



## How to Publish a Book

A great place to start your self-publishing journey is through Amazon. Their free resources allow you to add your manuscript for sale as Digital (Kindle), Physical (Paperback & Hardcover) and even Audio Book. Essentially, the way it works is that you upload your manuscript and cover, set your pricing and list it for sale. Whenever a copy sells, they handle the digital delivery or printing & shipping, etc. For this, they take a percentage of your sale price. Then you get the remainder (Your royalty).

**Here's the Amazon site to start with (KDP):** [https://kdp.amazon.com/en\\_US/](https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/)

Here's a free site that you can use to design your own cover: <https://www.canva.com/>  
(I'm sure there are others, but this is one that I've used).

Here is a paid site that I've used for cover design: <https://99designs.com/categories>.  
(They essentially crowdsource to many different graphic designers and you get to see a bunch of different designs).

Joanna Penn is a very successful self-publisher. She has a great Podcast (The Creative Penn Podcast) full of helpful advice and different resources that she uses (a lot of which I've used myself) as well as many interesting interviews with other writers, editors, etc.

She has a very helpful and free Author Blueprint that you can download here: <https://the-creative-penn-limited.ck.page/blueprint>

Her Resources page has A TON more useful information as well:  
<https://www.thecreativepenn.com/resources/>

Writing tool that I use: <https://www.literatureandlatte.com/scrivener/overview>  
(This is a paid program, but not expensive. It isn't required but I find it really helpful to output your manuscript in different formats. For example, the way you upload to Amazon for a Kindle will be a different format and sizing than for a Paperback, etc. Scrivener makes it easier to create those different formats than say using Microsoft Word.

Here are a few other sites you can self-publish to as well, if you don't choose to go exclusively with Amazon:

- Barnes & Noble: <https://press.barnesandnoble.com/>
- Apple: <https://authors.apple.com/publish>
- Kobo: <https://www.kobo.com/us/en/p/writinglife>

Amazon provides you with a free ISBN number if you stay exclusively with them, but if you choose to purchase your own, which you can use on every publishing platform, you can do so here: <https://www.myidentifiers.com/identify-protect-your-book/isbn/buy-isbn>