

A Few Things to Know



Keep in mind that Blurb prints using digital offset presses, not traditional offset lithography which means your book's pages are printed on single sheets on both sides, rather than in traditional signatures. So, when you design your book, the pages in the layouts will be sequential and two-page spreads may not match up precisely.

- Blurb has two black and white book options. The two Black and White Text sizes are great for text, and black and white images. Note that any color images you place in your template will actually be translated to black and white halftone for printing. Black and White sizes can have a full-color cover, just like the other book options.
- The books you make with Blurb must have an even number of pages – from 20 pages to 440 pages, so remember to include the single page on the right as you open your book and the single page on the left at the end of your book in your final page count. Also, pages print double-sided. If you want printing on one side of a spread only, you need to include blank pages.
- To print your book, you'll upload one PDF for your book's cover and a second PDF of the book's pages.
- When you export your PDF files, you need to use the PDF/X-3:2002 standard. A subset of the usual PDF, it is designed specifically for reliable prepress file creation. In other words, the PDF/X-3:2002 standard makes sure that our book print engine will play well with your PDFs. Using the Blurb PDF-X Preset Export settings will ensure that your PDFs will be happy files.
- A single page with a small Blurb logo is inserted at the end (last page) of all books printed with Blurb. You can specify this page to be white or black, or you can remove it entirely for an additional fee per book. It's called the Custom Logo, and details on the pricing are here: <http://blurb.com/create/book/pricing>. You do not need to account for this extra page when designing your spine and it is not included in your final page count for pricing, but if you choose to remove it, you will be charged the Custom Logo fee. Also, all Blurb hardcover books come with a white end sheet at the front and back of the book. Again, you are not charged for these sheets.
- Images should be between 150 and 300 DPI for the best possible print production. When you publish a book from your PDF, you get access to all of Blurb's great creative publishing services. After uploading your finishing files, you, or a friend or client have 15 days to place your order. Also, you can make your book available to the book-buying public in the Blurb Bookstore, sell it via Set Your Price, take advantage of Blurb BookShow™, and more.
- The largest press-ready PDF/X-3 file you can upload is 2GB. If you continually have issues trying to upload your book you might want to try an alternative or faster internet connection or contact Customer Support.