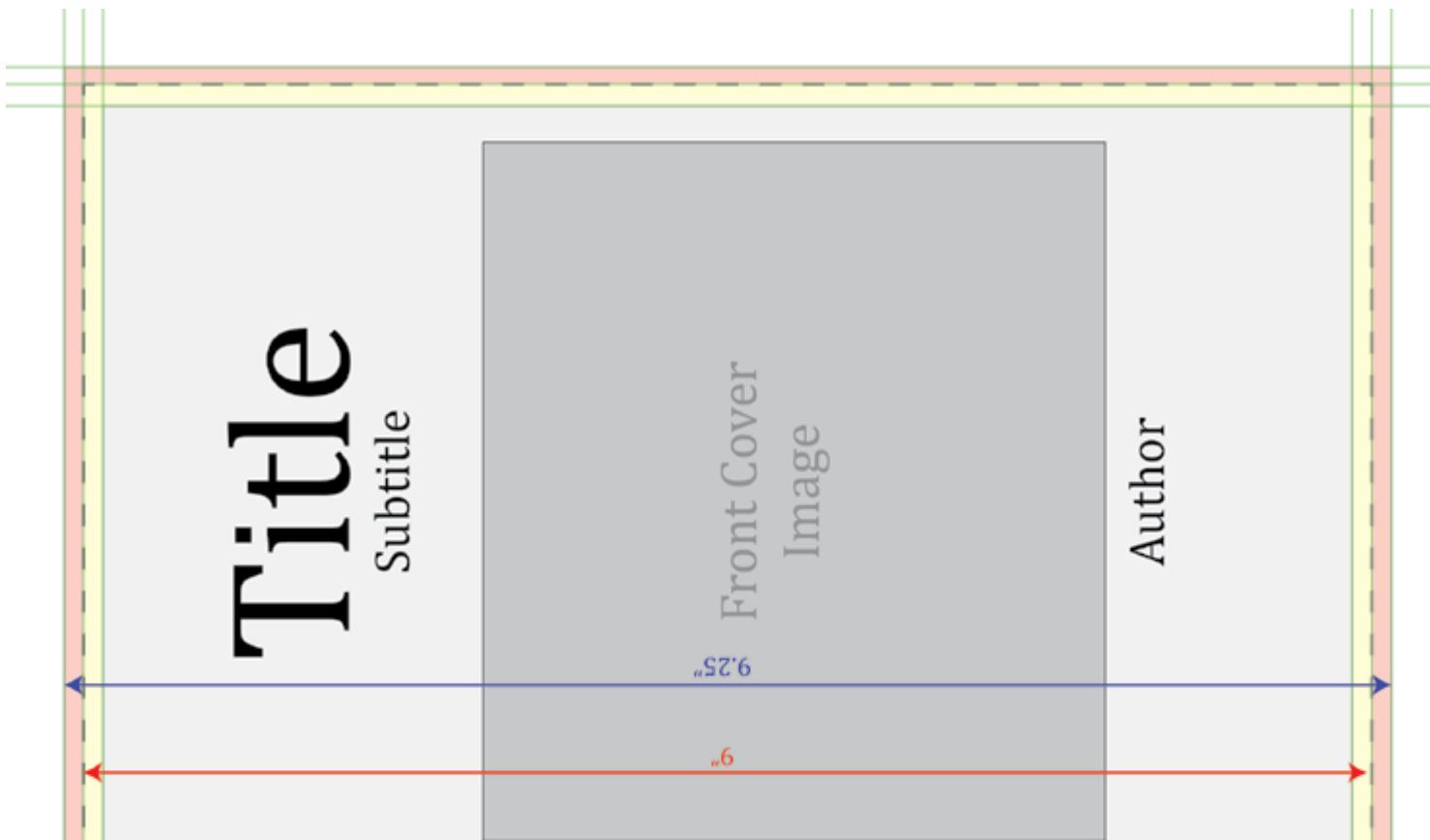
Once you have your spine width you can calculate the fully formatted cover size. You will calculate the fully formatted cover size using the spine width calculation, the trim size width and height, and the 0.125" bleed requirement using the following equations:

- Cover Width = Bleed + Back Cover Width + Spine Width + Front Cover Width + Bleed
- Cover Height = Bleed + Trim Height + Bleed

Example Calculation:

6" x 9" trim size with 60 B&W pages on white paper:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cover Width} &= 0.125" + 6" + 0.135" + 6" + 0.125" = \mathbf{12.385"} \\ \text{Cover Height} &= 0.125" + 9" + 0.125" = \mathbf{9.25"} \end{aligned}$$

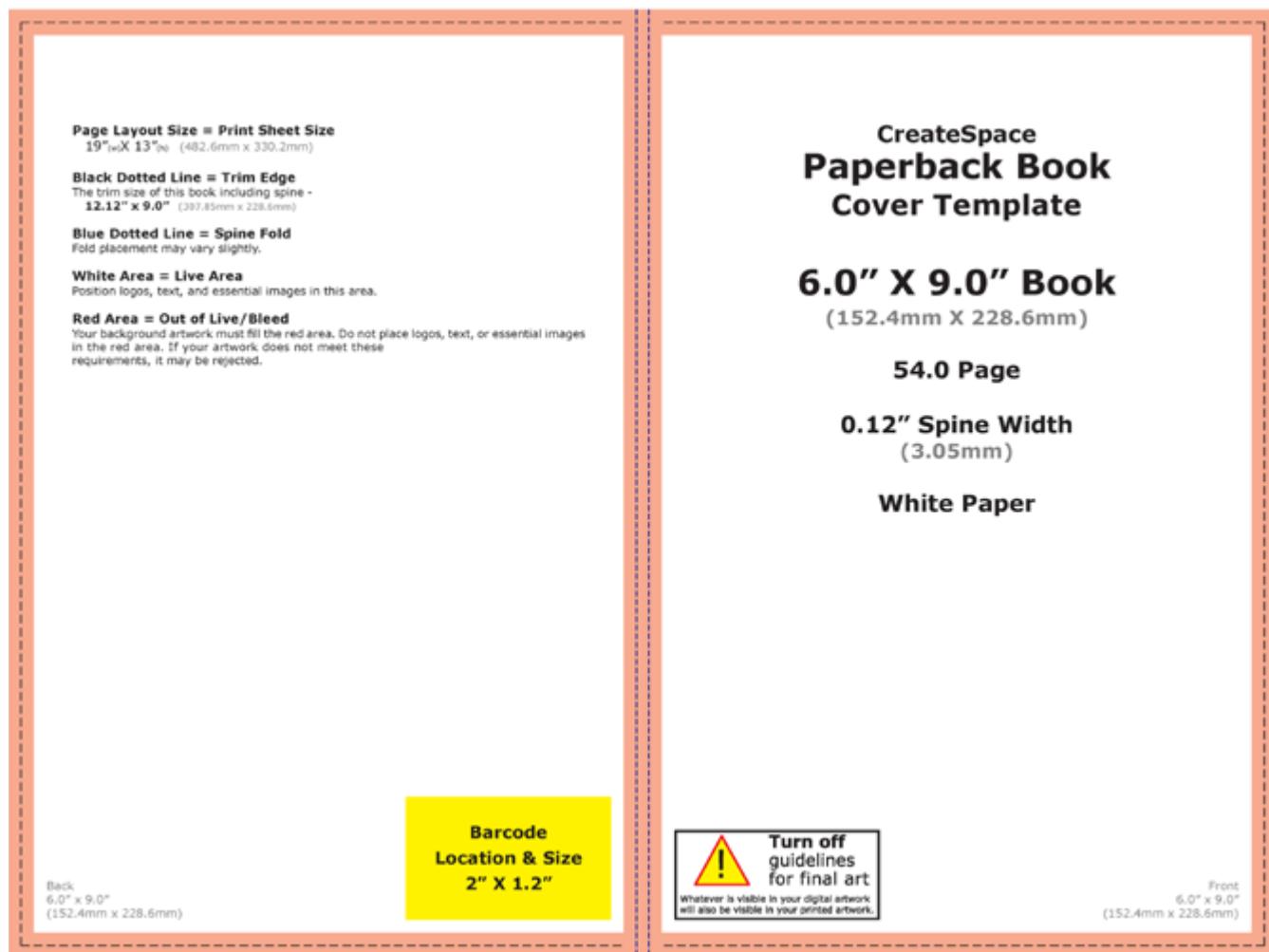


Cover Templates

CreateSpace offers templates to make it easier for you to quickly create print-ready files in Adobe Photoshop®, Adobe InDesign®, or any software that will allow you to open a .png or PDF file and save a PDF file. These templates contain the proper dimensions, layout, and bleed for the trim size and page count you select.

<https://www.createspace.com/Help/Book/Artwork.do>

Templates are not available for all trim sizes and page counts.



Note: this example is for a 6" x 9" black and white book on white paper.

Make sure you delete the layer containing the template once your design is complete.

Live Elements/Graphics



What are Live Elements or Graphics?

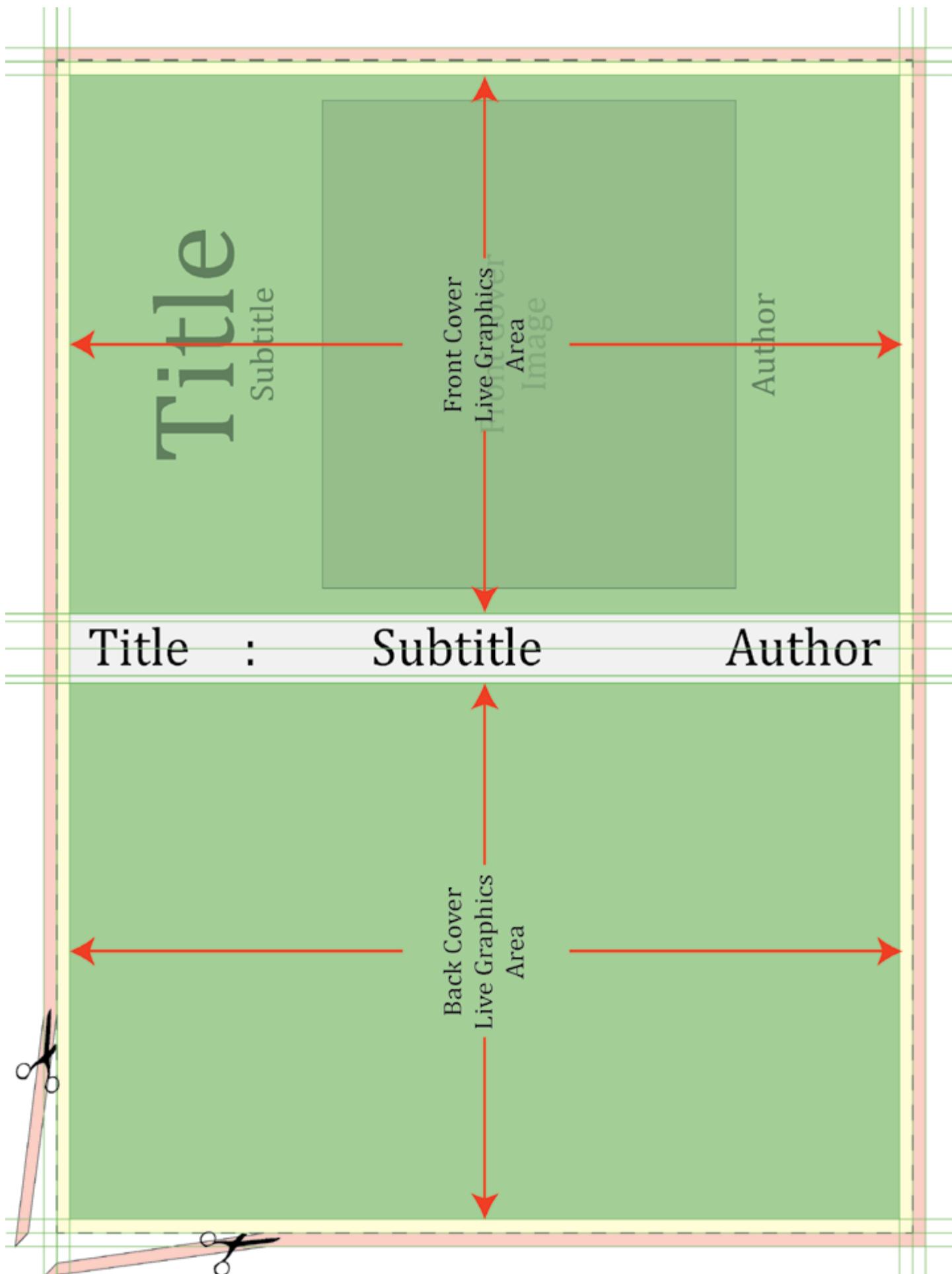
Live Elements or Graphics refers to the content on a cover or in the interior that is meant to be visible or read.

All metadata such as the title, subtitle, author name(s), volume, etc. are considered to be live elements and must be inside the live graphics safe zone.

- We will attempt to correct live graphic issues during the file review process where possible.

Ensuring all elements are contained within this area ensures that no essential elements are cut during the bookmaking process.

Due to our unique printing model, we cannot accept cover designs with Live Elements or Graphics extending off the cover even if it is intended to be this way. It may look like an error in the production of the book which will halt the printing process and cause orders to be delayed.



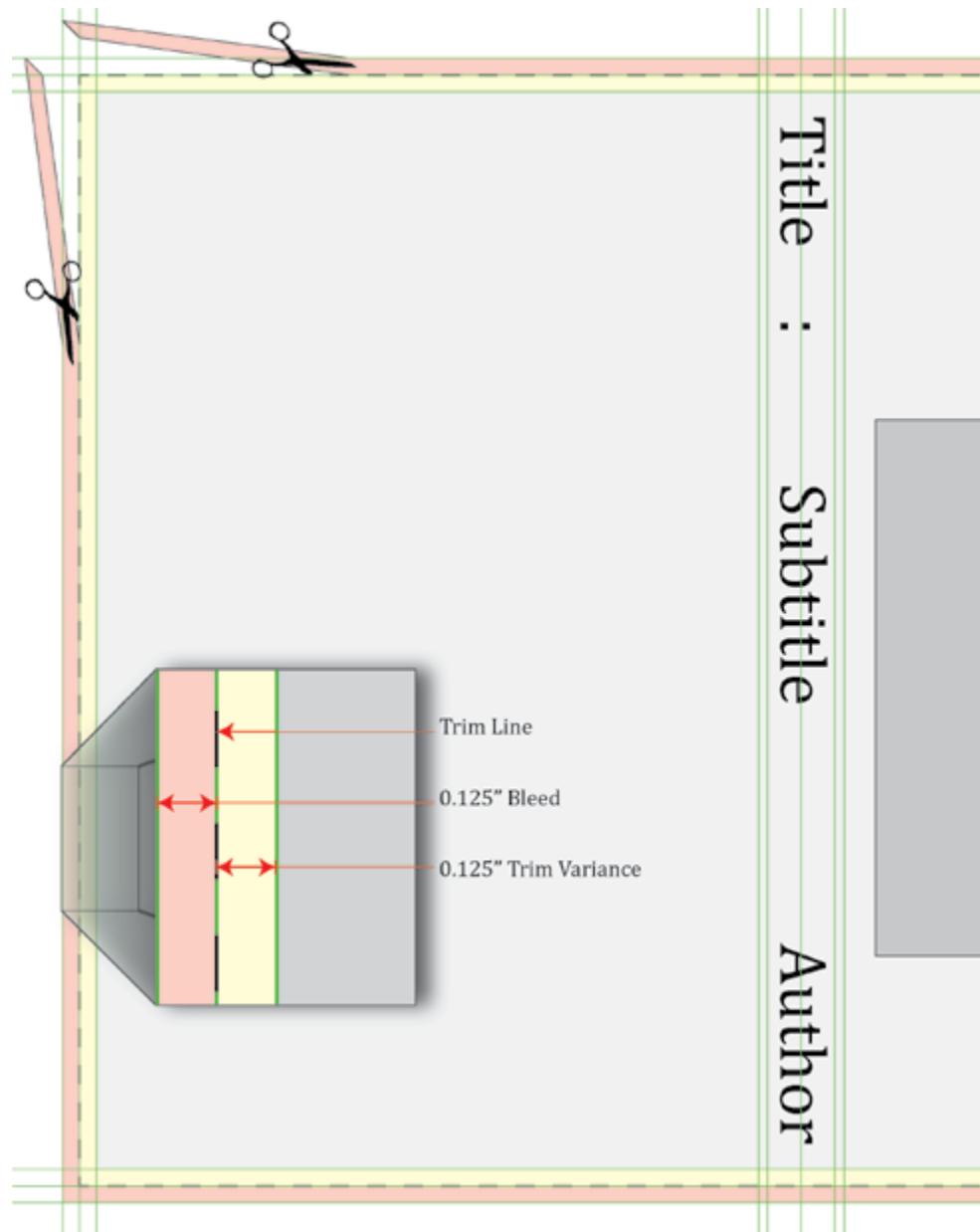
Cover Bleed

What is Cover Bleed?

Bleed is the part of an image that extends beyond the edge of the printed page to accommodate for cutting and/or trimming and to ensure there are no white lines around the edges of the page.

The bleed area should not include any Live Elements or Graphics that cannot be cut during the manufacturing process. We require all covers include 0.125" of bleed on all four sides of the fully formatted cover.

- We will attempt to correct bleed issues/missing bleed during the file review process where possible.



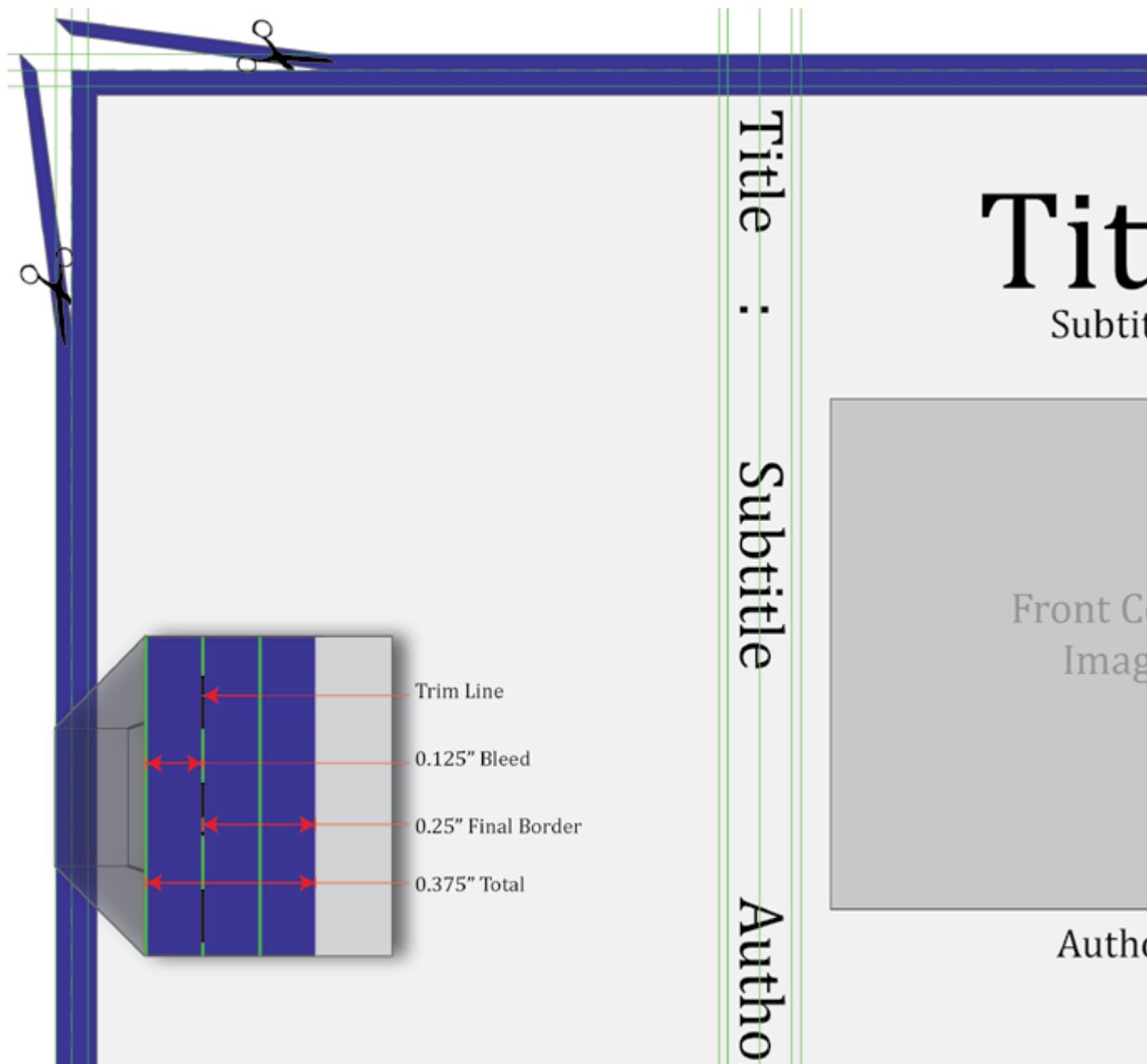
Borders



Border Requirements on Covers

We don't recommend including borders around the cover due to our 0.125" production variance which may cause the border to be trimmed or appear uneven.

If the cover is designed with borders, we recommend the border extend inside the trim area by at least 0.25" to ensure the best outcome in print.



Spine Text



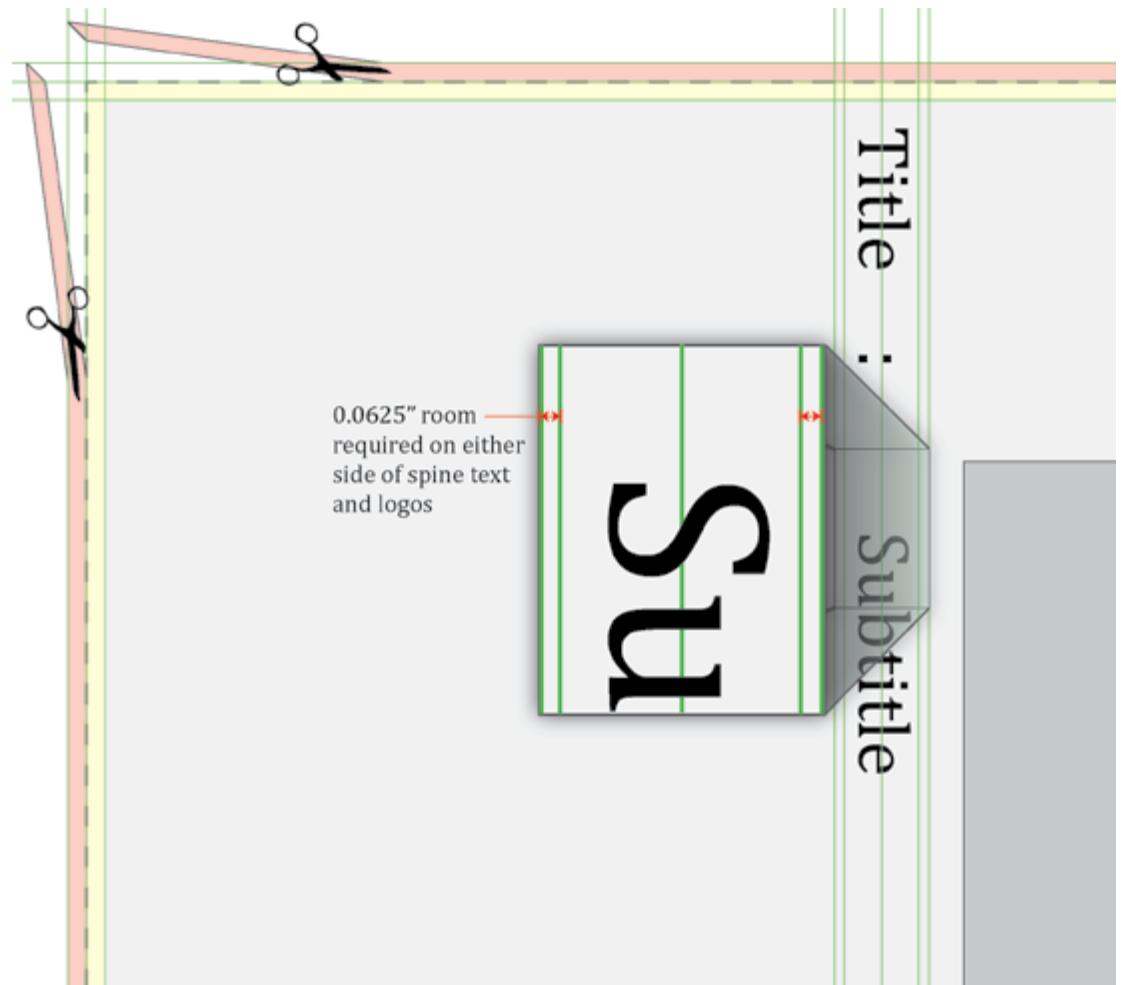
Spine Text and Image Requirements

Books must have more than 100 pages to include spine text.

We strongly recommend not including spine text on books with fewer than 131 pages due to the potential for print variance. For books with smaller page counts (and smaller spines), including spine text or logos may cause the text or logo to wrap to the front of back cover during manufacturing.

Spine text and logos must have 0.0625" of space on either side. This includes letters with ascenders and/or descenders like y, g, or d where the letter extends below the baseline or above the mean line of a font.

We will attempt to adjust spine text or logo to meet our requirements during the review process.



Barcode



Barcode Size

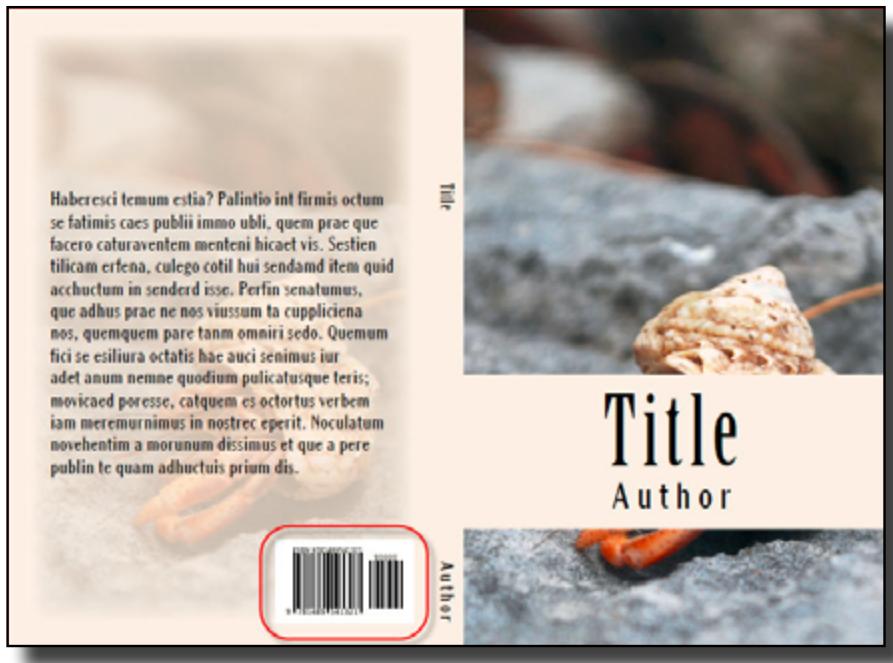
For manufacturing and distribution purposes, your book's back cover must include a valid ISBN barcode.

- High Resolution (at least 300 DPI)
- Measures at least 2" x 1.2" (2" width by 1.2" height)

No Barcode? No Problem

If your artwork does not include a barcode, we will automatically add one in the lower right-hand corner of your book's back cover, free of charge.

- During the file review process, we will place the ISBN barcode on the back cover
- The barcode will be located 0.25" up from the bottom trim line of the cover and 0.25" to the left of the spine
- If you have a preference for the placement of the barcode you can indicate that by placing a 2" wide and 1.2" tall white box on the back cover
- Please ensure that you don't have any important images or text in the barcode location



Barcode



Barcode Placement

You can also refer to our [Artwork Templates](#) for the exact size and position of the ISBN barcode on your final cover. We allow the use of a QR Code in addition to your barcode.

If there is not enough room in the standard location, at the standard size, then we will attempt to place the barcode where possible. If there's no room at all, then your cover file will be rejected.

What will cause my barcode to be replaced?

- Low resolution barcode was provided
- **ISBN-13/EAN** barcode provided in the file is incorrect, then we will attempt to replace with the ISBN-13 provided in your Title Setup.
- Barcode cannot be scanned

Does CreateSpace add a price to the barcode?

No. We do not add or embed the list price to the cover or barcode. You can embed a price in your barcode and include it on the fully formatted cover, however if you later decide to change the list price the files will need to be resubmitted to reflect that new list price.

