Your Artwork Guide To
Perfect Bound Booklets

Perfect bound booklets are a top choice for business owners, offering a premium, professional way to showcase products, services, or articles.

Our custom-printed booklets are printed by securely gluing the inner pages to the spine of a printed cover, ensuring durability and a high-end finish. Setting up the artwork requires a few extra steps, but with our guide, you'll have everything prepared for a flawless print.

Software Recommendation

Adobe InDesign
Industry-standard for professional book design, offering precise layout control and typography tools. Best for setting up technical sections such as cover spreads. Ideal for print professionals.

Affinity Publisher
A strong alternative to InDesign with a one-time purchase model. Great for high-quality layouts and professional typesetting.

Sizes

A4	Portrait | Landscape
A5	Portrait | Landscape
A6	Portrait
Square	148mm | 210mm
DL	Portrait
Custom	Available as a bespoke quote

Pages

40 to **240** \| Increments of **4**

Quantity

1 to **10,000**

Pro Tip

It is not recommended that you create your perfect bound book in a software that is not a professional designer. Programs like Canva or Word are incredibly difficult to create technical elements like spine areas or cover spreads.
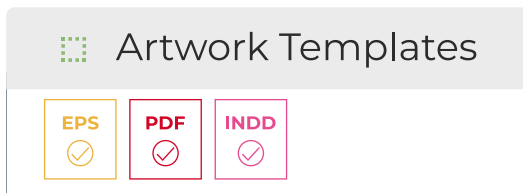
If you struggle getting your cover artwork set up, why not choose our **File Assist** service and let us do all the hard work for you.

Remember!

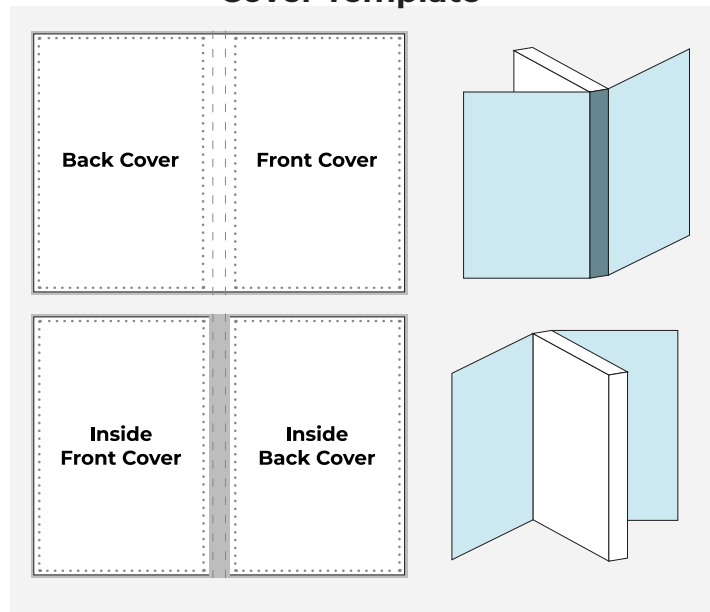|	
Colour	CMYK
Resolution	300dpi
Fonts	Embedded | Outlined
Bleed	3mm
Safe Zone	10mm
File Format	PDF
	Ideally PDF/X-1a:2001

1. Download Our Template

We highly recommend that you use the templates for creating your perfect bound book artwork. These are technical products, and the templates have been designed to make it as easy as possible for you.
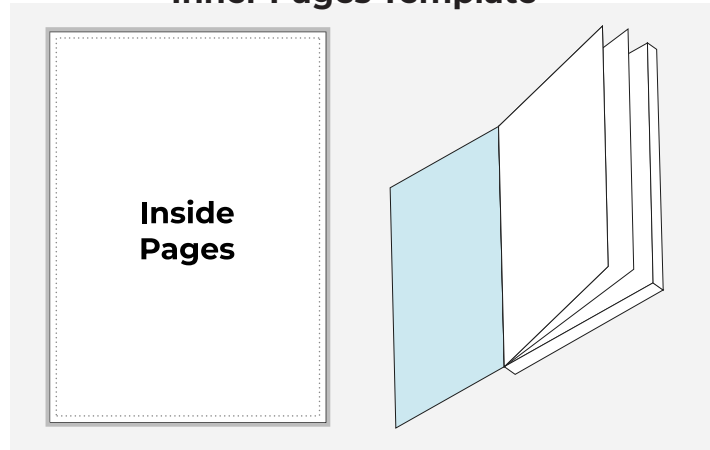
Artwork Templates

EPS ✓   PDF ✓   INDD ✓

When you download the right template for your print, you will find 2 files. One for the cover artwork, and one for the inside pages.

Cover Template

Back Cover | Front Cover

Inside Front Cover | Inside Back Cover

Inner Pages Template

Inside Pages

Note - You'll need the spine width from your order to set up your cover artwork correctly. You can find this measurement on the product page when placing your order.

Pages includes 4pp cover	⊖ 100 ⊕	From 40 to 240 in increments of 4
Spinewidth	5.30 mm
Quantity	⊖ 25 ⊕	From 1 to 10000 in increments of 1

Bleed
Extend any background colours or images into here.

Trim Line
Finished cut edge.

Safe Area
Recommended safe area. Keep all important text and images within the bounds.
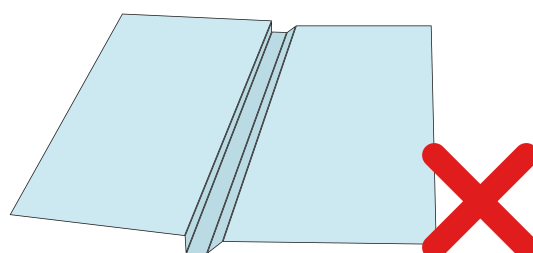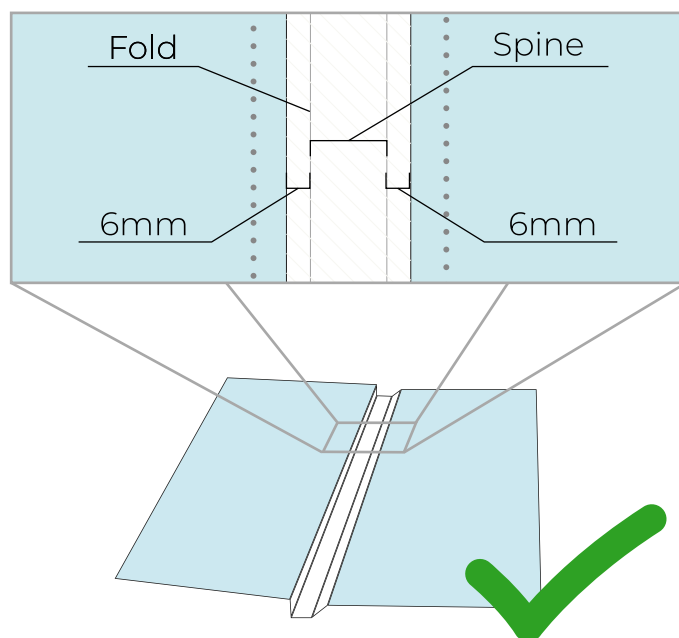
Non Printable Area
No ink can be printed here, therefore do not place any background images or colours in this zone.

Non Printable Area

You'll notice a non-printable area on the inside cover spine template—this is standard practice for many printers.

This area must remain free of ink to ensure the glue adheres properly when binding the cover to the inner pages.

The non-printable zone extends 6mm from the fold on both sides, including the spine width.

Fold   Spine

6mm   6mm

2. Create Your Booklet

Create your perfect bound book by adding text, images, and graphics to your pages. Be sure to follow the guidelines in the template to ensure all important content is printed correctly.

Here are a few things to keep in mind when designing your artwork.

Spine Width
Take note of the spine width when you first place your order. This changes from book to book, and you need to incorporate this into your artwork.

Images
Use high-resolution images (300dpi minimum) to avoid blurry or pixelated prints. You can check the resolution of your graphics in the information panel in your design software.

Note - if you insert an image and scale it up, this will stretch the image, and lower the quality.

Margins
Keep a 10mm margin around the edges of each page to prevent important content from being trimmed. Take special care on the cover artwork.

Pro Tip
Before printing, check your PDF in Adobe Acrobat. Go to Document Properties > Fonts—if a font doesn't say (Embedded Subset), it's not embedded and may not print correctly.

Why PDF/X-1a:2001?
We recommend exporting a PDF/X-1a:2001 version. Most design software can export to this format, which ensures your document is compatible with professional print work flows, helping to minimise errors and discrepancies.

Images As Spreads
Keep in mind that any design elements crossing the spine may get lost in the fold or appear distorted in the final print. If your image has a key focal point, avoid placing it over the spine.

Overprint (Colour Issues)
Avoid setting colours to overprint, especially for text, as this can cause unexpected results in print.

Page Count
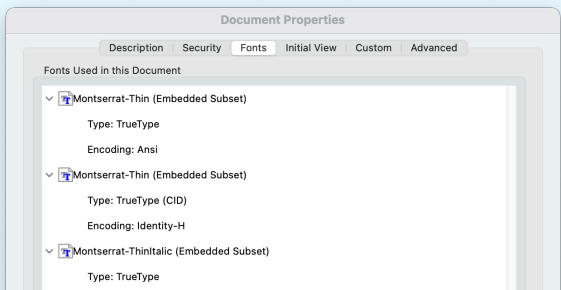When placing an order, remember that the total page count includes the cover.

For example, if you order 100 pages:
· 4 pages for the cover (front, back, and inside spreads)
· 96 pages for the inner content
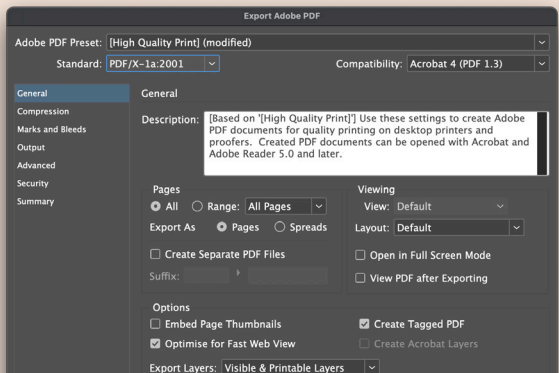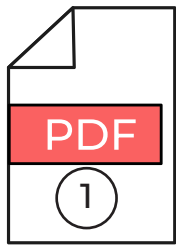
Total: 100 pages

Blank | Extra Pages
Sometimes, designers finish their layout only to realise they have a page or two left to fill. Adding a blank page or a simple image can help meet the required page count, but it's important to plan carefully.

Consider the flow of your booklet—adding an extra page can alter the pagination, affecting how your content is displayed. Always check your layout before submitting your files to ensure everything flows correctly.

Note - If you want the inside covers to be blank, please still provide artwork for them. Simply duplicate your front cover, remove all content, and supply it as a blank page at the correct dimensions.

Final Design Checks

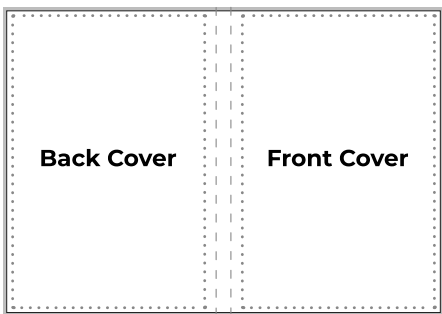| ✅	Colour	CMYK
✅	Resolution	300dpi
✅	Fonts	Embedded | Outlined
✅	Bleed	3mm
✅	Safe Zone	10mm
✅	Spine	Added

3. Export PDF

When submitting your perfect bound book, supply the cover artwork separate from the inside pages. We need 2 PDFs to process your order.
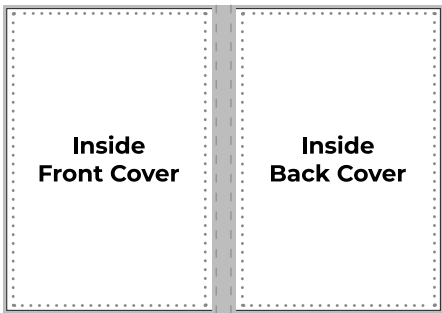
PDF 1 - Cover Artwork
This PDF must contain the outside cover and inside cover supplied as spreads. This includes the spine in the centre.
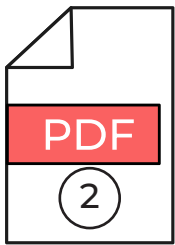
PDF 2 - Inner Pages
This PDF will contain the inside pages to your perfect bound book. Each page must be an individual sheet.

Outside Spread

| Back Cover | Front Cover |

Inside Spread

| Inside Front Cover | Inside Back Cover |

Inside Pages

4. Upload Artwork

Once your file is ready, simply upload it to your order, and we'll take care of the rest.

Just Print – Your artwork goes straight to production, ensuring a fast and seamless process.

File Check – Need an expert review? Our Pre-Press team will carefully check your file for any potential issues before printing.

File Check & Proofing – Want to see a preview of your processed print file? Choose this service for added reassurance.

File Assist – If your file contains spreads and needs separating, our team can handle it for you.

Design Service – Have the content but need a print-ready design? Let our experts bring your vision to life.

Note - Check your page count. Before submitting your print files, double check that the pages you have within your files match the order you are placing.

Final Export Checks

✓	**Spine**	Included
✓	**Crop Marks**	Offset by 10mm
✓	**Bleed**	3mm
✓	**Fonts**	Embedded | Outlined
✓	**File Format**	PDF | PDF/X-1a:2001
✓	**PDF**	**2** x Print Ready PDFs **Cover PDF** | **Inside PDF**