

## THE 351-STEP, ULTIMATE DIY, PUBLISH-YOUR-OWN-BOOK CHECKLIST

Everything You Need to Do to Become a Published Author and Recognized Thought Leader in Your Niche—AND How To Get Your Book To Sell on Autopilot!



## THE 351-STEP, ULTIMATE DIY, PUBLISH-YOUR-OWN-BOOK CHECKLIST

Everything You Need to Do to Become a Published Author and Recognized Thought Leader in Your Niche—AND How To Get Your Book To Sell on Autopilot!

After creating professionally designed books for over a dozen years and for thousands of authors, we have streamlined the process to these 351 steps. If you follow each of these steps, you will have a professionally designed book that literally sells on autopilot.

But if you're like most of my authors, you're starved for time and would like this all done for you. After all, this is a pretty intimidating list!

We offer a complimentary 15-minute phone call to determine the absolute best path for you to take on your way to becoming a published author.

If you'd like to bypass these 351 steps, skip to the end of the checklist to learn how you can save 10% today.



### Your Simple 351-Step Process to Design and Publish Your Book

The following checklist assumes that you're starting with an edited manuscript. If you want to edit your own book, this checklist will increase in length significantly.

#### PRINT INTERIOR LAYOUT

- 1. Clean up the manuscript in MS Word (remove double-spaces, extra lines, etc.)
- 2. Pre-format the manuscript to prepare for importing into Adobe InDesign
- 3. Determine the best trim size for your book (usually between 5 x 8 and 6 x 9)
- 4. Open Adobe InDesign and create a blank book document at the appropriate size with the best margins and bleed settings for your genre
- 5. Import the clean and pre-formatted Word file into Adobe InDesign (press "shift" to enable new pages to be created to import the entire document)
- 6. Create styles for all of the following:
  - a. Title
  - b. Sub-title
  - c. Author name
  - d. Praise and testimonials
  - e. Praise and testimonials author name
  - f. Copyright page
  - g. Table of Contents entries
  - h. Front and back matter titles/headings
  - i. Part or section titles
  - j. Chapter titles
  - k. Drop caps for first paragraphs
  - I. Break symbols
  - m. Main body text
  - n. Bullet points (separate styles for first, middle, and last points)
  - o. Numbered lists (separate styles for first, middle, and last entries)
  - p. Quotes
  - q. Quote authors
  - r. Block quotes (embedded letters, long quotes, etc.)
  - s. Call-outs
  - t. Images
  - u. Footnotes
  - v. Endnotes
  - w. Appendices
  - x. Calls to action

- y. Running headers
- z. Page numbers
- 7. Create the following master pages
  - a. Front and back matter pages
  - b. Part or section pages
  - c. First pages for chapters
  - d. Main body text pages
  - e. Blank pages
  - f. Additional master pages for special designs
- 8. Assign all appropriate styles to all text
- 9. Create tables and charts within Adobe InDesign
- 10. Fix all widows and orphans
- 11. Fix ladders
- 12. Make sure sub-headings don't fall at the bottom of a page
- 13. Check for kerning and spacing issues
- 14. Assign appropriate master pages
- 15. Insert the TOC (table of contents)
- 16. Double-check that all of the page numbers in the TOC match the page numbers of the chapters and other TOC entries in the main body of text

- 17. Go through the entire book design, page by page, to look for any corrections missed
- 18. Export Adobe PDF for KDP (PDF/X-1a:2001)
- 19. Export Adobe PDF for IngramSpark (PDF/X-1a:2001 with 0.125" bleed around the outside)
- 20. Go through one of the PDF files (usually the one exported for KDP) to triple-check for errors
- 21. Make adjustments, if necessary, in Adobe InDesign and re-export files

#### **COVER DESIGN**

- 1. Research book category
- 2. Research bestselling books in similar category
- 3. Search for imagery
- 4. Save several image options
- 5. Download template for correct trim size (200 pages to start)
- 6. Add guides to trim area of front cover
- 7. Create folders for each element (front, spine, back)
- 8. Begin with text elements for front cover
- 9. Place all cover text (title, subtitle, author name, etc.)
- 10. Choose font for title
- 11. Size title text

- 12. Choose font for subtitle
- 13. Size subtitle text
- 14. Choose font for author name
- 15. Size author name text
- 16. Choose fonts that are the same, variations of the same, or complimentary to each other

- 17. Place image(s)
- 18. Make sure image is moved to bottom layer, below folders
- 19. Add any texture or effects to image(s) as needed
- 20. Arrange text over imagery
- 21. Adjust font colors and effects to compliment imagery
- 22. Add glow or shadow as needed to text
- 23. Crop around guides for all drafts before sending
- 24. Label each file with title and version number
- 25. Copy title and author name from front and duplicate in Spine folder
- 26. Turn title text 90 degrees clockwise
- 27. Place title text in spine area
- 28. Reduce title text to fit in spine
- 29. Turn author name 90 degrees clockwise
- 30. Place author name in spine area
- 31. Reduce text to fit in spine, smaller than title
- 32. Add any spine logos
- 33. Add back cover copy to Back folder
- 34. Place back cover copy
- 35. Add author image
- 36. Place logo(s) at the bottom of back cover
- 37. Place barcode at bottom right of back cover
- 38. Arrange text to flow around image or
- 39. Add box to cover back
- 40. Add filter to box to blend with image (if possible, if image flows to back)
- 41. Download all necessary templates for final page count, paper color, trim size
- 42. Place finalized cover on final templates
- 43. Resize spine text as needed to fit within safety zone
- 44. Flatten cover
- 45. Save as PDF/X-1a:2001

#### **EBOOK DESIGN – PHASE 1: MS WORD FILE FORMATTING**

- 1. copy TOC from print PDF into Word file (if needed)
- 2. copy any other front matter that did not export to the Word file
- 3. remove all borders (give steps)

- 4. select all (the entire document)
- 5. go to Format > Borders and Shading >
- 6. click on box next to None, then click OK
- 7. delete a half title page if present
- 8. resize fonts and spacing on title page
- 9. shortcut to paragraph settings: "command-option-m"
- 10. select all text on title page and remove indent
- 11. go to paragraph settings (use shortcut or Format > Paragraph)
- 12. under Indentation, make sure all three settings are at 0
- 13. main title receives H1 style (18-pt font, bold, centered, 0 space before, 18-pt space after, 0 in Special (no first line indent), page break before)

- 14. subtitle is 16-pt font if short and 14-pt font is long, 36-pt space after, regular, centered
- 15. author name is 14-pt font, 0-pt space after, bold, centered
- 16. remove page numbers in TOC
- 17. make sure all TOC entries are left-aligned with no indentation
- 18. give a 6-pt space after most TOC entries
- 19. Make sure TOC text matches the PDF
- 20. change styles for chapter headings (including Parts, Sections, Foreword, About the Author, Acknowledgments, etc.) to H1 style
- 21. If there's a number first and chapter title on second line, then separate these two with shift-enter instead of just enter. This keeps them as part of the same paragraph
- 22. change styles for first subheading to H2 (16-pt font, bold, left-aligned, 18-pt space before, 12-pt space after, 0 in Special (no first line indent))
- 23. change styles for second subheading to H3 (14-pt font, bold, left-aligned, 12-pt space before, 0-pt space after, 0 in Special (no first line indent))
- 24. make sure the first paragraph in a chapter or after a subheading or break is not indented if it appears that way in the PDF
- 25. delete call-outs (unless specifically requested to keep them)
- 26. delete tabs and replace with single space
- 27. delete double spaces
- 28. go to Edit > Find > Replace or type "command-shift-h"
- 29. type two spaces in find field (top one), type one space in search field (bottom one), click Replace All
- 30. Next, type one space in the find field and one space in the bottom field and click Replace All. This removes all wonky spaces.
- 31. verify that all images that are in the print PDF are also in the Word file
- 32. make images inline instead of floating
- 33. double-click on image
- 34. click on Layout if that doesn't menu doesn't appear near the top
- 35. click on Position and choose image under In Line with Text
- 36. Delete blank lines for writing in answers.



#### EBOOK DESIGN – PHASE 2: JUTOH FILE FORMATTING

- 1. Open Jutoh and Select "Create New Project"
- 2. Add Book title, Author, Date, Publisher, and Publisher Site (URL). Click Next. (Only add Publisher and URL if available.)
- 3. Under Project Location, click on three dots after Project folder and choose the folder where you want to save the Jutoh file. (This should be in the same folder as the Word file and cover image.) Click Next.
- 4. Under Layout Choice, leave the setting for Normal reflowable book and click Next.
- 5. Under Import Options, make sure that the setting for Resize images to max is at 1120. Make sure the box is unchecked for Remove any page breaks.
- 6. Click Next.
- 7. Under Import Method, click on the second option, From an existing file containing all sections. Choose the Word docx file and click Next.
- 8. Under Single File Import, choose Split at page breaks (third option). Make sure that the box for Discard empty paragraphs is unchecked and click Next.
- 9. Under Cover design, choose Use an existing file, click Browse, select the cover file from your project folder, and then click FINISH.
- 10. assign "toc" guide type to TOC page
- 11. right-click on Contents Document on left side of screen and choose Properties
- 12. after Guide type, choose "toc" from drop down menu
- 13. under Book > Build Table of Contents, make sure that "Leave it to Jutoh" is checked and "Create a contents page" is unchecked.
- 14. under Book > Document Cleanup, check items in image below and click OK
- 15. Under Book > Project Properties, click on Styles and click on Edit Properties at the top of the dialog as shown in the image below. Check Use custom CSS and paste in the following CSS code: a:link { color: blue; text-decoration: underline; }
- 16. Make sure that all TOC entries are linked
- 17. select the entire entry
- 18. press cmd-shift-g
- 19. select the appropriate entry in the box that pops up
- 20. press Enter for OK (or click on OK if you prefer clicking) :)
- 21. Make all entries Left-aligned instead of Indeterminate (unless the author wants them centered)
- 22. either select all entries and click on Format > Paragraph or edit the style
- 23. click on Indents & Spacing
- 24. click on Left under Alignment
- 25. Make sure that "Chapter" and other titles are added if missing. Sometimes those don't export from the InDesign file, so double-check the PDF every time.
- 26. Use Jutoh's built-in list options for bullets and numbers. Re-apply those list options to the bulleted and numbered lists in your file.
- 27. select the entire list
- 28. unselect the bulleted or numbered list option in Jutoh's Tools tab in the Palette box in the upper right
- 29. all list items should move all the way to the left so there are no indented items

## 30. Select the list items that did not move all the way to the left, and then click on the left arrow above the bulleted or numbered list icon until they *are* all the way to the left.

JETLAUNCH

- 31. select all of the list items again and then select the appropriate list option again (bulleted or numbered)
- 32. This applies the correct Jutoh option for lists instead of using Word's version, which doesn't work well in ebooks.
- 33. rename side Documents (under Organizer and Projects)
- 34. Title page
- 35. Copyright
- 36. Dedication
- 37. if there are extra Documents between chapters because of extra page breaks that were present when importing the Word file:
- 38. click on the chapter preceding the extra Document
- 39. choose Edit > Join Document and click Yes
- 40. go through entire document and ensure the formatting in Jutoh matches the formatting in the Word doc
- 41. make sure all TOC entries (cmd-shift-G) and hyperlinks (cmd-K) are linked correctly
- 42. check configuration for Mobipocket to ensure Paragraph dimension units are set to "Em"
- 43. click on Edit after Mobipocket in lower left of screen
- 44. enter "dim" in search field at bottom of box that pops up
- 45. click on Default (if showing) to right of Paragraph dimension units
- 46. select Em
- 47. resize images to appropriate width if needed
- 48. first compile a Mobipocket version and view images in file using Kindle program
- 49. adjust size as following:
- 50. click on image
- 51. click on Size tab
- 52. under Size, make sure Width box is checked and Height is unchecked
- 53. choose a percentage and then choose % from the drop-down menu
- 54. delete previous version in Kindle program
- 55. recompile Mobipocket version and open in Kindle program
- 56. double-check image size in Kindle program
- 57. Click on current cover image in lower left corner of screen
- 58. Click on "Create From Image File" in lower right of box
- 59. Click on Browse at bottom
- 60. Find cover and click
- 61. Click OK
- 62. Go through the ebook and add each footnote. Do a search for "1" to find the first one. They should all be in superscript. Put your cursor after the number and then press delete to remove it. Leave your cursor there and press cmd-shift-n to insert a footnote. Copy and paste the footnote text from the PDF. Click on the icon in the upper right that has several short lines with an arrow pointing to the left. Click twice if necessary to move the footnote all the way over to the left. If the footnote is a link, select the entire link text, press cmd-shift-w and then click OK.
- 63. The default setting is for footnotes to go at the end of each chapter. If the author wants all of the footnotes to be endnotes that appear at the end of the book, then click on Book > Project Properties > Indexes (left side of box) and then Footnotes & Endnotes (top of box). Go to the section below called

Endnotes, click on the "Generate endnotes in a separate section", then click "generate endnotes now" and click OK.

- 64. To add a hyperlink to text within a footnote, select the text, right-click, choose Links > Insert > URL
- 65. To remove the heading bullets, go to Book | Project Properties | Fields & Numbering, and clear "Number headings automatically". Then use Book | Update to update the headings.
- 66. Go to Book | Project Properties | Metadata and see that the Book Title and Author are correct. These sometimes are changed to the formatter's name.
- 67. Shorten web links using <u>http://goo.gl</u>
- 68. Link using cmd-k, enter
- 69. Make sure to add the shortened link where it belongs in the book, not in the endnotes section
- 70. When compiling a Smashwords edition, first write "Smashwords Edition" as the last line of the Copyright page.
- 71. After exporting epub file, go to <u>http://validator.idpf.org</u> and perform an EpubCheck.
- 72. If any issues arise on the epub validator, pull up the epub file on the program Sigil.
- 73. search "All HTML Files" for the text "value=" (this is the most common error)
- 74. Delete all instances (including the space beforehand).
- 75. Fix when odd kerning shows up in formatting: If you have styles that are only Current + Properties... and don't contain other formatting you want to keep, you can use Find & Replace and search for Current + Properties\* using additional criteria (type the name and asterisk in the field at the bottom of the style selector). In the additional criteria Replace field, choose Character Style and select (none). Or manually, you can use Format | Text | Reset Text Formatting (Shift + Ctrl + R).

## ARE YOU OVERWHELMED BY HOW MUCH THERE IS



## **TO LEARN AND DO?**

WHEN WE FIRST STARTED DESIGNING BOOKS, IT TOOK US MONTHS JUST TO GET ONE BOOK DONE RIGHT.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO BYPASS ALL 351 STEPS, SKIP TO THE END OF THE CHECKLIST TO LEARN HOW YOU CAN SAVE 10% TODAY.



#### PUBLISHING

#### ISBN

- 1. Create account on Bowker website at myidentifiers.com
- 2. Determine your publishing company name (does not have to be a legal company)
- 3. Buy ISBNs (one for \$125 or ten for \$295)
- 4. Add title
- 5. Add subtitle
- 6. Add your book description
- 7. Choose your book's language
- 8. Upload front cover
- 9. Add author name
- 10. Add the author biography
- 11. Choose function (author)
- 12. Choose the format (ebook, print)
- 13. Choose format (electronic book text, paperback, hardback)
- 14. Choose first genre
- 15. Choose second genre
- 16. Choose imprint (you can create new publishing company names to add as an imprint)
- 17. Add publication date
- 18. Choose title status (active)
- 19. Choose target audience
- 20. Set price
- 21. Choose currency
- 22. Choose price type (retail price)
- 23. Add ISBN to copyright page of your book (use a different ISBN for each format)

#### AMAZON KDP – KINDLE EBOOK

- 1. Go to kdp.amazon.com
- 2. Create an account and fill in all financial information
- 3. Choose Create a New Title: Kindle eBook
- 4. Choose language
- 5. Add book title

- 6. Add subtitle
- 7. Add series title (if applicable)
- 8. Add edition number (if applicable)
- 9. Add primary author
- 10. Add additional contributors (if applicable)

- 11. Add book description
- 12. Confirm publishing rights
- 13. Add keywords (up to seven search terms)
- 14. Choose two categories
- 15. Add age and range information (if applicable)
- 16. Set pre-order (if applicable)
- 17. Choose DRM
- 18. Upload ebook manuscript (usually mobi)
- 19. Upload ebook cover image
- 20. Launch Previewer to review ebook
- 21. Add ISBN and publisher
- 22. Enroll in KDP Select (if wanted)
- 23. Choose all territories for distribution
- 24. Choose 70% royalty rate
- 25. Add price (between \$2.99 and \$9.99)
- 26. Publish ebook

#### AMAZON KDP – PAPERBACK

- 1. Go to kdp.amazon.com
- 2. Choose Create a New Title: Kindle eBook
- 3. Choose language
- 4. Add book title
- 5. Add subtitle
- 6. Add series title (if applicable)
- 7. Add edition number (if applicable)
- 8. Add primary author
- 9. Add additional contributors (if applicable)
- 10. Add book description
- 11. Confirm publishing rights
- 12. Add keywords (up to seven search terms)
- 13. Choose two categories
- 14. Add age and range information (if applicable)
- 15. Add ISBN and publisher
- 16. Choose publication date
- 17. Choose print options
  - Interior and paper type

- o Trim size
- Bleed setting
- o Paperback cover finish
- 18. Upload paperback manuscript (PDF)
- 19. Upload print cover (PDF that includes back, spine, and front)
- 20. Launch Previewer to review layout
- 21. Choose all territories for distribution
- 22. Choose 70% royalty rate
- 23. Add price
- 24. Choose expanded distribution (if not also publishing via IngramSpark

25. Publish paperback

#### **INGRAMSPARK – PRINT BOOK (PAPERBACK OR HARDBACK)**

- 1. Go to myaccount.ingramspark.com
- 2. Create an account and fill in all financial information
- 3. Choose add a new title
- 4. Select print and ebook
- 5. Add title
- 6. Add subtitle
- 7. Choose language
- 8. Add short description
- 9. Add keywords
- 10. Add series name (if applicable)
- 11. Add edition description (if applicable)
- 12. Add full description
- 13. Add contributors (authors, etc.)
- 14. Change imprint if applicable
- 15. Add three subjects (categories)
- 16. Choose audience
- 17. Choose interior color and paper
- 18. Choose binding type (perfect bound is typical)
- 19. Choose laminate type (for cover)
- 20. Add page count
- 21. Add print ISBN
- 22. Choose pricing
- 23. Choose publication date
- 24. Choose on-sale date
- 25. Upload files

#### **INGRAMSPARK – EBOOK**

1. Go to myaccount.ingramspark.com

- 2. Create an account and fill in all financial information
- 3. Choose add a new title
- 4. Select ebook
- 5. Add title
- 6. Add subtitle
- 7. Choose language
- 8. Add short description
- 9. Add keywords
- 10. Add series name (if applicable)
- 11. Add edition description (if applicable)
- 12. Add full description
- 13. Add contributors (authors, etc.)
- 14. Change imprint if applicable
- 15. Add three subjects (categories)
- 16. Choose audience
- 17. Add ebook ISBN
- 18. Choose pricing
- 19. Choose publication date
- 20. Choose on-sale date
- 21. Upload files

#### AUTHORCENTRAL

- 1. Go to authorcentral.amazon.com
- 2. Login with your KDP/Amazon login information (you must have at least one book, print or ebook, published on Amazon)
- 3. Click on Author Page in main menu
- 4. Add author page url
- 5. Add biography
- 6. Add photos
- 7. Add videos
- 8. Add link to blog
- 9. Click on Books in main menu
- 10. Add your book
- 11. Add editorial reviews
- 12. Add Product (book) Description
- 13. Add From the Author information
- 14. Add From the Inside Flap information
- 15. Add From the Back Cover information
- 16. Add About the Author information

### IMAGINE SENDING US YOUR MANUSCRIPT TODAY AND, ONE MONTH LATER, YOU'RE HOLDING YOUR BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED BOOK IN YOUR HANDS

### **100% DONE FOR YOU BY THE JETLAUNCH TEAM.**

As you can imagine, it's taken us years to learn how to design a beautiful book that not only will you be proud of but will help you build your personal brand, establish yourself as an expert, and grow your business.

We've also become so efficient at what we do that we can finish the entire process in less than a month.

We're so excited to create this experience for you, that we want to give you an incentive to get started right away. If you book your 15-minute call within 48 hours of downloading this checklist, we'll give you 10% off!

### **READY TO GET STARTED?**

### **BOOK your 15-Minute Strategy Call here:**

jetlaunch.link/15