

# 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 automatically 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> .....	12
<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
<i>Spread Format</i> .....	28

### Interior Type and Paper Color

<i>Black and White Interior Type</i> .....	29
<i>Full Color Interior Type</i> .....	30
<i>White vs. Cream Paper</i> .....	31

## INTERIOR SPECIFICATION *(continued)*

### Trim Size

<i>What is a Trim Size? .....</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Trim Size Options .....</i>	<i>32</i>
<i>Trim Size and Expanded Distribution.....</i>	<i>34</i>

### Bleed and Page Size

<i>What is Bleed? .....</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>Setting your Page Size (without Bleed) .....</i>	<i>37</i>
<i>Setting your Page Size (with Bleed) .....</i>	<i>38</i>

### Margins

<i>What are Margins? .....</i>	<i>39</i>
<i>Margin Examples .....</i>	<i>40</i>

### Pagination

<i>Pagination.....</i>	<i>41</i>
------------------------	-----------

### Blank Pages

<i>Blank Pages.....</i>	<i>42</i>
-------------------------	-----------

### Page Orientation

<i>Page Orientation.....</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Upside-Down Pages .....</i>	<i>43</i>
<i>Calendar or Landscape Style .....</i>	<i>44</i>
<i>Right to Left Reading .....</i>	<i>45</i>

## COVER SPECIFICATION

### General

<i>Embedded Fonts.....</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>Placeholder Text.....</i>	<i>48</i>
<i>PDF Creation Logo.....</i>	<i>49</i>
<i>Security Encrypted File .....</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Transparency/Layers.....</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Crop Marks/Trim Marks .....</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>Annotations .....</i>	<i>51</i>
<i>Resolution .....</i>	<i>52</i>
<i>CreateSpace, Amazon, and Disc References in Files .....</i>	<i>54</i>

### Cover Set-up

<i>Incomplete Cover.....</i>	<i>56</i>
<i>Cover Size Requirements.....</i>	<i>57</i>
<i>Calculating the Cover Size .....</i>	<i>58</i>
<i>Cover Templates.....</i>	<i>60</i>

### Live Elements/Graphics

<i>What are Live Elements or Graphics? .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Why do Live Elements/Graphics Matter? .....</i>	<i>61</i>
<i>Live Elements Example Image.....</i>	<i>62</i>

## **COVER SPECIFICATION** *(continued)*

### **Cover Bleed**

<i>What is Cover Bleed?</i> .....	63
<i>Borders</i> .....	64

### **Cover Spine Text**

<i>Text and Images on Spines</i> .....	65
----------------------------------------	----

### **Barcodes**

<i>Barcode Size</i> .....	66
<i>Barcode Placement</i> .....	67

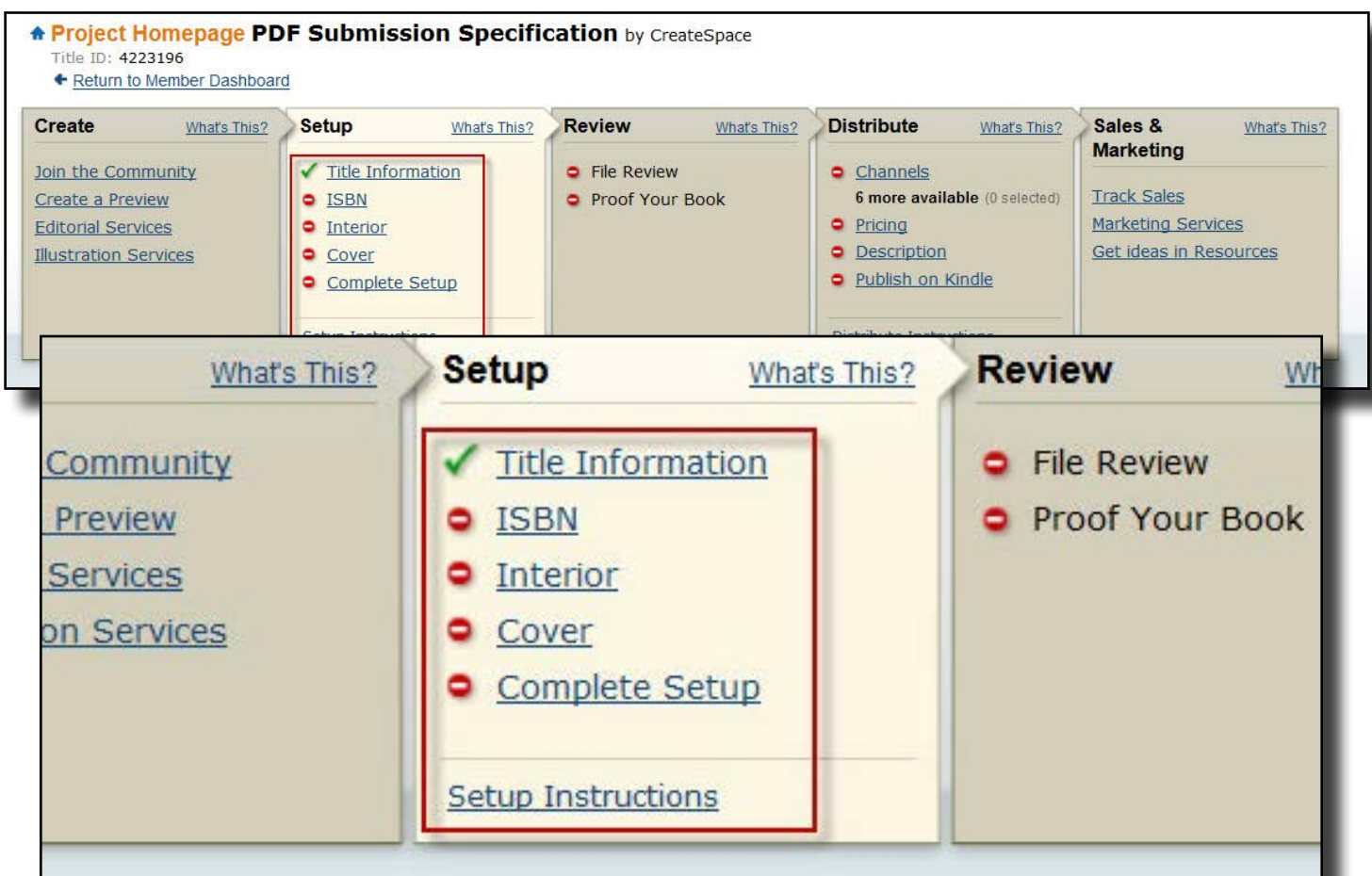
# Metadata Specification



## 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	Setup	Review	Distribute	Sales & Marketing
<a href="#">Join the Community</a> <a href="#">Create a Preview</a> <a href="#">Editorial Services</a> <a href="#">Illustration Services</a>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Title Information</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">ISBN</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Interior</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Cover</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Complete Setup</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">File Review</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Proof Your Book</a>	<input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Channels</a> 6 more available (0 selected) <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Pricing</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Description</a> <input type="checkbox"/> <a href="#">Publish on Kindle</a>	<a href="#">Track Sales</a> <a href="#">Marketing Services</a> <a href="#">Get ideas in Resources</a>

**Setup**

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

[Setup Instructions](#)

**Review**

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

## Title

- Information entered on the Project Homepage accepts [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 in your account
- 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 ISBN and cannot be changed after you complete the review process.

Title \*

PDF Submission Specification

Subtitle

[What's this?](#)

Primary Author \*

[What's this?](#)

CreateSpace

PrefixFirst Name / InitialMiddle Name / InitialLast Name / Surname

Add Contributors

[What's this?](#)

Authored by

Add

☐ This book is part of a series ([What's this?](#))

## Subtitle

- Information entered on the Project Homepage accepts [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 what appears in the Title Information section of the account
- 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
- 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  
ex: Title: Subtitle

### 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.

## Subtitle (continued)

### CreateSpace Title Setup

#### Title Information

[Back](#)

**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 \***

**Subtitle**   
[What's this?](#)

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

**Add Contributors**

### Amazon Detail Page

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

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

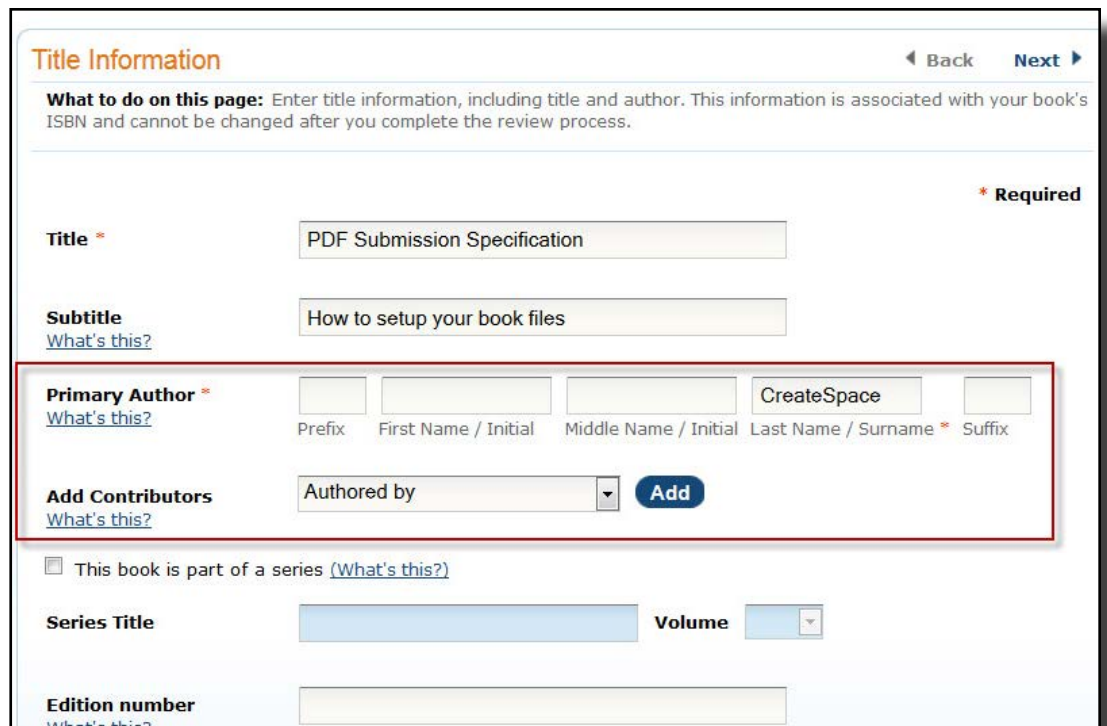
---

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

- Information entered on the Project Homepage accepts [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 what appears in the Title Information section of the account
  - Cannot substitute nicknames
  - Cannot substitute 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.

**Title \***

**Subtitle**   
[What's this?](#)

**Primary Author \*** [What's this?](#)

<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	CreateSpace	<input type="text" value=""/>
Prefix	First Name / Initial	Middle Name / Initial	Last Name / Surname *	Suffix

**Add Contributors** [What's this?](#)

Authored by  [Add](#)

☐ This book is part of a series [What's this?](#)

**Series Title**  **Volume**

**Edition number**   
[What's this?](#)

## *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 your account, 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 in the Title Information
- 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. A 10-digit and 13-digit ISBN will be assigned to your 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 an agreement with 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 be consistent with the rest of the file
- 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
<a href="#">Join the Community</a> <a href="#">Create a Preview</a> <a href="#">Editorial Services</a> <a href="#">Illustration Services</a>	<a href="#">Title Information</a> <input checked="" type="radio"/> <b>ISBN</b> <input type="radio"/> Interior <input type="radio"/> Cover <input type="radio"/> Complete Setup <a href="#">Setup Instructions</a>	<input type="radio"/> File Review <input type="radio"/> Proof Your Book	<input type="radio"/> Channels 6 more available (0 selected) <input type="radio"/> Pricing <input type="radio"/> Description <input type="radio"/> Publish on Kindle <a href="#">Distribute Instructions</a>

## 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 | Search Site

**CreateSpace**  
Title ID: 4297240

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

**Create**

**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** [Back](#) [Next](#)

**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** **Only \$10**  
Set your own [imprint](#) to be listed as the publisher.

☐ **Custom Universal ISBN** **Only \$99**  
Set a custom imprint while keeping your distribution and publishing options open.

☐ **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 is not available, we will update these fields in the account 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

## *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 the Interior Reviewer or during the file review process. If we are unable to embed the fonts, the book will be rejected during the file review process.

### ***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*

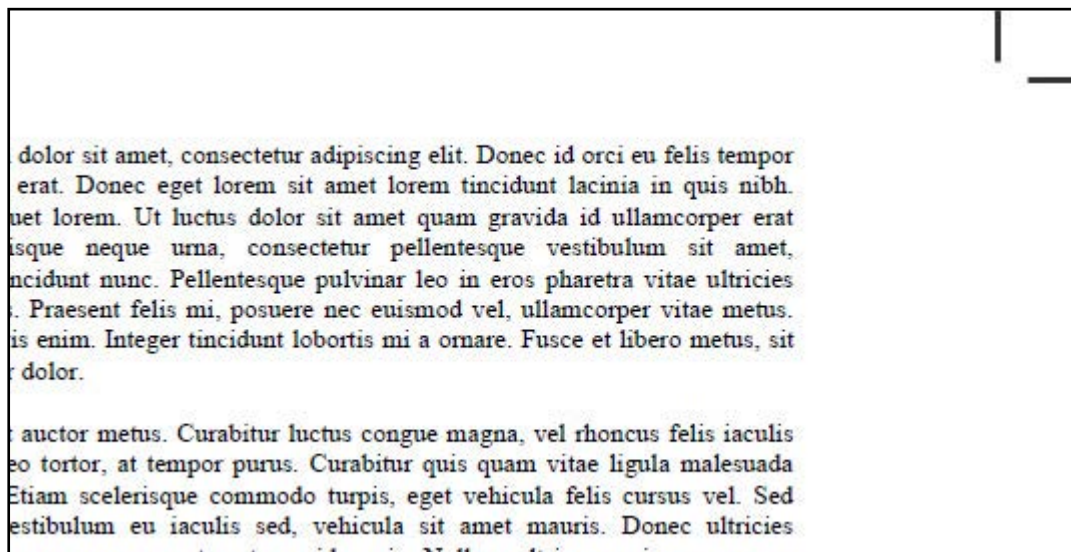
We will reject any files with placeholder text, such as [Lorem Ipsum](#). Placeholder text may appear as an error in the file when sent to the printers.

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.

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*

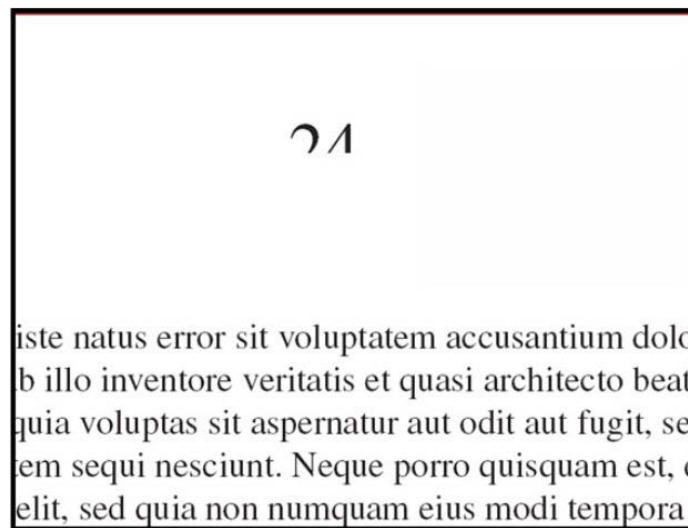
Annotations are information added to PDFs that are not intended to print. Examples can include mark-ups, sticky notes, comments, etc. As annotations are not intended to print, they will be removed in the Interior Reviewer or during the file review process, possibly causing a visible change to the book.

Annotations are not included in production and will be removed in the 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.

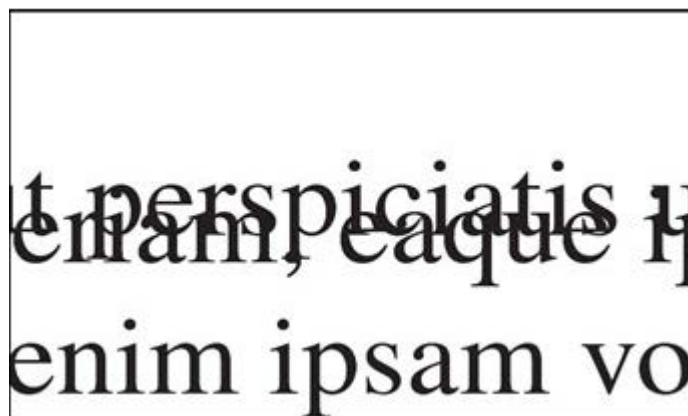
## *Cut-Off Text*

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 propriety 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

## *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 the 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.

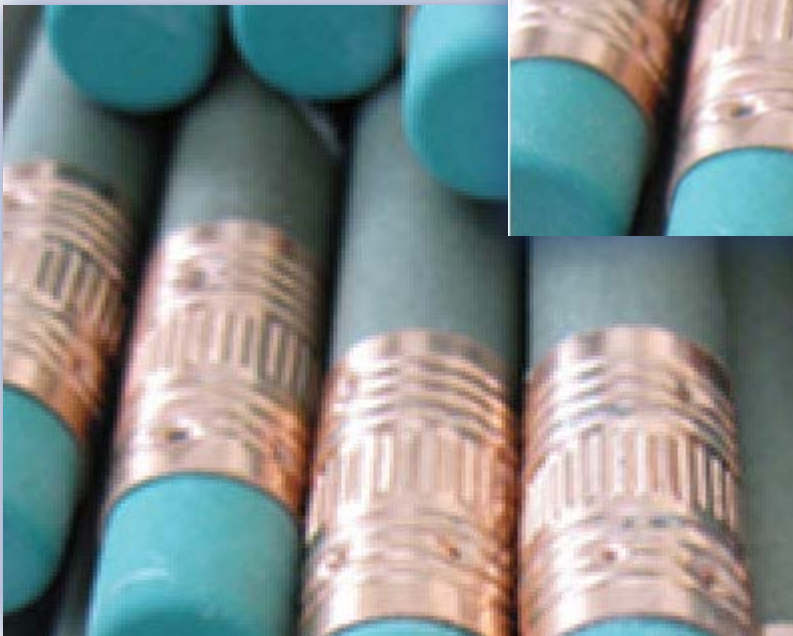


## *Resolution (continued)*

*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.

#### **Can Include**

Printed by CreateSpace

eStore address (i.e. [www.CreateSpace.com/TITLEID](http://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.

<b>Can Include</b>
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



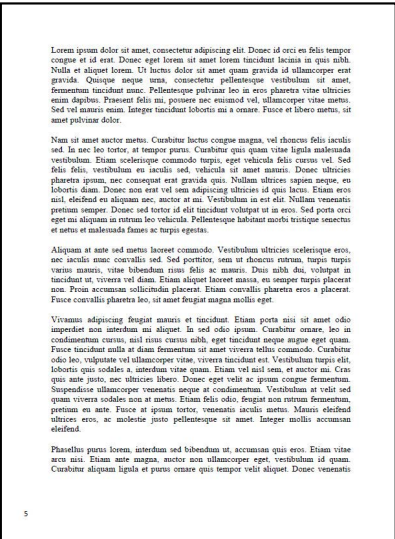
## Basic PDF Requirements

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.

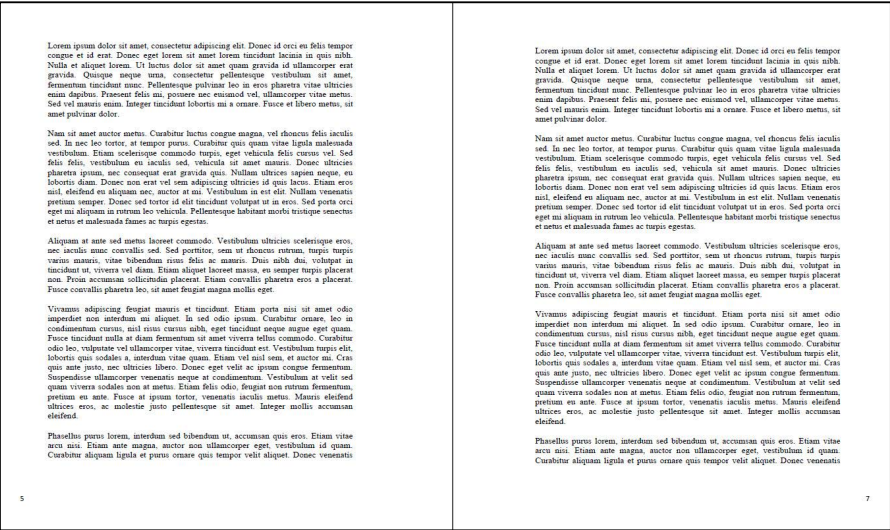
### What is a PDF?

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)



Single PDF page when viewed as double two page view.



Spread is when a document appears as 2 pages, but is actually a single page. Generally a spread format appears as a book would when opened, however the size of a spread is generally what prevents us from accepting it.

Phasellus purus lorem, interdum sed bibendum ut, accumsan quis eros. Etiam vitae arcu nisi. Etiam ante magna, auctor non ullamcorper eget, vestibulum id quam. Curabitur aliquam ligula et purus ornare quis tempor velit aliquet. Donec venenatis

However, your single page actually measures 12" x 9" and when viewed to print, the two actual left and right facing pages would appear like this:

[illegible]



# 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.

Separate printing machines 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*

*(color interior type on White paper only)*

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

Books with full color interiors may 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 tall.

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*

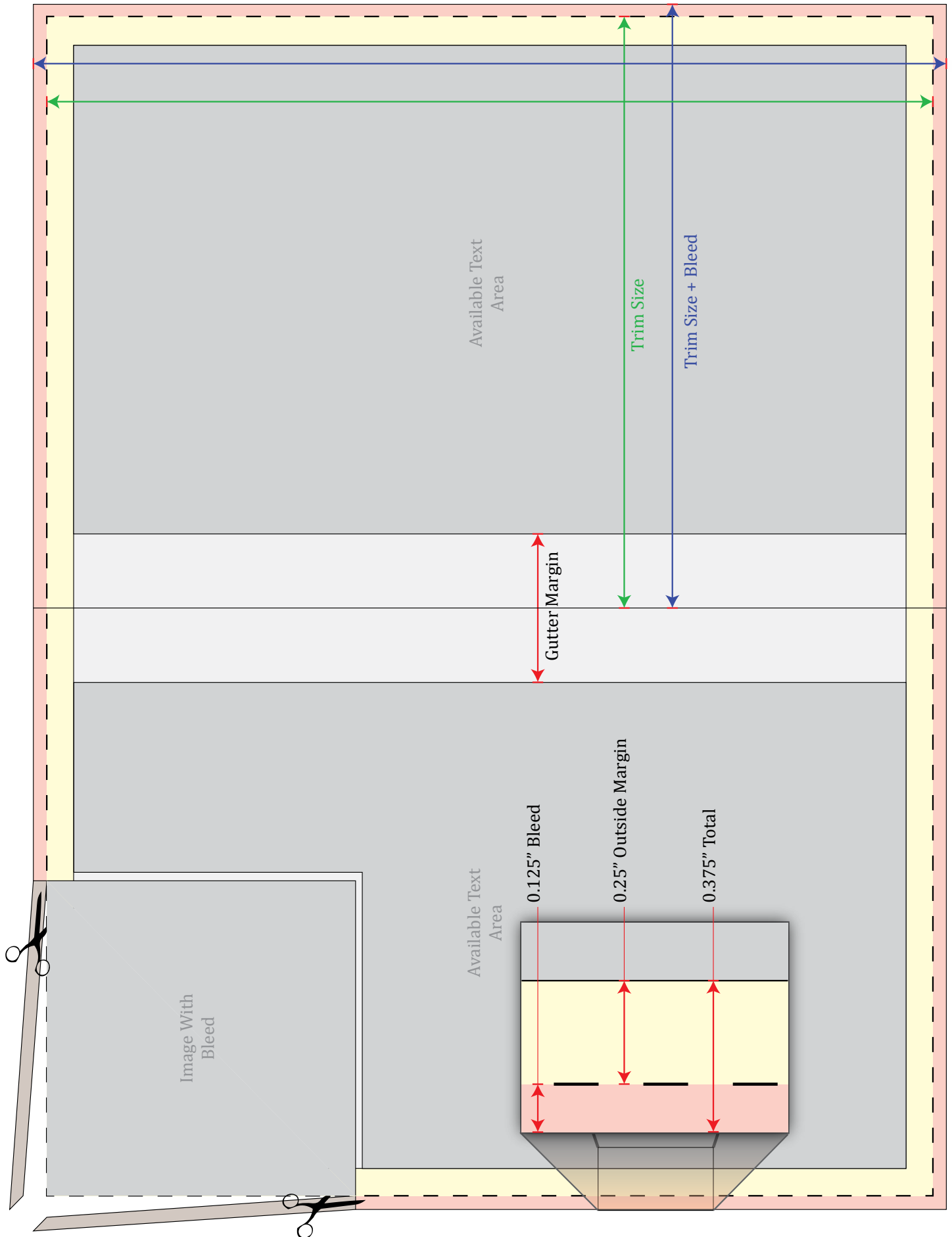
Eligible for Expanded Distribution? (Bookstores and Online Retailers)			
Trim Size (in inches)	White Paper (B&W interior)	Cream Paper (B&W interior)	Color Interior
5 x 8	✓	✓	
5.06 x 7.81	✓		
5.25 x 8	✓	✓	
5.5 x 8.5	✓	✓	✓
6 x 9	✓	✓	✓
6.14 x 9.21	✓		✓
6.69 x 9.61	✓		
7 x 10	✓		✓
7.44 x 9.69	✓		
7.5 x 9.25	✓		
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 book in Expanded Distribution, all CreateSpace books can be distributed through the Amazon.com, Amazon Europe and eStore channels.

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

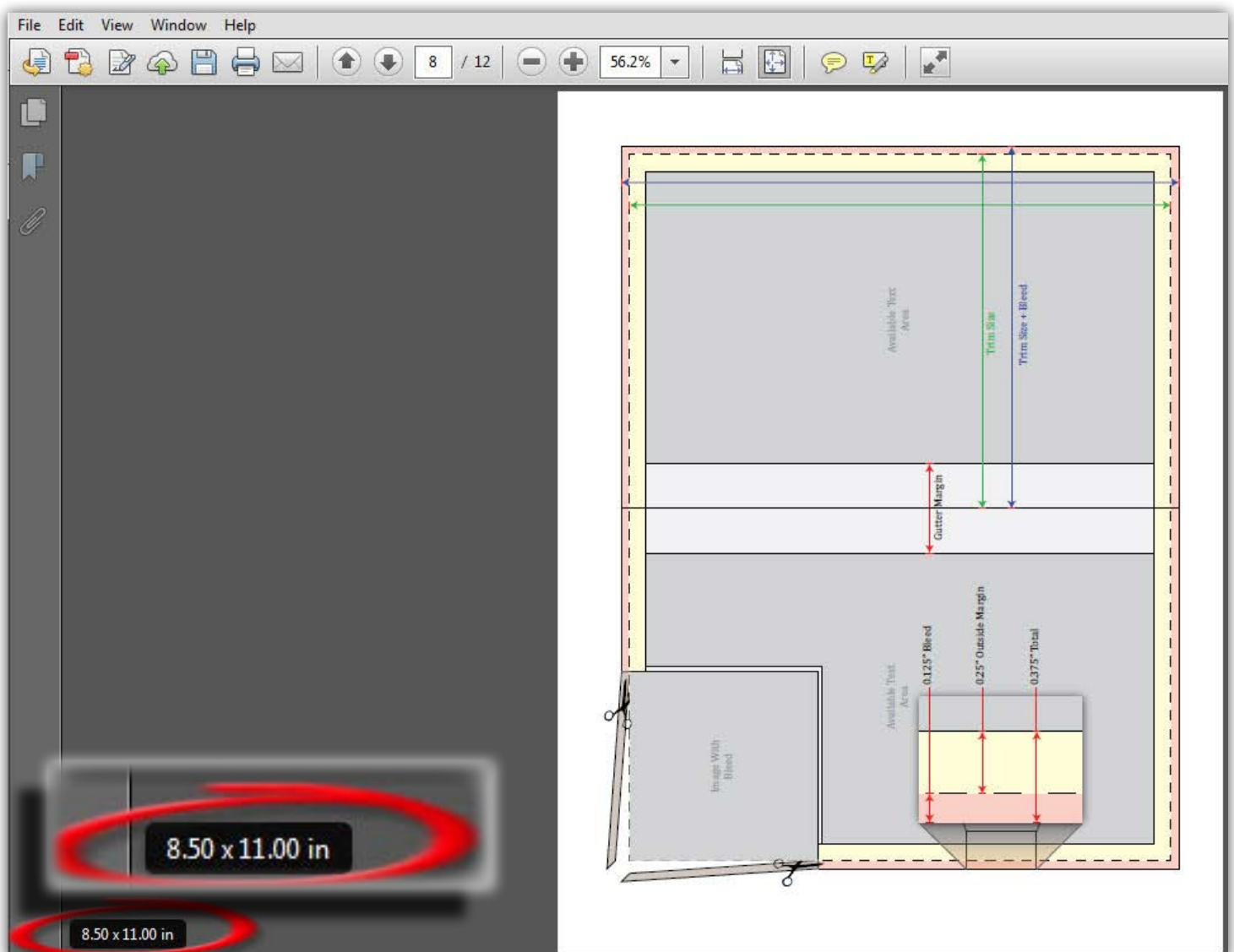




## Setting your Page Size (without bleed)

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 8.5" x 11", you will set the page size to 8.5 inches wide by 11 inches high.



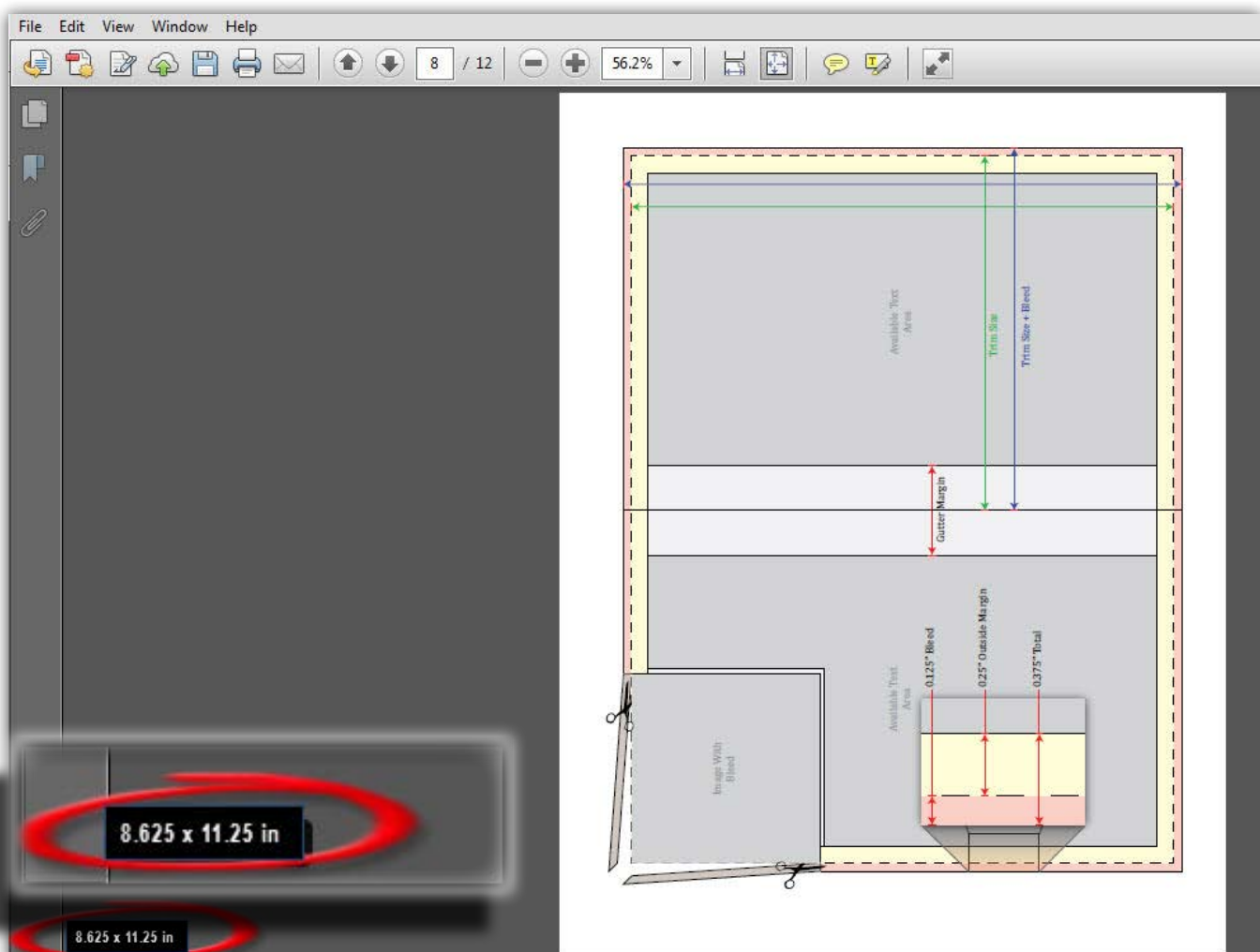


## Setting your Page Size (with Bleed)

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 8.5" x 11", you will set the page size to 8.625" wide by 11.25" 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. 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 if print variance comes into factor.



# Margins



## *What are Margins?*

Margins are, in the most basic definition, blank space required for printing. 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 amount of PDF pages in your book's interior determines the minimum required gutter margin.

### **Outside margins**

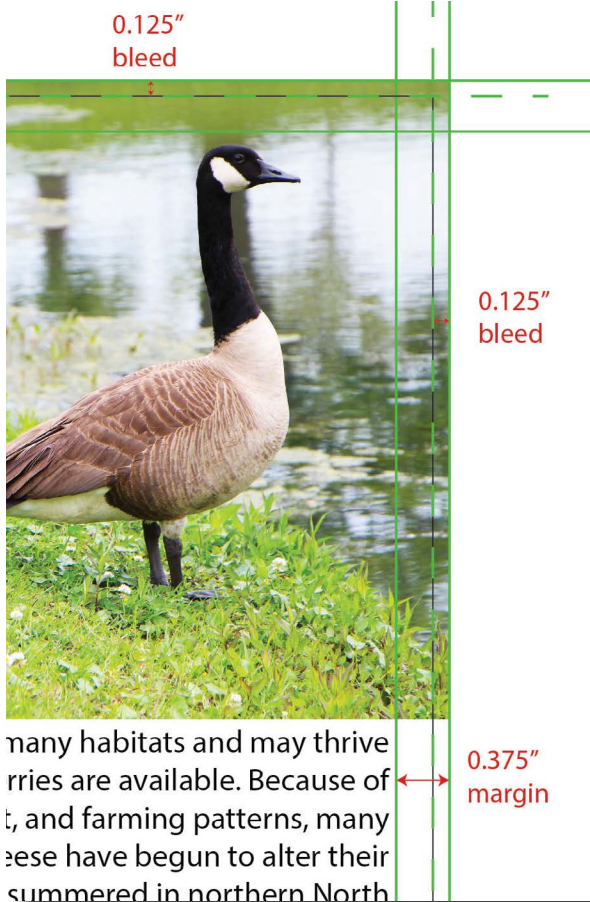
These are the top, bottom, and outside edges of an open book. We require at least .25" outside margins. The outside margin stops text from entering the trim area on the top, bottom, and sides that can be cut off during the printing process. While the minimum outside margin requirements for text and live 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 with Bleed](#)).

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

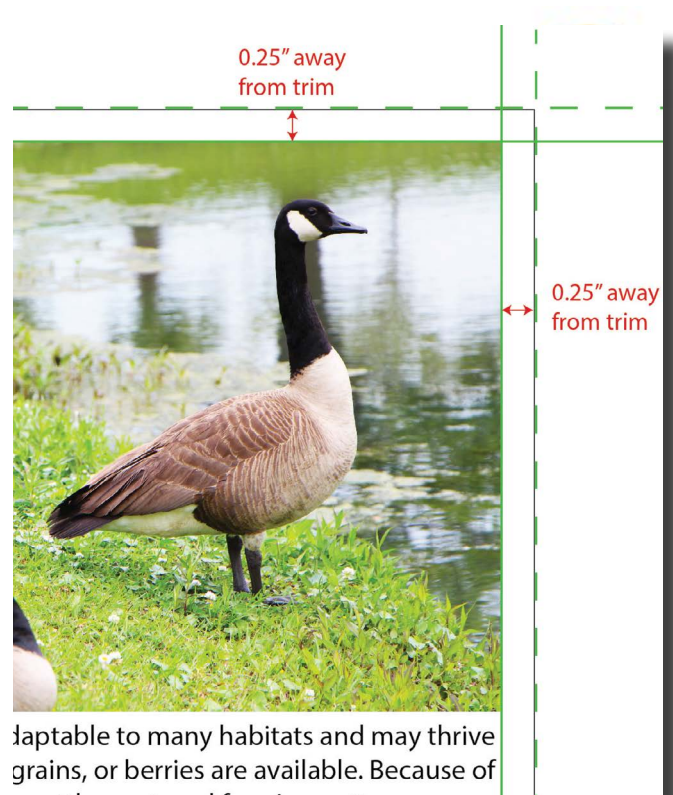
Page Count	Inside Margin	Outside Margins
24 to 150 pages	.375"	at least .25"
151 to 400 pages	.75	at least .25"
401 to 600 pages	.875"	at least .25"
More than 600 pages	1.0"	at least .25"

*Why is the margin requirement different? Because the larger the page count, the larger the amount of space or page lost in binding.*



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 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.



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.



# 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.

Any gap in the pagination should still account each individual page so that all pages are accounted for as if there was no gap. 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 interior. The following two examples show acceptable uses of Roman numerals: i, ii, iii, 4, 5, 6... or i, ii, iii, 1, 2, 3...

6

7

### PDF Page Numbers

**Leading Pages:**

**1, 2, 3, 4, 5**

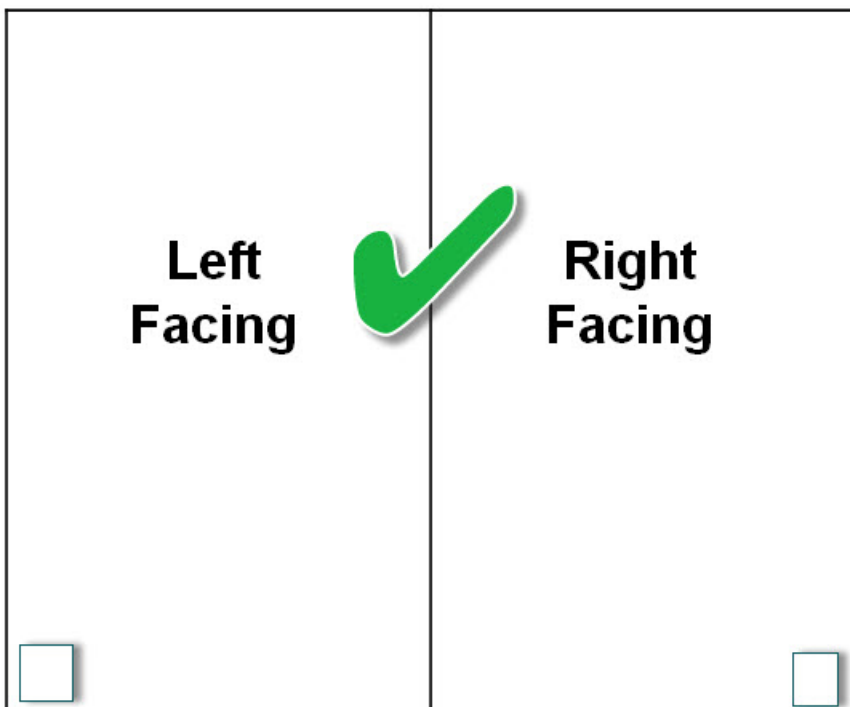
**Leading Pages:**

**i, ii, iii, iv, v...**

**Left  
Facing**



**Right  
Facing**

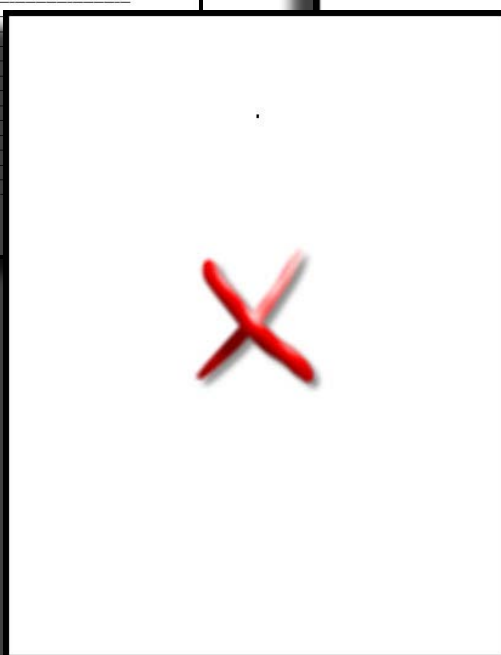
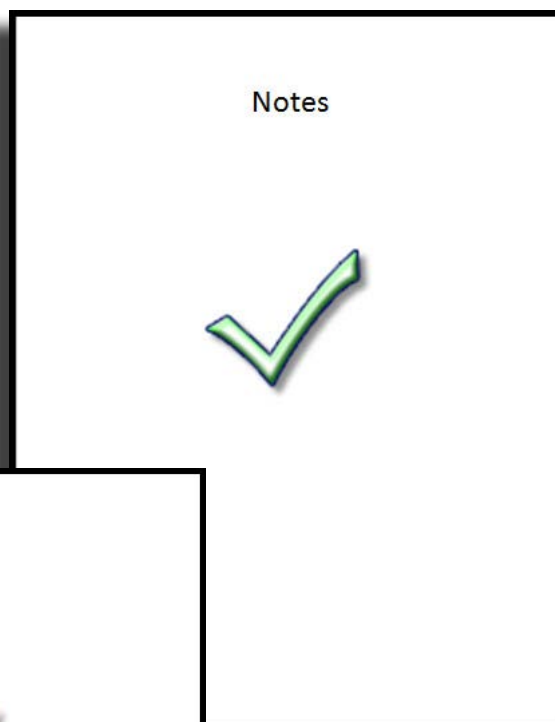
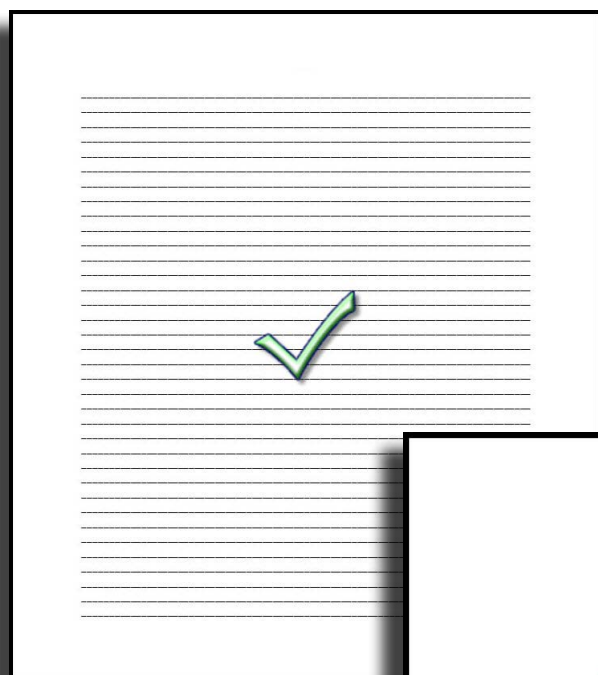


# Blank Pages

## *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.



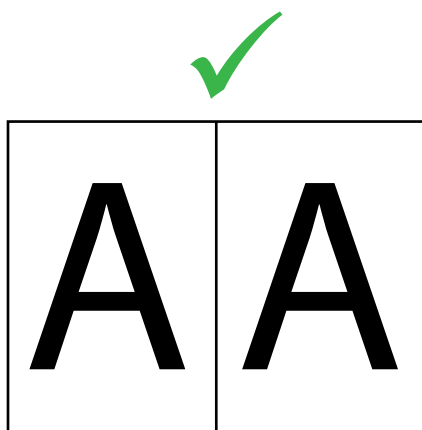
# Orientation

## *Page Orientation*

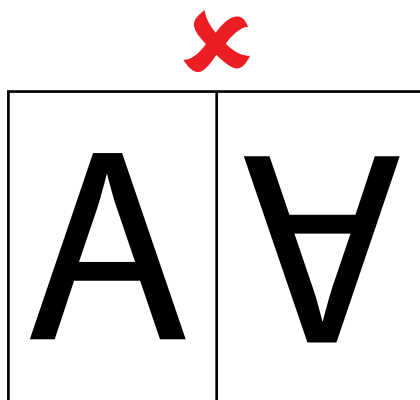
The placement of pages in a file. All pages and contents must be oriented the same way; otherwise, this looks like a mistake during the printing process.

## *Upside-down Pages*

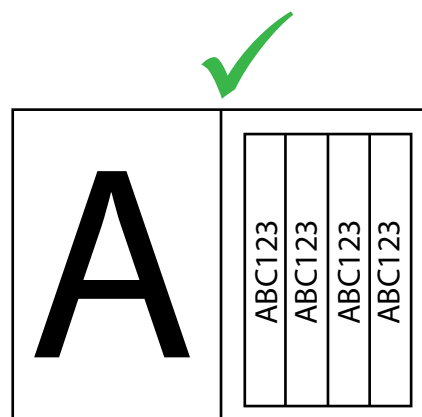
All pages must be right-side up or this will cause an error in our printing process.



(Right and left facing pages are Right side up)



(One page is upside down)

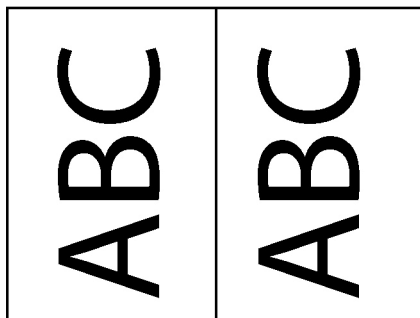


(The left facing page is Right side up and the right facing page is landscape to show a graph or image more effectively. This will pass)

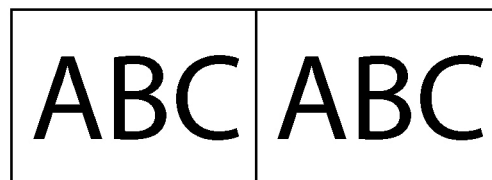
## *Calendar or Landscape Style*

***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

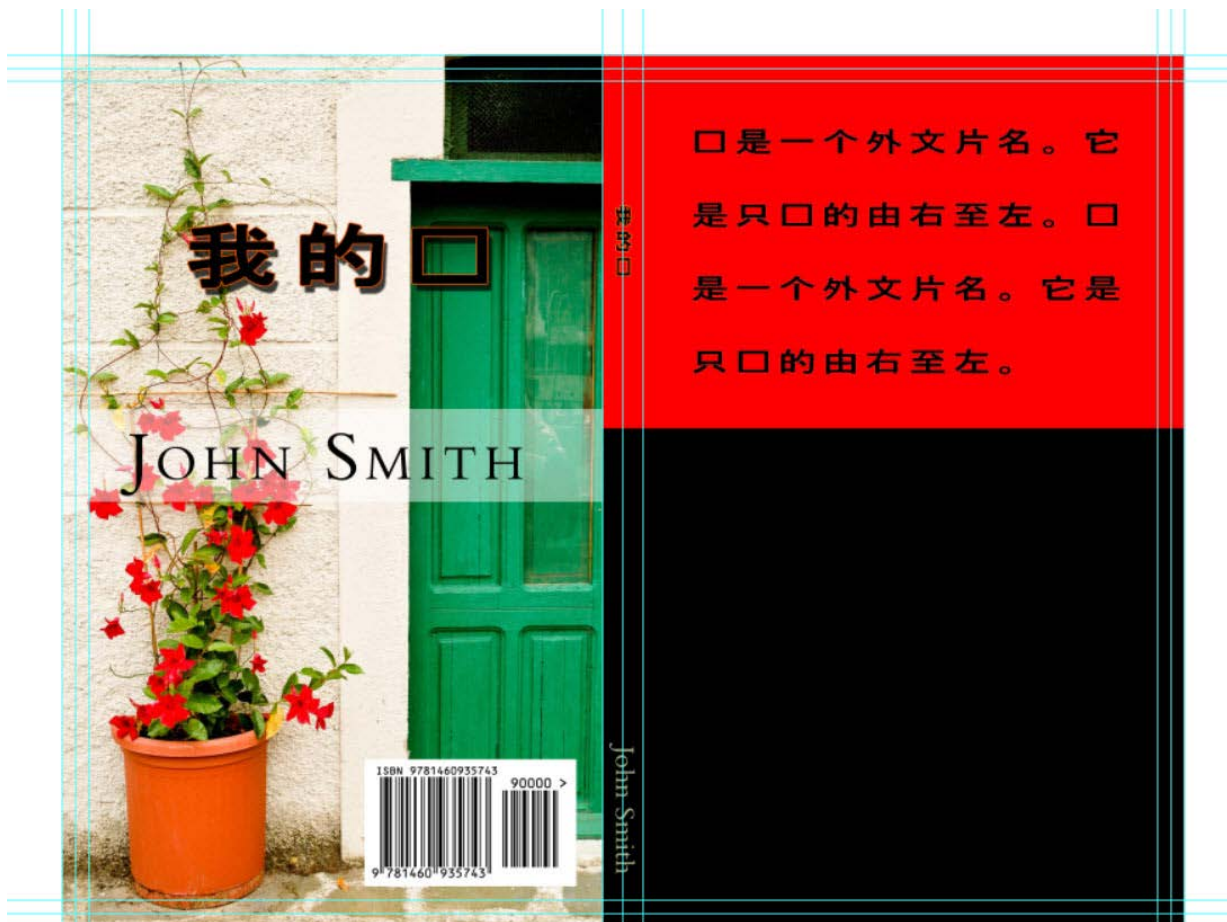


Landscape  
Style

## *Right-to-Left Reading*

We can only accommodate Right to Left 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.

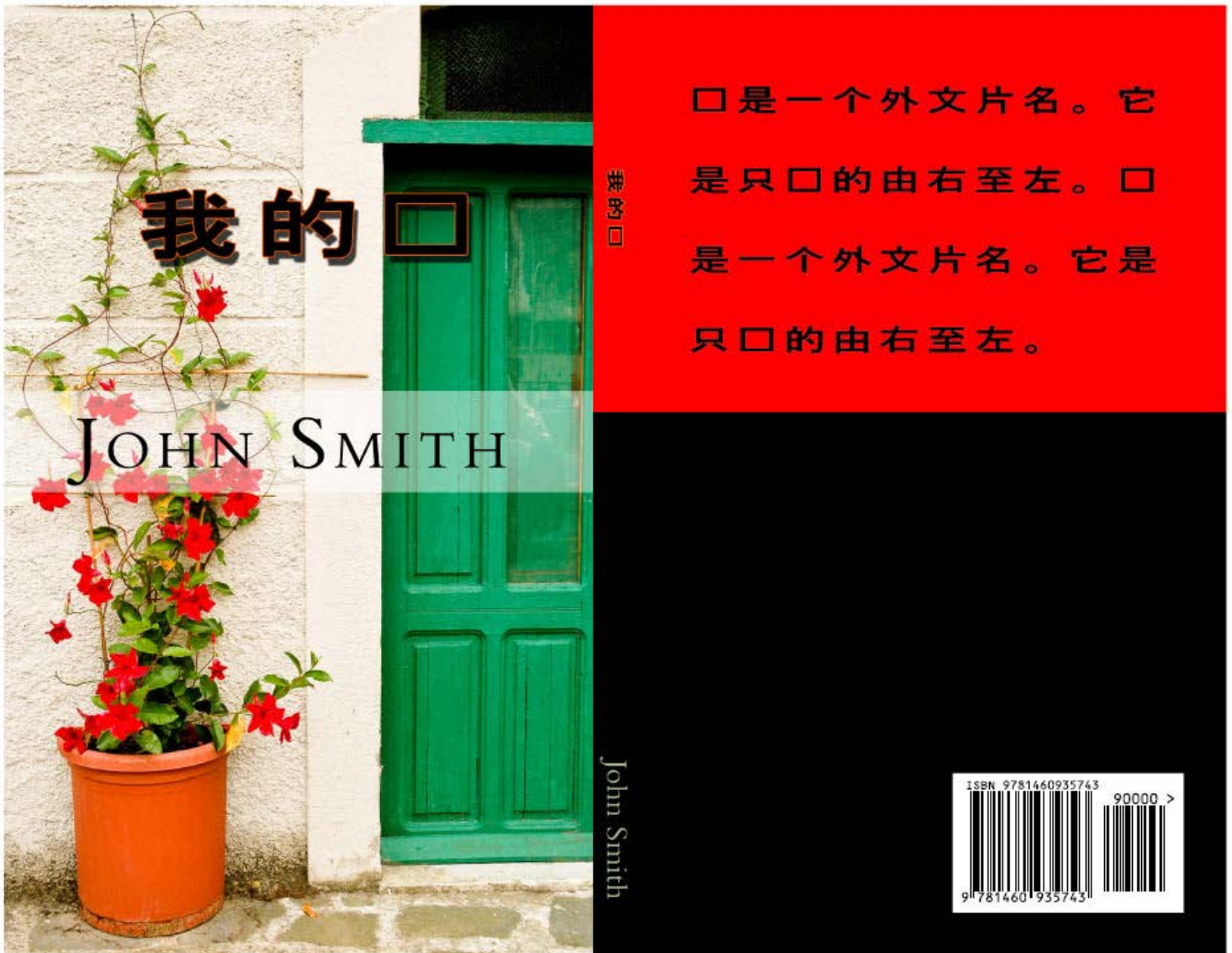
These books will automatically include a barcode and location that it was printed on the first page. This page is necessary for our unique print-on-demand model and appears on every book we manufacture and cannot be removed. In addition, a barcode will be placed on the front cover as this is the default 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.



The barcode will be placed on the “Front Cover” unless specified (see next page).

Front Cover

Back Cover



The arcode is formatted on what would be the “front cover” of a right-to-left book.



# 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 the Interior Reviewer or during the file review process. If we are unable to embed the fonts, the book will be rejected during the file review process.

### ***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 propriety 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

## *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 is 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 the Interior Reviewer or during the file review process, possibly causing a visible change to the book.

Annotations are not included in production and will be removed in the 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.

## *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 the Interior Reviewer and during the file review process.

We will not reject 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 title before approving it for sale.

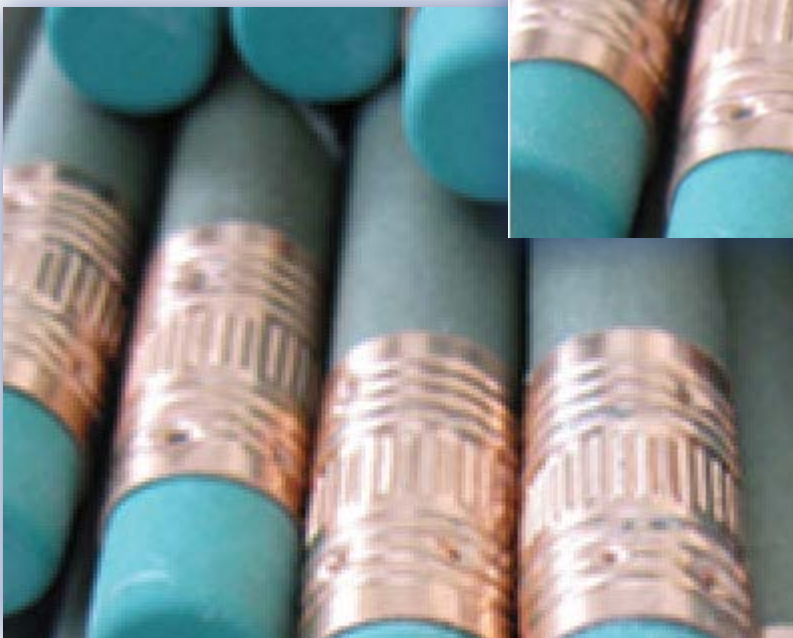


## *Resolution (continued)*

*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.

<b><i>Can Include</i></b>
Printed by CreateSpace
eStore address (i.e. <a href="http://www.CreateSpace.com/TITLEID">www.CreateSpace.com/TITLEID</a> )
Printed by CreateSpace, An Amazon.com Company
CreateSpace, Charleston SC
CreateSpace

<b><i>Cannot Include</i></b>
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.

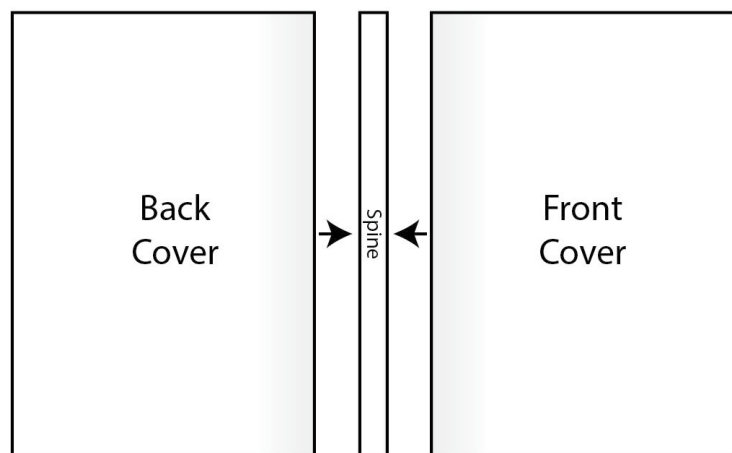
# Cover Overview



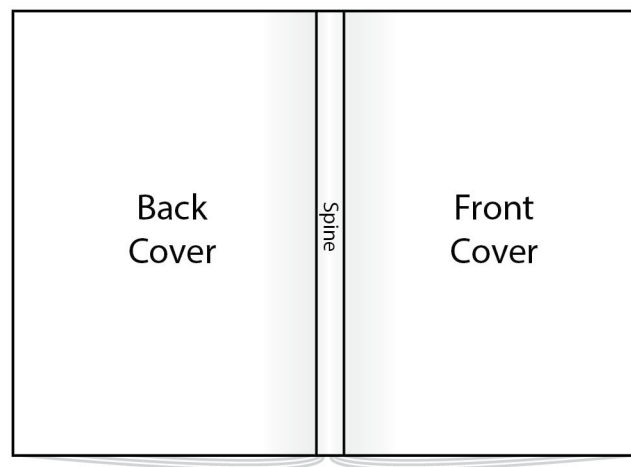
## *Incomplete Cover*

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.

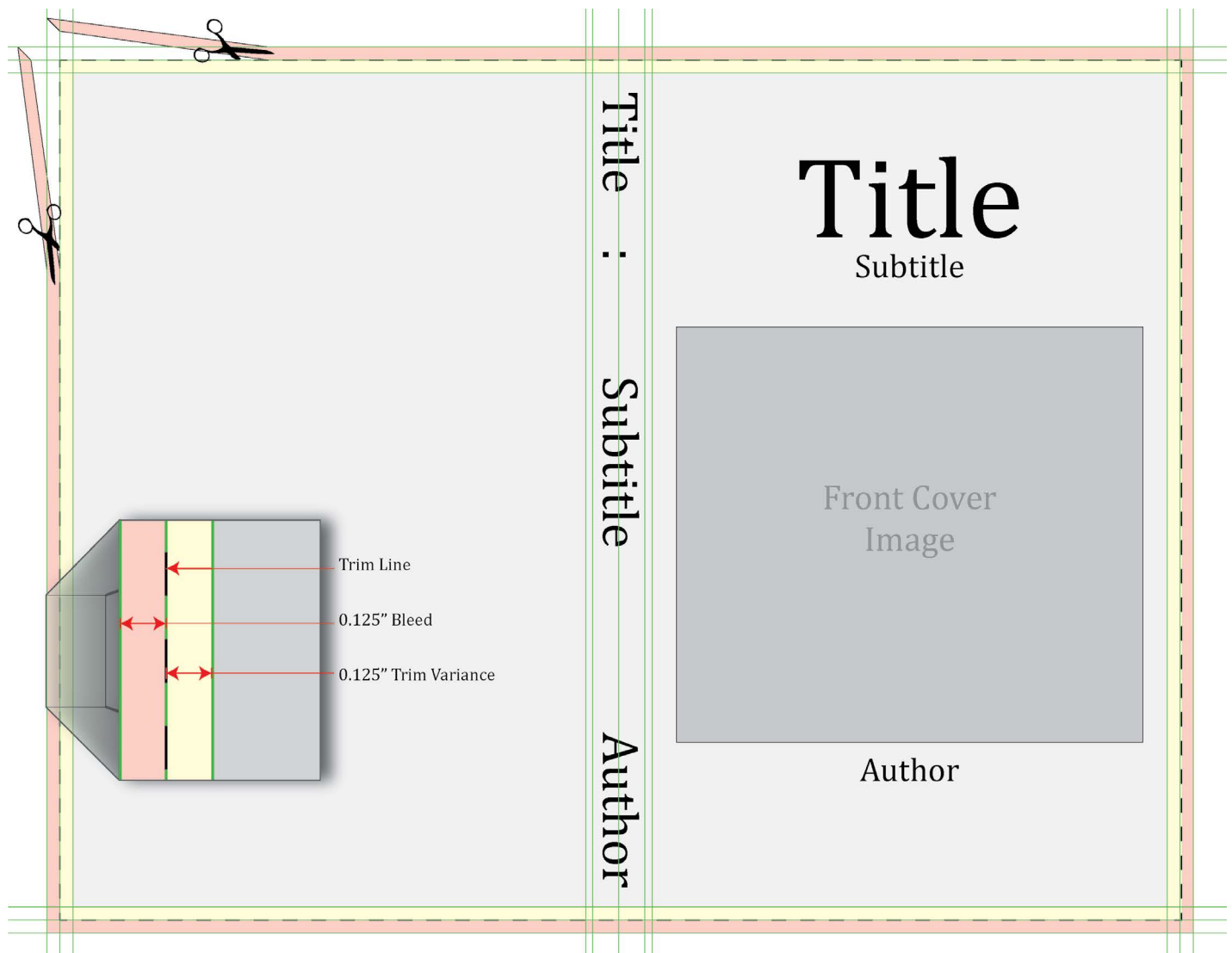


## Cover Size Requirements

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, and 0.125" bleed on all sides

Centered horizontally and vertically



## Calculating the Cover Size

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.

### **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 our 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

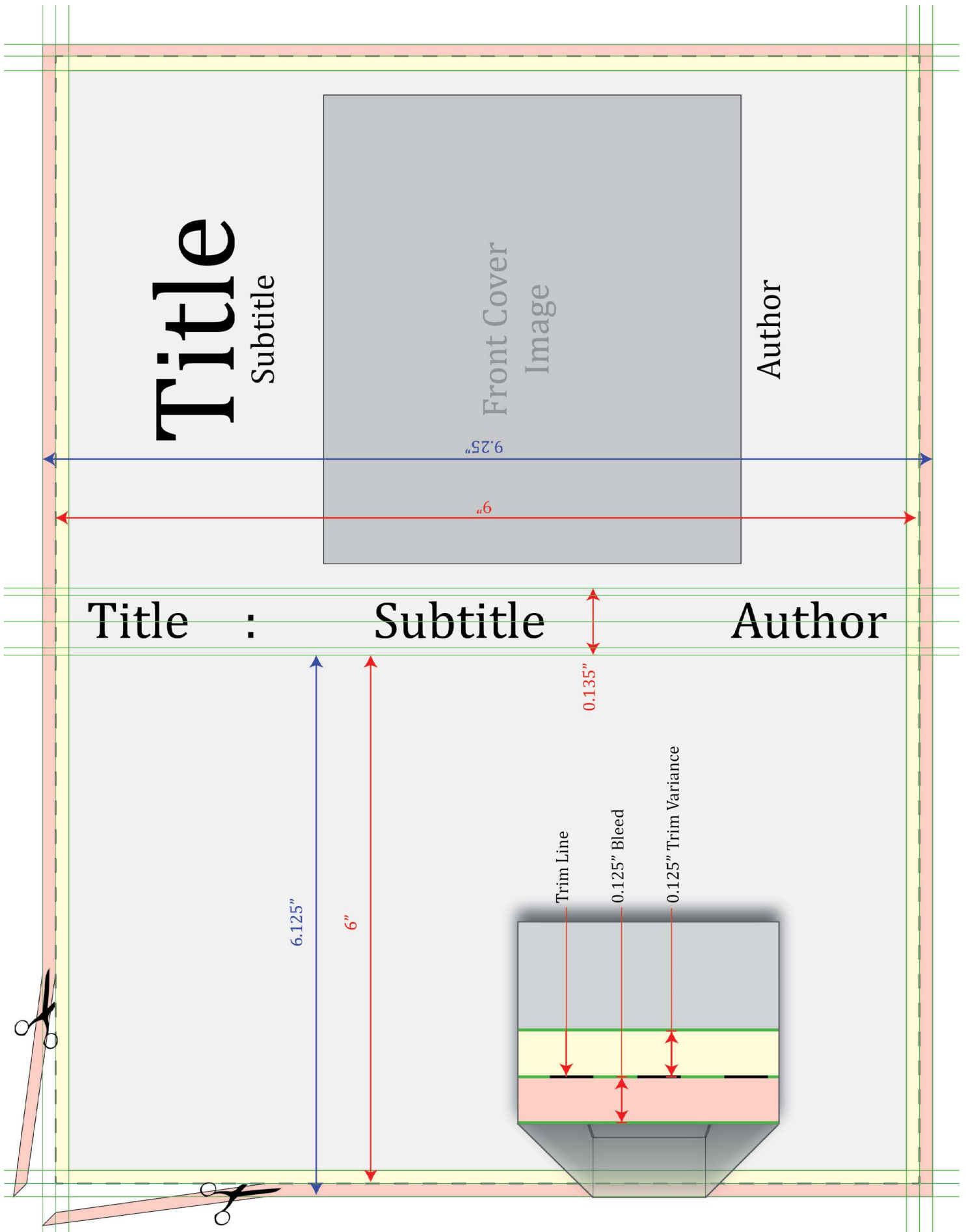
### *Example Calculation:*

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

$$\text{Cover Width} = 0.125'' + 6'' + 0.135'' + 6'' + 0.125'' = \mathbf{12.385''}$$

$$\text{Cover Height} = 0.125'' + 9'' + 0.125'' = \mathbf{9.25''}$$



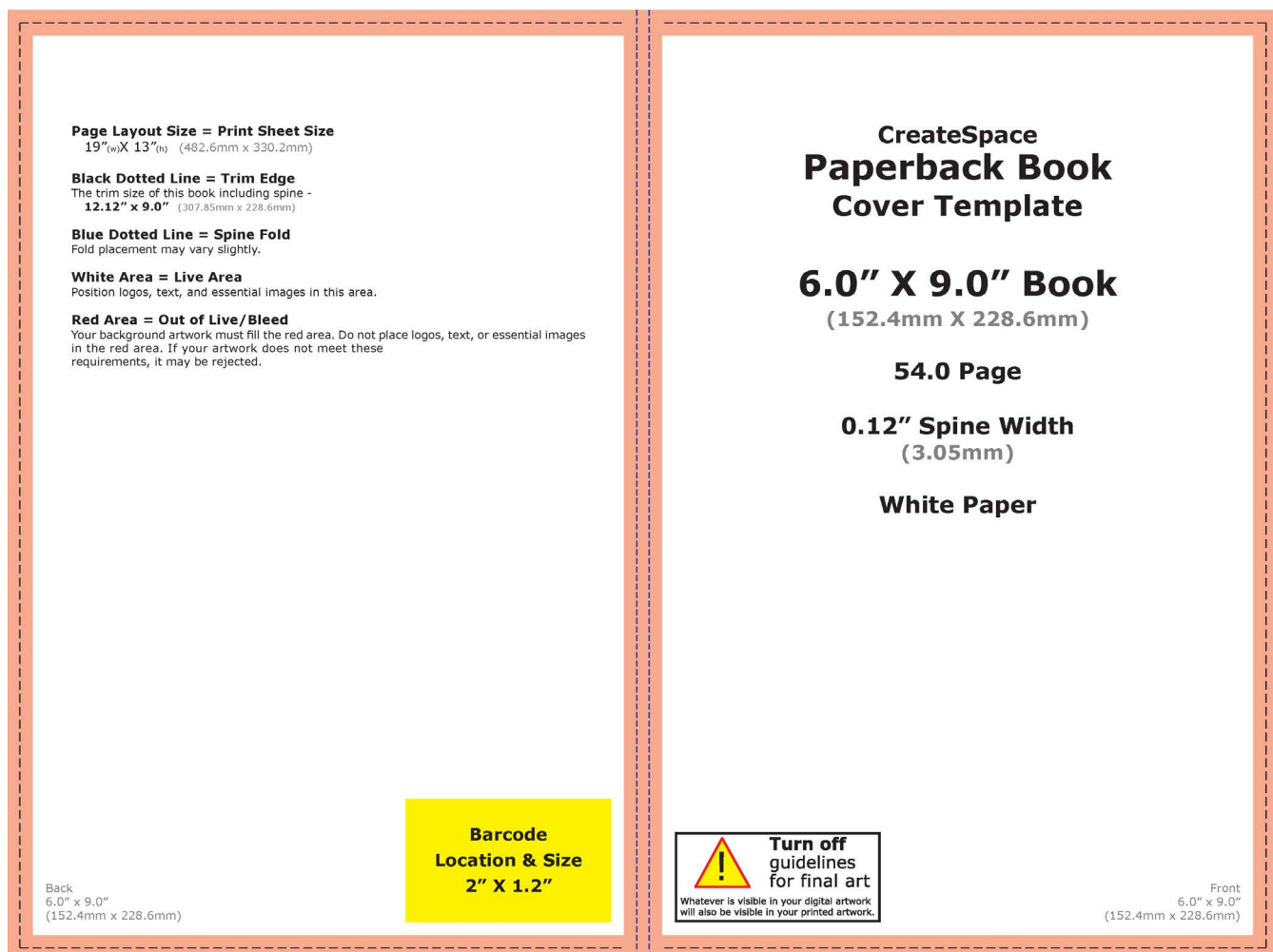


## Cover Templates

CreateSpace offers templates 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.



*This is how the guide appears when opened in any of the above mentioned programs.*

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

# Live Elements/Graphics



## *What are Live Elements or Graphics?*

Live Elements or Graphics are the content that is placed within the viewable area (or safe zone) of a page that is always seen.

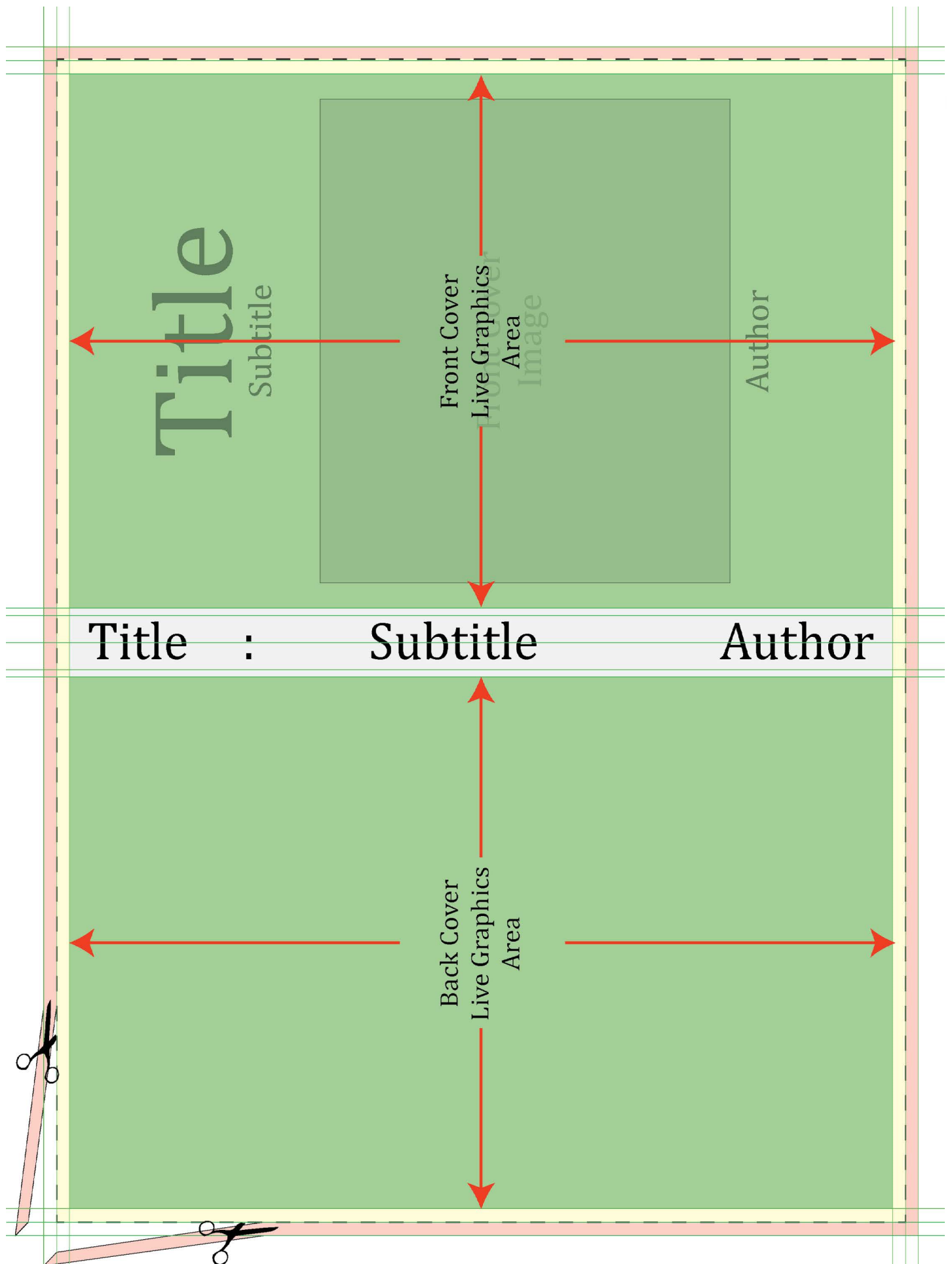
All metadata such as the title, subtitle, author name(s), volume, etc. are considered to be live graphics and must be inside the live graphics safe zone.

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

## *Why do Live Elements/Graphics Matter?*

Ensuring all elements are contained within this area safeguards 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.



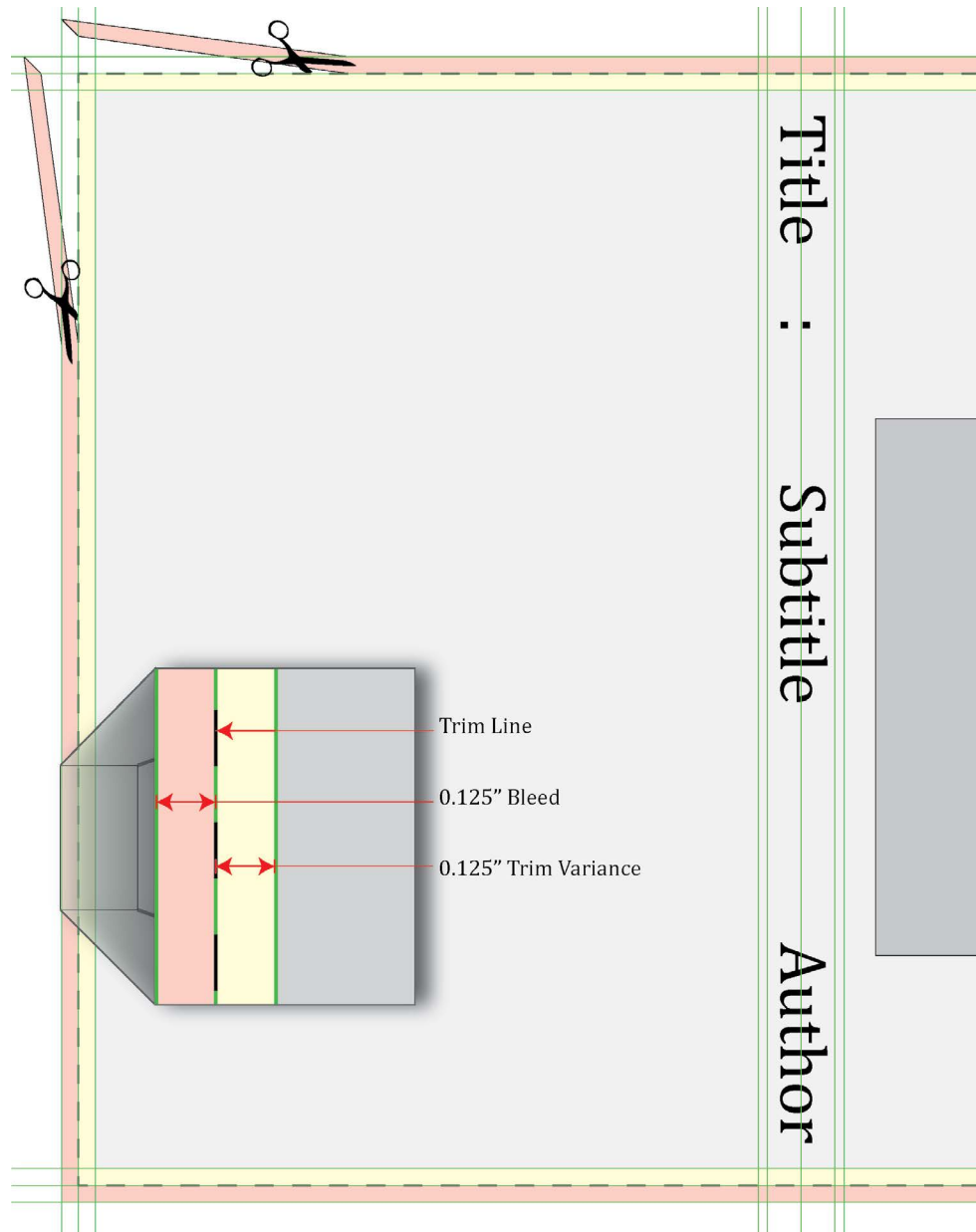
# Cover Bleed

## *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 tolerance to ensure there are no white lines around the edges of the page.

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.

*\*If the cover file is lacking bleed, we will attempt to add bleed during the file review process.*

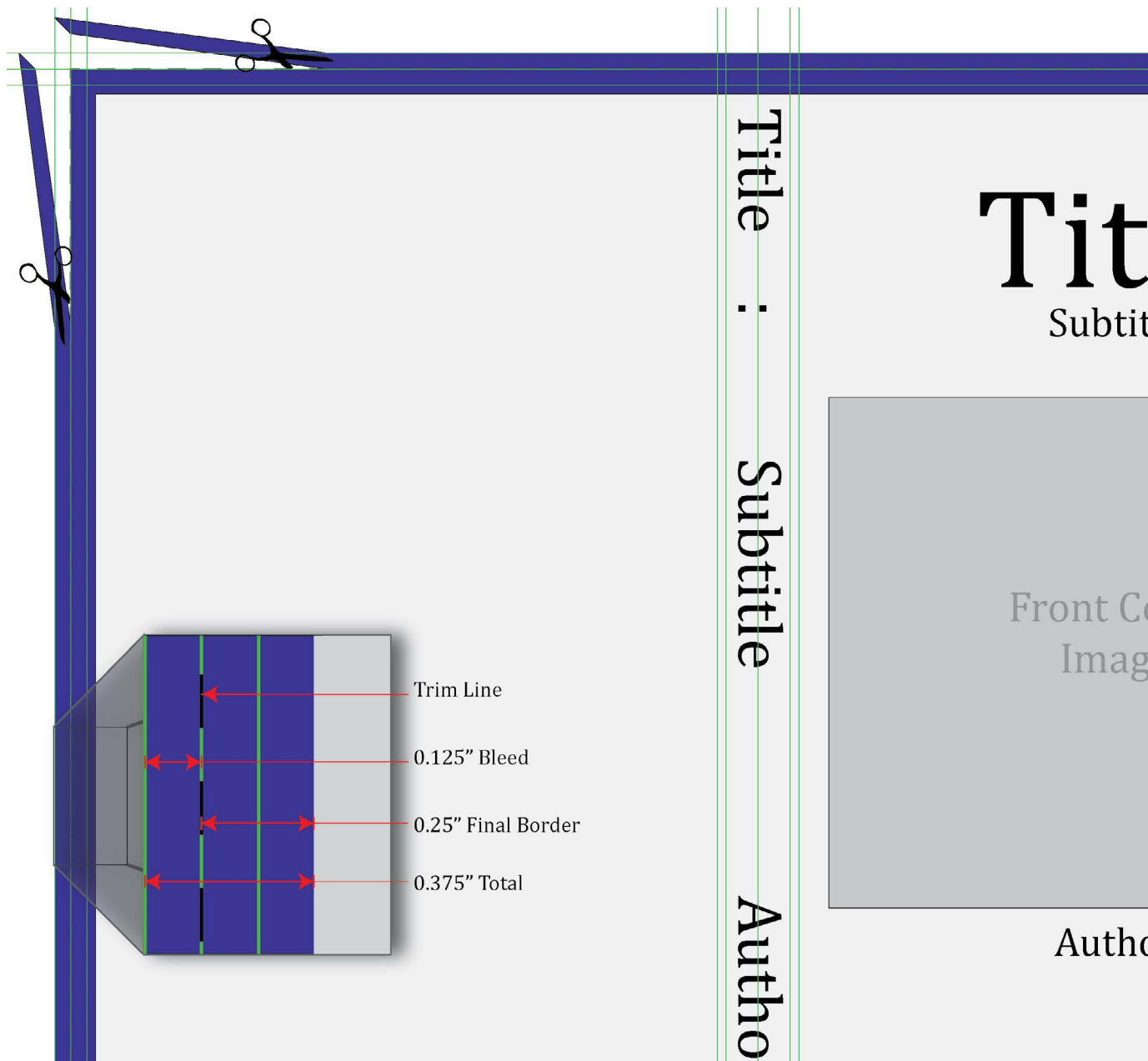


# Borders

## *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.***

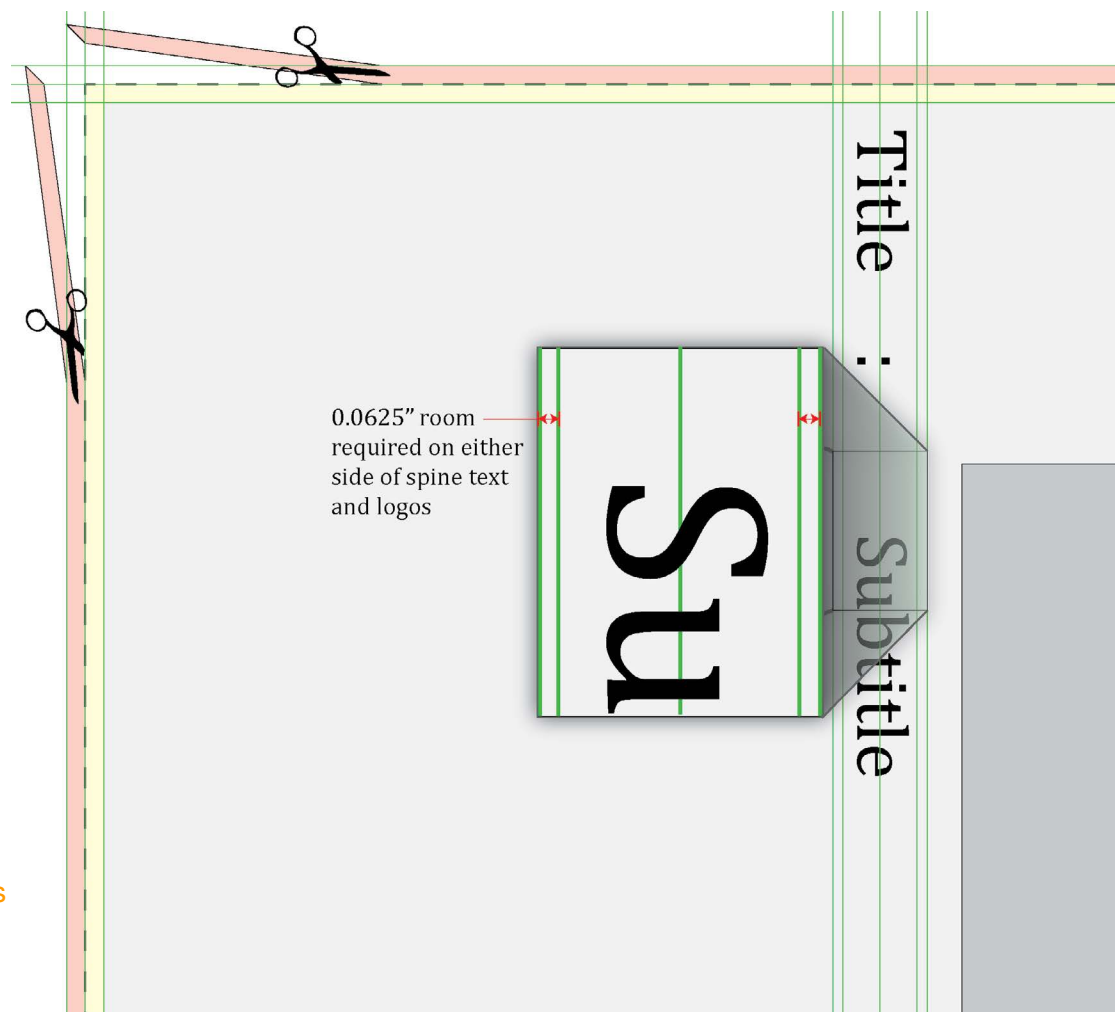
This is due to potential print variance and spine requirements. Any book with less than 101 pages with 0.0625" of space on either side of the text would be too small to be easily read.

We strongly recommend not including spine text on books with fewer than 131 pages due to the potential for print variance.

Spine text and spine 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 spine logos issues to meet our requirements during the review process.

These requirements are to ensure the text always prints on the spine during the bookmaking process.



## Barcode Size

For manufacturing and distribution reasons, 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.

- Our system will place the ISBN barcode in a space 2" wide and 1.2" tall
- The bottom of this barcode is located 0.25" up from the bottom trim line of the cover
- The right side of the barcode is located 0.25" to the left of the spine
- If you want the barcode to be placed in a specific area or orientation, indicate that with a white box at 2" wide and 1.2" tall
- 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 is unable to be scanned

### ***Does CreateSpace add a price to the barcode?***

No. We do not automatically add or embed the list price to the cover or barcode. You can embed a price in the barcode that is included 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.

