

# Ready-to-Publish PDF File Submission Specifications

PERFECT BOUND TRADE PAPERBACK BOOK COVERS

This guide is for ready-to-publish (print-ready) PDF cover file submissions of perfect bound, trade paperback books. This program is intended for those with extensive knowledge in graphic design and book layout. **Your book's files will print in the exact manner as you submit them; however, minor formatting changes may occur so that your files meet our submission requirements.**

To achieve the book cover that you envision, it is important to submit your final cover in a fully formatted PDF file using the specifications below with all fonts and images embedded.

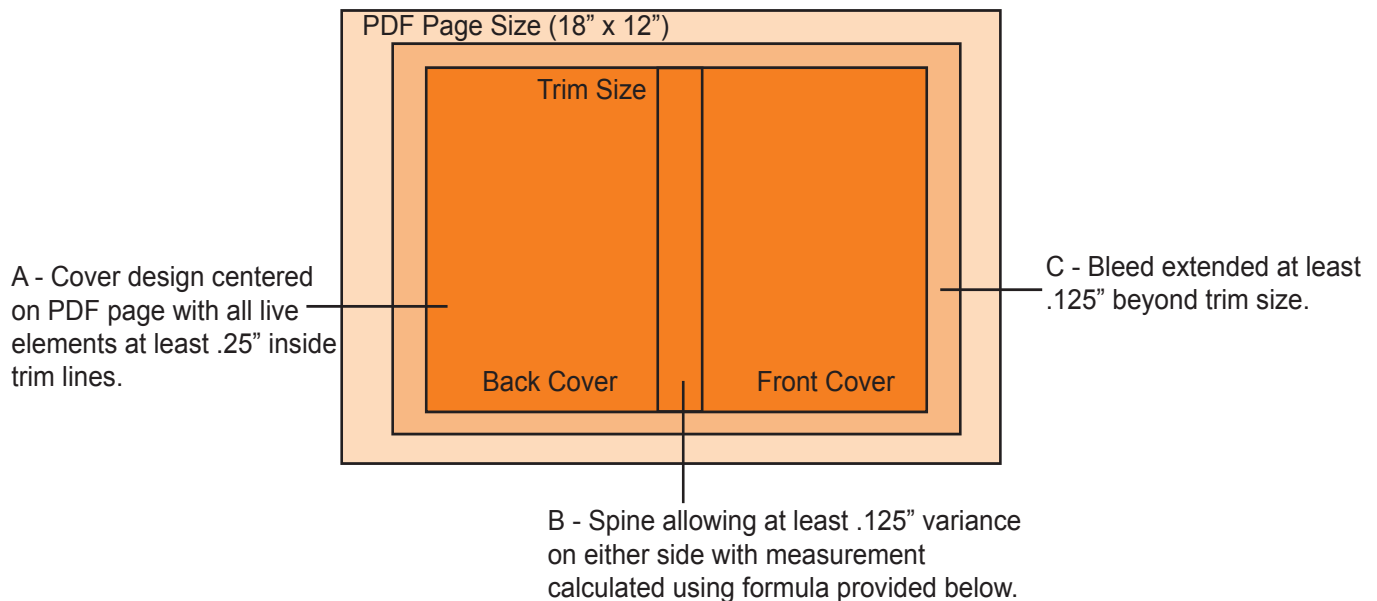
## File Review

Please note that we review book files during the submission process as well as during the actual proof-printing process. Additionally, our production staff performs periodic proof checks during routine manufacturing. Some issues not obvious during submission arise during printing. We make every effort to identify potential printing problems during the submission process, however may reject a book at any time. Due to our unique printing model, common issues that may cause book rejection include:

- Book title not on cover
- Mismatching book title on cover, spine, interior and/or metadata (the title information entered in your Edit Book Panel)
- Artwork and/or text that is skewed or wraps improperly around the spine
- Upside down images, or images/text designed in such a way that they appear as a printing error (for example, text or artwork running off the page)

## Cover Page Layout

The cover should be produced as a single 18" x 12" page with the printable area centered horizontally and vertically and adjusted for the book's trim size and final spine width.



### A. Text and Image Placement

All live cover elements (text and/or images that cannot be cut) must be at least .25" inside the trim lines to ensure no important elements are cut during the bookmaking process and the appearance of the printed books is consistent.

### B. Spine Width and Variance

It is important to note that each book is individually printed and bound. Therefore, avoid text that bleeds off the cover, mismatching spine and cover color, and hard vertical lines separating the front or back

cover panels from the spine. Allow for at least a .125” variance of the spine on each side (for example, the text on a 1” spine should be no larger than .75” wide).

For books with a page count of less than 130 pages, we strongly recommend a blank spine. We require a blank spine for books with a page count of less than 100 pages.

While we can accommodate special requests for books with 100 - 130 pages to have spine text, we cannot guarantee placement of the spine text during the production process and will be unable to replace any printed copies that are unsatisfactory due to the spine text placement.

The spine width should be calculated based on the number of pages in the book and using the appropriate formula below:

*Please note that the number of PDF pages is the total number of single-sided pages (not front and back).*

Standard White Paper:	Number of pages x .002252	=	Spine width in inches
Off-White Paper:	Number of pages x .0025	=	Spine width in inches
Paper for color books	Number of pages x .002347	=	Spine width in inches

Example of spine width calculation for a 60-page book

Standard White Paper:	60 x .002252	=	.135” spine width
Off-White Paper:	60 x .0025	=	.15” spine width
Paper for Color Books:	60 x .002347	=	.141” spine width

Visit [www.booksurgepages.com/Calculation\\_for\\_Cover.xls](http://www.booksurgepages.com/Calculation_for_Cover.xls) to download an Excel spreadsheet that will assist you in determining the appropriate dimensions for your book cover.

### **C. Bleed**

The cover’s background must extend at least .125” beyond the final trim line to accommodate for cutting/trimming tolerance. We encourage additional bleed beyond the minimum of .125” (your bleed can even extend to the edges of the page).

### **Crop/Registration Marks**

Please do not include any crop or registration marks on any files you submit, as they may interfere with the binding process or appear on some copies of the books produced due to our small variance. We use our own measurements, specific to our print-on-demand technology, for cutting and binding; placing crop or registration marks could interfere with this.

### **Images and Fonts**

To ensure the highest print quality possible, we require all fonts and images to be embedded in your final PDF and strongly recommend all images are at least 300 DPI. If your images are under 300 DPI, we will process them upon your request, however, cannot guarantee the print quality of these low-resolution images. Files with extremely low-resolution images may be rejected. Any images included on the book’s cover may be tagged with your choice of CMYK or RGB profiles or left untagged in a generic color space.

## **Barcodes**

We require the back cover of all books to have a high-resolution (at least 300 DPI) barcode that measures 1.5”– 2” in width with proportional height. The barcode may be anywhere within the live area of the back cover. There are many tools available to assist with creating a barcode for your book. If you would like us to add a barcode to your book’s back cover, place a 2” x 1.2” white box on the back cover of the file submitted to us. The barcode we add will be placed over the cover art and will have a white background.

## **Saving Your PDF**

To view our recommended methods for saving your PDF using the PC Versions of Adobe Acrobat, visit the appropriate link below.

[Adobe Acrobat Version 5 and below](http://www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv5.pdf) (www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv5.pdf)

[Adobe Acrobat Version 6](http://www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv6.pdf) (www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv6.pdf)

[Adobe Acrobat Version 7](http://www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv7.pdf) (www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv7.pdf)

[Adobe Acrobat Version 8](http://www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv8.pdf) (www.booksurgepages.com/Downloads/TwoStepstoPDFv8.pdf)

## **Resources**

We strive to provide clear, concise specifications for our PDF submission programs.

Because PDF files may be created to meet our specifications in a variety of ways using numerous types of programs, we do not provide technical support for our PDF submission programs.

For assistance in creating your book files, consult your software’s documentation.

If you have any questions regarding our submission specifications, please contact us.