15 things to check before publishing your book

On Amazon and international publishing platforms

A practical checklist for authors planning to publish an eBook or print-on-demand paperback.

Finished writing your book? Congratulations! Before you click Publish, several important details deserve your attention.

A successful publication involves more than the text itself. Book presentation, cover design, listing details, and technical files all matter.

How to use it: check each item as you complete it. If some steps are unfinished, use the guidance to plan your next actions.

STEP 1 / 02

Prepare your manuscript

☐ **1. My manuscript is complete.**

All chapters, the conclusion, and essential content are finished.

☐ **2. My text has been reviewed and corrected.**

I have checked spelling, grammar, consistency, and repetition. If needed, I have worked with a professional editor or proofreader.

☐ **3. My book structure is final.**

Chapters are in the correct order. The title page, acknowledgments, and other relevant front or back matter are prepared.

☐ **4. My title and author name are confirmed.**

I have selected the final title, any subtitle, and the author name or pen name to display.

☐ **5. My manuscript is ready for formatting.**

I have a stable final text file with no major revisions pending.

STEP 2 / 03

Prepare your cover and book listing

☐ **6. My cover is finalized.**

It suits my book’s genre and meets the specifications of my chosen format and platform.

☐ **7. My book description is written.**

It clearly describes the book, its value, and what readers can expect, without misleading promises.

☐ **8. I know my target readers.**

I understand who the book is for and what interests or needs it addresses.

☐ **9. I have prepared relevant keywords and categories.**

They accurately describe my book and support discovery on platforms that use them.

☐ **10. I have the necessary rights to my content.**

I am authorized to publish the text, illustrations, photographs, and other material included in my book.

STEP 3 / 04

Prepare for international publication

☐ **11. I have chosen my publishing formats.**

I know whether I want an eBook, a print-on-demand paperback, or both.

☐ **12. My files will meet the requirements for each format.**

I plan to use a properly formatted interior file and a cover that meets the platform’s technical specifications.

☐ **13. I understand ISBN and distribution options.**

I know rules differ by format and platform, and some distribution options may involve exclusivity or restrictions.

☐ **14. I have reviewed pricing and royalties.**

I have considered possible printing costs, royalty terms, and applicable minimum prices.

☐ **15. I am ready to review my book before publishing.**

I will check digital previews, printed pages, margins, cover, and listing information, and order a print proof when appropriate.

WHAT COMES NEXT?

Where are you in your publishing journey?

☐ I have completed all 15 steps.

☐ I still have a few steps to finish.

☐ I am still preparing my manuscript.

If your manuscript is ready, Marfilena Books can help with formatting, technical file preparation, and international publishing setup.

If you still have tasks to complete, use our free readiness quiz for a personalized action plan.

Take the manuscript readiness quiz

Contact Marfilena Books

You write. We help you publish.

Marfilena Books supports authors with technical preparation, formatting, publishing setup, and international eBook and print-on-demand availability.

Platform requirements, ISBN rules, distribution options, and royalties may change. Always check current terms for your chosen platforms.

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