

How to make a book



<http://www.leepublishing.net/writeabook.html>



First, some things to know:

-you need a publisher or you can publish yourself.

-you need an editor or you can edit yourself.

-you need an illustrator or you can illustrate yourself.

(there are many copyright free pictures on the web but make sure you can use them)

-find a self-publisher if you decide on that route. *ie: createspace or other site.*

-you may need to spend a little money to get started but many upload sites are free.

-editing and illustration work are not free and are *a la carte* on these web sites.



First, some things to know(continued):

-you can re-upload your book as many times as you want.

-many sites will make your book available on Amazon.com and/or their site.

-you can set your own price for your book in most cases within a range.

-once your book is published, you can't just sit back and wait for it to be on the New York Times Bestseller list! – you have to do some work *ie: bring to libraries, have a book sale, have a book reading in a library or other public setting, you may have to buy several copies of the book to give away, and/or send out a press release.*

-get friends or colleagues to write reviews on Amazon or other site.



Top 9 self-publishing websites

- **Lulu.** <https://www.lulu.com>
- **Blurb.** www.blurb.com
- **Scribd.** <https://www.scribd.com/Createspace>. ...
- **Smashwords:** <https://www.smashwords.com/>
- **iUniverse:** <https://guide.iuniverse.com>
- **Kobo:** <https://www.kobo.com/>
- **Kindle direct publishing:** https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/
- **Createspace:** <https://www.createspace.com/>



Writing/Illustrating a book

“Writing is easy. You just open a vein and bleed.” (*anonymous*)

-if you are writing a book, just start writing. Simple! No one can do it for you. You must do it yourself. If you write on paper, remember you have to transfer to electronic at some point. If you write on your computer, laptop, etc – it is easier to publish/transfer.

-proofread your writing and edit (or hire an editor)



Writing/Illustrating a book

“An illustration is a visual editorial - it's just as nuanced. Everything that goes into it is a call you make: every color, every line weight, every angle.” *Charles M. Blow*

- if you are illustrating your book, there are many ways to do this.**
- you can illustrate the pictures yourself.**
- you can hire an illustrator**

Once you have your illustrations, you need to scan them. If they are digital, you don't have to scan them, they are all set to insert.



Putting it all together

If you are putting the book together yourself, you need:

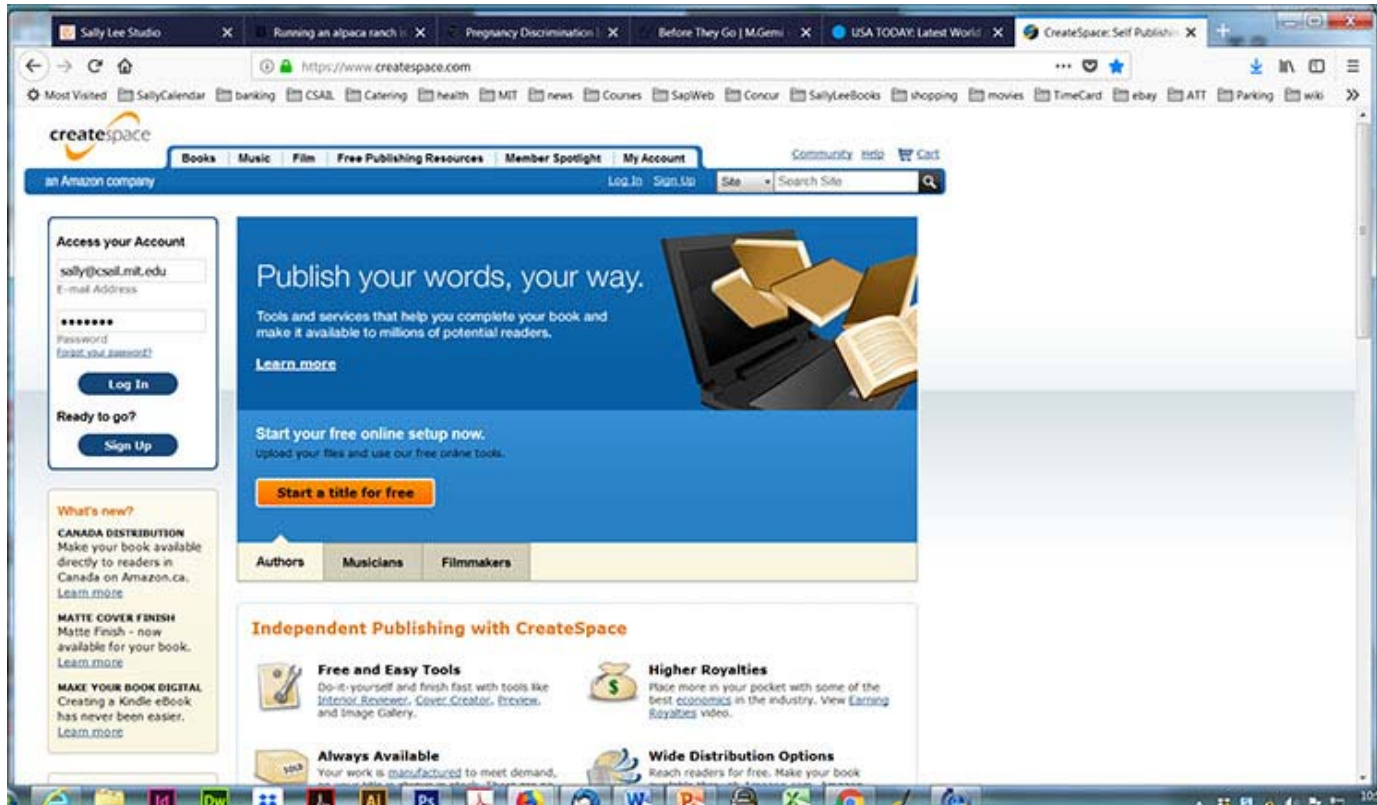
1. A computer
2. Publishing software: ie: In Design or other software. There are many out there.
3. The text of your book and scanned files of your illustrations.

Then you can start laying out your book! This is the fun part. Open a publishing file, pick an amount of pages (you can always add to it), and start placing text and pictures. This will take some time. Some choose to send it all to the publisher to put together but this will cost money.



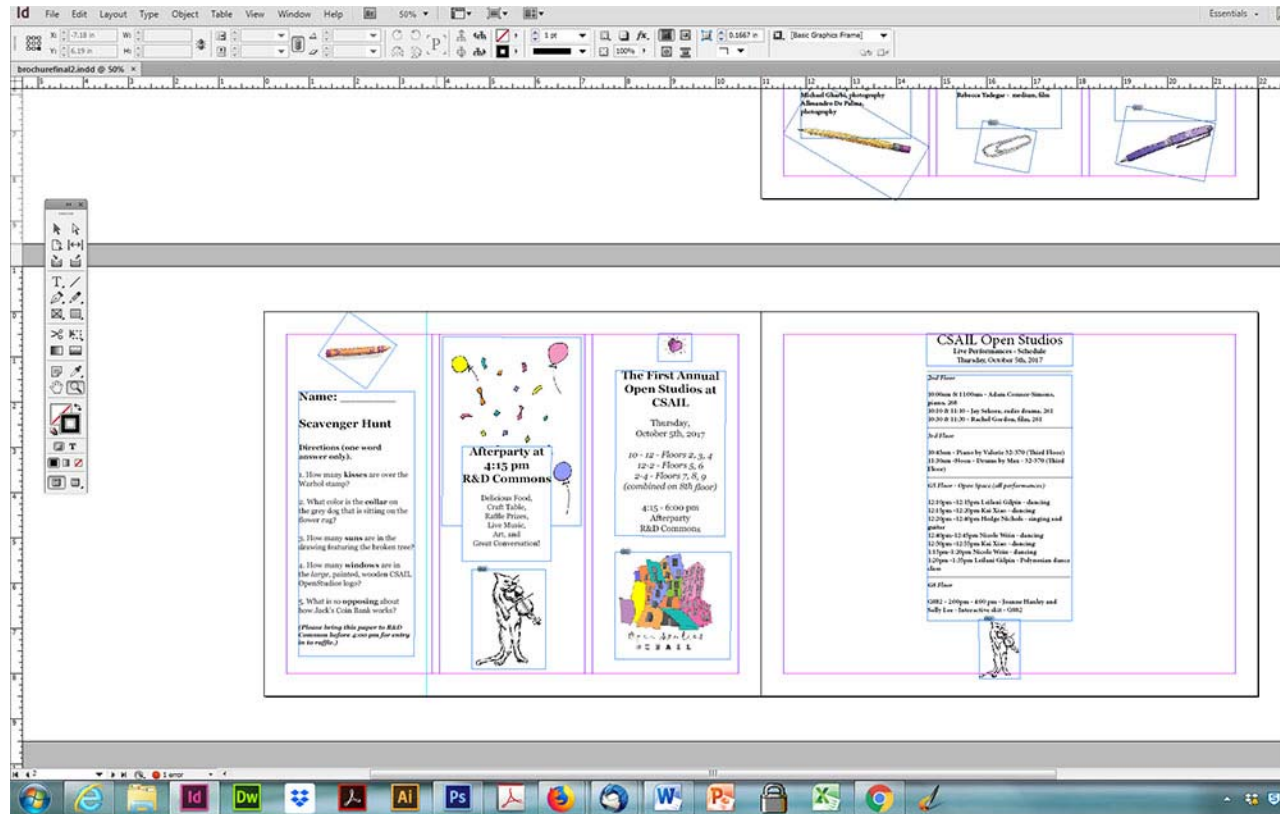
Putting it all together

Here is a sample of a self-publishing web site.



Putting it all together

Here is a sample of a layout page in InDesign.



Putting it all together (continued)

“The devil is in the details.”

Now, that your book is done, you need to focus on the details.

1. You will need an isbn number. The self-publisher will provide you with one.
2. If you choose, you can get an LOC (library of congress #) for a small fee. I recommend this but it is not required.
3. You place these on the inside front cover or first two pages of your book.
4. Once you have all the parts done, then you convert this to a pdf at the highest resolution possible.
5. You will also need to design a cover (front and back) to also upload.
6. Upload these files to the publication site. They will not proofread the book but they will check isbn, LOC, and price to make sure they are correct. They will notify you when the book is ready or if it needs changes and then you will approve and submit!



Your book is published!

Once it is published, they will either post it on their website or on Amazon or both. And you are ready to go. Tell every one about it and have fun! It beats having it sit in your closet or in an old filing cabinet waiting to be published. Good luck!!



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