



# Publishing with KDP Print

How to Upload and Publish a Paperback Book

December 2024

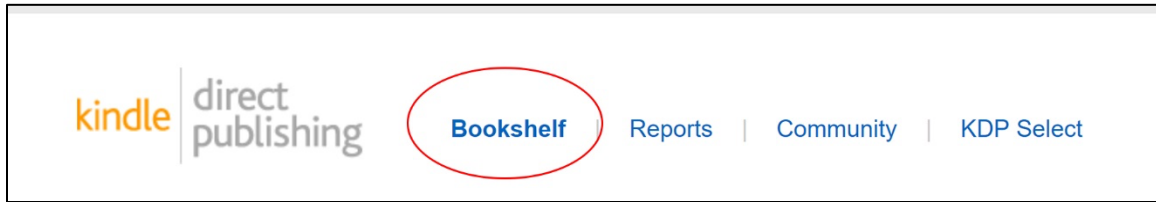
Sarah E. Holroyd  
Sleeping Cat Books  
<https://sleepingcatbooks.com>

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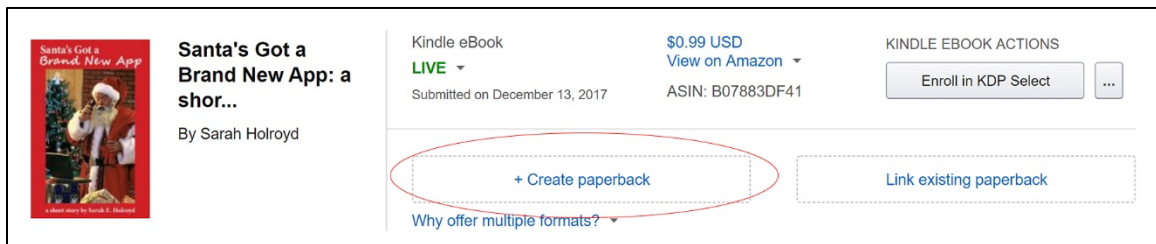
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## Publish a Paperback Edition of an Existing Ebook

1. Log into your KDP account at <https://kdp.amazon.com>.
2. Click on **Bookshelf**.



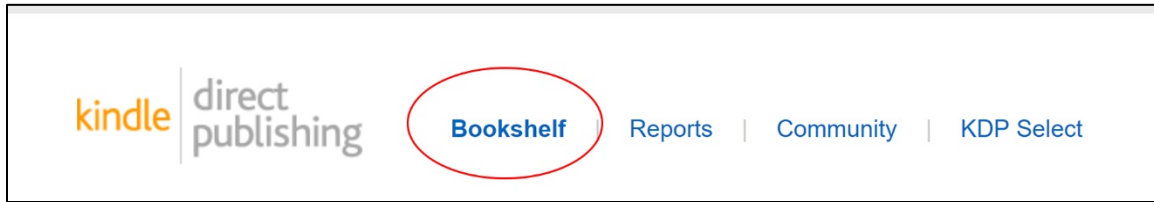
3. Find the ebook for which you'd like to add a paperback edition and click **+ Create paperback**.



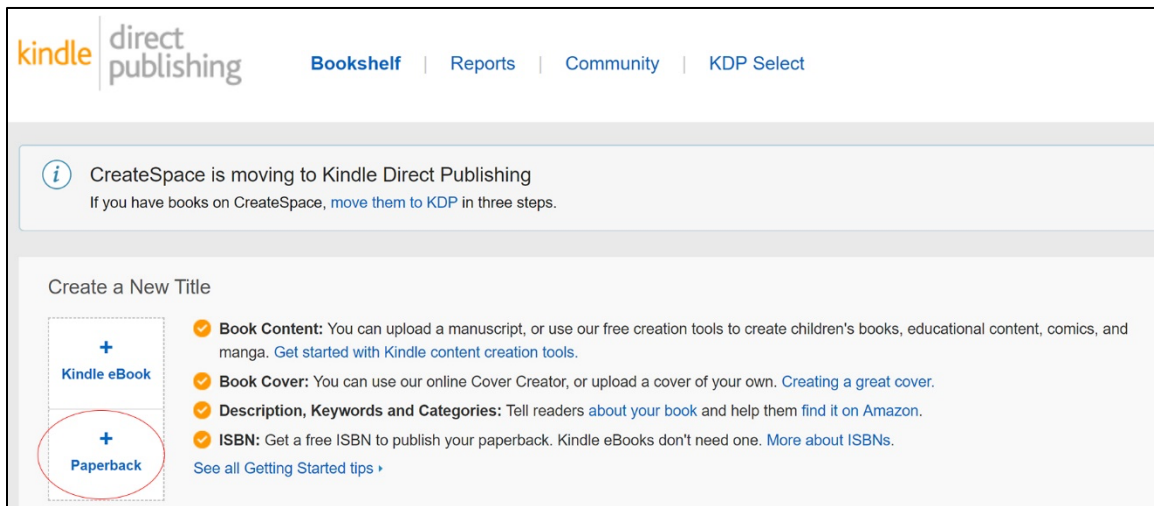
4. Proceed with the information under Step 4 below.

## Publish a Paperback with No Existing Ebook

1. Log into your KDP account at <https://kdp.amazon.com>.
2. Click on **Bookshelf**.



3. Click the + **Paperback** button.



4. The *Paperback Details* tab opens. Complete the information on this tab.

The screenshot shows the KDP interface for setting up a paperback book. The 'Paperback Details' tab is selected, showing a dropdown for 'Language' set to 'English' and a 'Book Title' section with input fields for the main title and an optional subtitle.

- Language
- Book Title
- Subtitle (optional)
- Series (optional)
- Edition number (optional)
- Author
- Contributors – If there are multiple authors or other contributors, use this field, and **Add Another** as necessary.

**NOTE:** Do *not* include your editor or designer as a contributor to the book. This field should be limited to individuals who made a material contribution to the content of the book, such as co-authors and illustrators.

- Description – This is the text that will appear on the Amazon sales page.
- Publishing Rights – If this book is content that you wrote, select **I own the copyright and I hold necessary publishing rights.**
- Primary Audience
  - Does the book contain explicit content? Select Yes or No.
  - Reading Age (optional) – I recommend not selecting anything in either drop-down here.
- Primary Marketplace – This field affects the values available in the Categories field below it, and also sets the main currency for your retail list price (on the 3<sup>rd</sup> page of title setup) from which the other currencies are auto-calculated. It has nothing at all to do with the book's distribution.
- Categories – You can select three categories.

- Keywords (optional) – Enter up to seven terms (words or phrases) that customers may search for to find the book.
- Publication Date – If your book was previously published elsewhere, you can enter that publication date. If this is a new book, leave the default of **Publication date and release date are the same**.
- Release Date – This function allows you to schedule a future release date for a print title. This is not the same as a pre-order, which KDP does not allow for print (just ebooks). For most projects, the default of **Release my book for sale now** is best. This does not immediately publish the book; you still control that on the final page of title setup.

**Note:** If you are using IngramSpark for this same ISBN, **do not** set a release date. This function does not work well with IngramSpark having the same ISBN.

5. Complete the fields on this tab, then click **Save and Continue** at the bottom. The *Paperback Content* tab opens.

The screenshot shows the KDP interface for a book titled 'Test'. The top navigation bar includes 'kindle direct publishing' and links for 'Bookshelf', 'Reports', 'Community', and 'KDP Select'. Three tabs are visible: 'Paperback Details' (marked 'Complete'), 'Paperback Content' (marked 'In Progress...'), and 'Paperback Rights & Pricing' (marked 'Not Started...'). The 'Print ISBN' section is active, with a note: 'To comply with industry standards, all paperbacks are required to have a unique ISBN. What is an ISBN?'. Two radio button options are present: 'Get a free KDP ISBN' (selected) and 'Use my own ISBN'. Under the selected option is a yellow button labeled 'Assign me a free KDP ISBN'. The 'Publication Date' section is also visible, with a note: 'Enter the date on which your book was first published. Leave this blank if you are publishing your book for the first time. How is my book's publication date determined?'. Below this is a label 'Publication Date (Optional)'.

- Print ISBN – Select either **Get a free KDP ISBN** or **Use my own ISBN**.
  - **Get a free KDP ISBN** – Click **Assign me a free KDP ISBN**, then **Assign ISBN**.

**Print ISBN** To comply with industry standards, all paperbacks are required to have a unique ISBN. [What is an ISBN?](#) ▾

**Get a free KDP ISBN**

Assign me a free KDP ISBN

Use my own ISBN

**Free KDP ISBN** ×

You can use a free KDP ISBN to publish your paperback. This ISBN can be used only on KDP and cannot be used to publish your book on other platforms.  
[Learn more about Free KDP ISBN](#)

Cancel Assign ISBN

- **Use my own ISBN** – If you select to use your own ISBN, enter the ISBN and imprint name. Both fields must match the entry in the ISBN database exactly, including spacing and punctuation. It’s best to copy the information from the database and paste it into the KDP fields.

**Print ISBN** To comply with industry standards, all paperbacks are required to have a unique ISBN. [What is an ISBN?](#) ▾

Get a free KDP ISBN

**Use my own ISBN**

**ISBN**

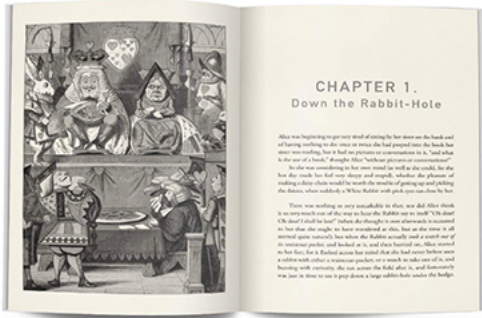
**Imprint** [What is an imprint?](#) ▾

- **Publication Date** – If the book was previously published (with the same ISBN), enter the date it was published. If this is the first publication of the book, leave this field blank.
- **Print Options**

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

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

<b>Black &amp; white interior with cream paper</b>
Black & white interior with white paper
Standard color interior with white paper
Premium color interior with white paper



**Black & white interior with cream paper**

- Typical for fiction and memoirs
- Paper weight: 50-61 pound, 74-90 grams per square meter

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

<b>6 x 9 in</b> 15.24 x 22.86 cm	Select a different size
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**Bleed Settings**  
 Choose "Bleed" if you have images or illustrations extending to the page's edge in your manuscript. Otherwise, use "No Bleed." ▾

<b>No Bleed</b>	Bleed (PDF only)
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**Paperback cover finish**  
 Choose how you'd like to laminate your book cover. ▾

<b>Matte</b>	Glossy
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- Ink and Paper Type – Select the appropriate box.
- Trim Size – Select either the default box of 6 X 9" or click the **Select a different size** button and select or enter your trim size.



Trim Size
✕

**Most Popular Standard Trim Sizes:**

5 x 8 in 12.7 x 20.32 cm	5.25 x 8 in 13.34 x 20.32 cm	5.5 x 8.5 in 13.97 x 21.59 cm	6 x 9 in 15.24 x 22.86 cm
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**More Standard Trim Sizes:** [Compare all standard sizes](#)

5.06 x 7.81 in 12.85 x 19.84 cm	6.14 x 9.21 in 15.6 x 23.39 cm	6.69 x 9.61 in 16.99 x 24.4 cm	7 x 10 in 17.78 x 25.4 cm
7.44 x 9.69 in 18.9 x 24.61 cm	7.5 x 9.25 in 19.05 x 23.5 cm	8 x 10 in 20.32 x 25.4 cm	8.5 x 11 in 21.59 x 27.94 cm

**Non Standard Trim Sizes:**  
These sizes have limited distribution options. [How is my book affected?](#) ▾

8.27 x 11.69 in 21 x 29.7 cm	8.25 x 6 in 20.96 x 15.24 cm	8.25 x 8.25 in 20.96 x 20.96 cm	8.5 x 8.5 in 21.59 x 21.59 cm
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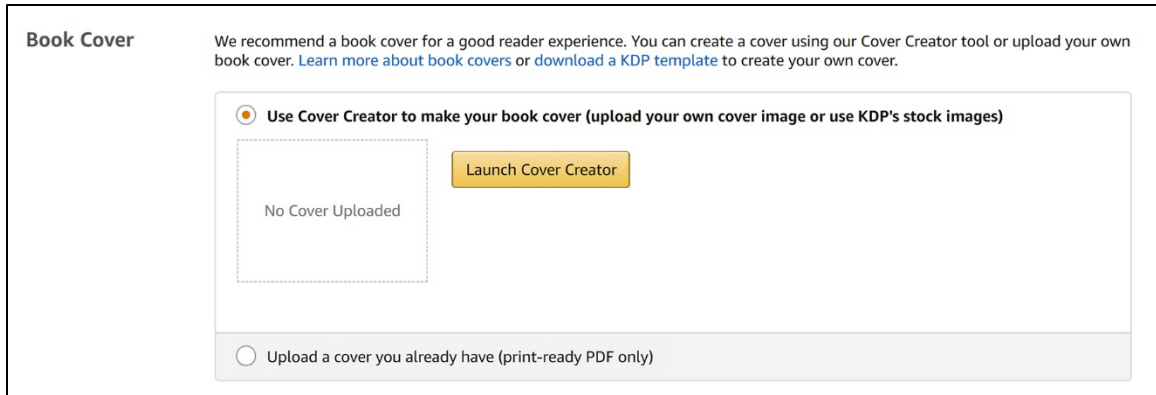
**Self Define Trim Size:**  
Set up your book with your own trim size.

in ▾ Width:  Height:  Select

- Bleed Settings – If your interior contains images that should completely cover the page, select **Bleed**. If your interior contains no images, or your images are within the page margins, select **No Bleed**.
- Paperback cover finish
- Manuscript – Upload your PDF book interior file. A success message appears on the screen when it finishes uploading.
- Book Cover – Select the option **Upload a cover you already have (print-ready PDF only)** then click **Upload your cover file** and navigate to where you've saved the file on your computer. A success message appears on the screen when it finishes uploading.

**NOTE:** There is also the option **Use Cover Creator to make your book cover**, but this guide does not cover the use of this tool.

**NOTE:** If your cover PDF already contains a barcode on the back cover, select the checkbox for **Check this box if the cover you're uploading includes a barcode. If you don't check the box, we'll add a barcode for you.**

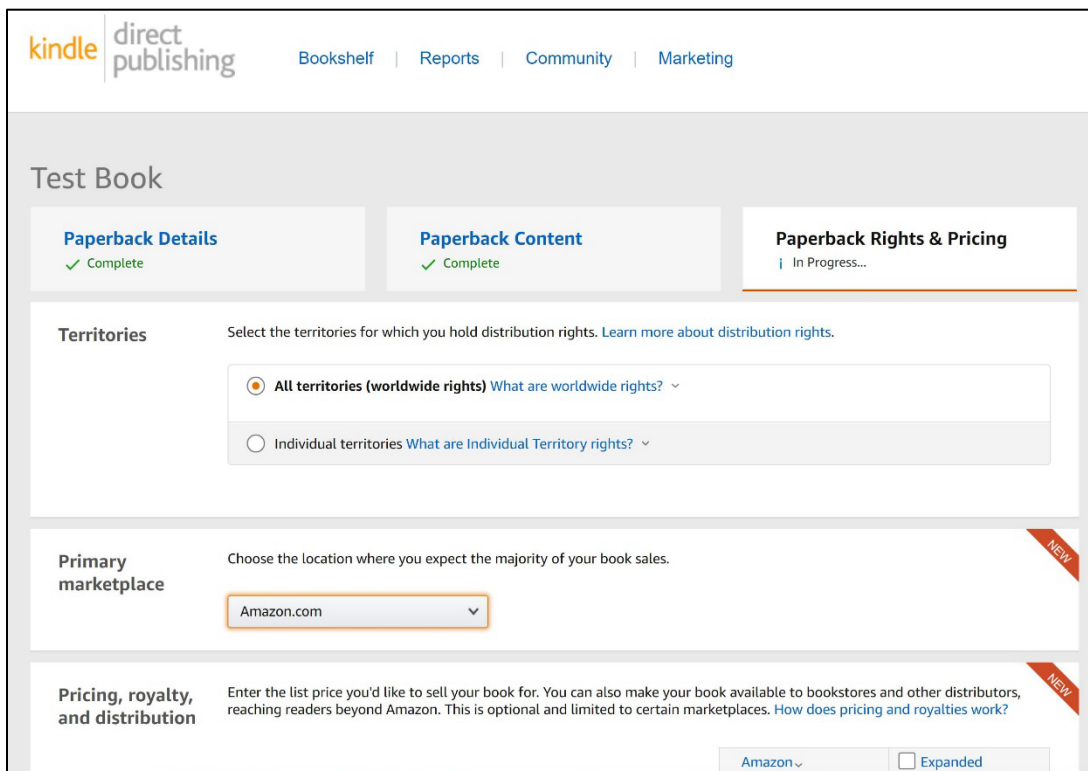


- AI-Generated Content – Select the appropriate option.
- Book Preview – Click **Launch Previewer** to see an online preview of the files you just uploaded. This is not an optional step, and it could take a while for the system to generate the preview. Please be patient. If the message in the dialogue box does not change at all after several minutes, the system may be hanging. In that case, you can try refreshing your browser and then relaunching the Previewer to reset it.

**NOTE:** If there are any issues with your files, the system will inform you when this process finishes. You should correct any issues it finds and then re-upload the affected file.

If there are no issues, click **Approve** on the preview.

6. Review the Summary at the bottom of the *Paperback Content* screen to verify the accuracy of the data there, then click **Save and Continue**. The *Paperback Rights & Pricing* tab opens.



- Territories
  - **All territories (worldwide rights)** – If the book is solely your content and you have not assigned publication rights for any territory (country) to another entity, select this option.
  - **Individual territories** – If you have assigned some publication rights to another entity, or for some other reason do not have the right to publish the content in a given territory, select this option and then select the territories in which you do have publication rights (out of 249 possible territories).
- Primary marketplace – Select your primary market. The market you choose in this field will then appear at the top of the *Pricing, royalty, and distribution* section. When you enter a list price for that market, the system will auto-populate the rest of the markets’ list prices based on this primary market list price.
- Pricing, royalty, and distribution – Set the retail list price you wish for retailers to receive. You can set the price for your *Primary marketplace* and then have the system calculate the converted price for the other currencies, or you can set each currency as you choose. The system indicates the minimum retail list price possible based on your book’s specifications and the distribution channels you choose.

**Pricing, royalty, and distribution** NEW

Enter the list price you'd like to sell your book for. You can also make your book available to bookstores and other distributors, reaching readers beyond Amazon. This is optional and limited to certain marketplaces. [How does pricing and royalties work?](#)

Marketplace	List Price	Printing	Rate	Royalty	Expanded Distribution	Rate
Amazon.com	\$ <input type="text"/> USD <small>Min. \$8.84, Max. \$250.00 All marketplaces are based on this price</small>		60%	-	<input type="checkbox"/> 40%	-
The following list prices were converted based on the previous price you entered						
Amazon.co.uk	£ <input type="text"/> GBP <small>Min. £7.35, Max. £250.00 Based on Amazon.com</small>		60%	-	<input type="checkbox"/> 40%	-
Amazon.de	€ <input type="text"/> EUR <small>Min. €8.42, Max. €250.00 Based on Amazon.com</small>		60%	-		Not offered in this marketplace
Amazon.fr	€ <input type="text"/> EUR <small>Min. €8.42, Max. €250.00 Based on Amazon.com</small>		60%	-		Not offered in this marketplace
Amazon.es	€ <input type="text"/> EUR <small>Min. €8.42, Max. €250.00 Based on Amazon.com</small>		60%	-		Not offered in this marketplace
Amazon.it	€ <input type="text"/> EUR <small>Min. €8.42, Max. €250.00 Based on Amazon.com</small>		60%	-		Not offered in this marketplace

**NOTE:** If you’d like to reach booksellers beyond Amazon and are not also using IngramSpark for this book, you can select the **Expanded Distribution** checkbox (only available for the US and UK markets). This will list your book in the Ingram catalogue, from which many booksellers order stock. This does not guarantee that any physical bookseller will carry your

book on their shelves (which is highly unlikely for most independent authors). Also note that selecting Expanded Distribution causes the minimum list price to be higher than distributing to Amazon alone because Expanded Distribution adds an additional layer in the fulfillment chain that must also receive a portion of the revenue from each sale through that channel.

- Terms & Conditions
- Request a book proof – If you'd like to order a printed proof copy, click the **Request proof** button. This order will be processed through your Amazon Shopping Cart.

<b>Terms &amp; Conditions</b>	It can take up to 72 hours for your book to be available for purchase on Amazon. By clicking publish I confirm that I agree to and am in compliance with the <a href="#">KDP Terms and Conditions</a> .
<b>Request a book proof</b>	Get a printed preview of your book before it goes live. Check for printing errors and if everything looks correct. You can order author copies once your book is available on Amazon. <a href="#">Learn more about proof and author copies</a> . <input type="button" value="Request proof"/>

7. Click **Save as Draft** at the bottom if you *are not yet ready* for the book to go live. Click **Publish Your Paperback Book** if you *are ready* for the book to go live on Amazon.