

A photograph of a person's hands typing on a silver laptop keyboard. The laptop is open on a white desk. In the background, there is a white mug of coffee and a small potted plant with green leaves. The scene is brightly lit, creating a clean and professional atmosphere. A dark grey semi-transparent box is overlaid on the bottom half of the image, containing white text.

KDP Print Publishing

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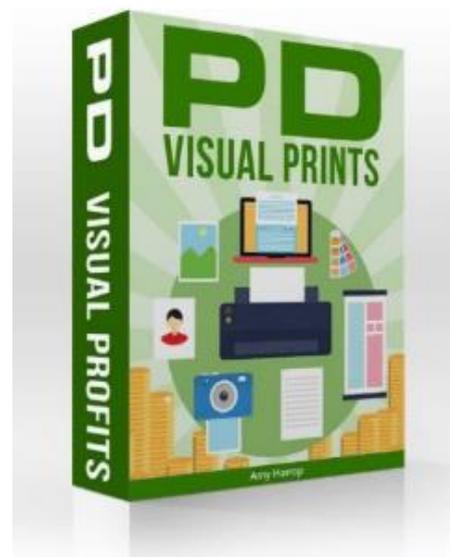
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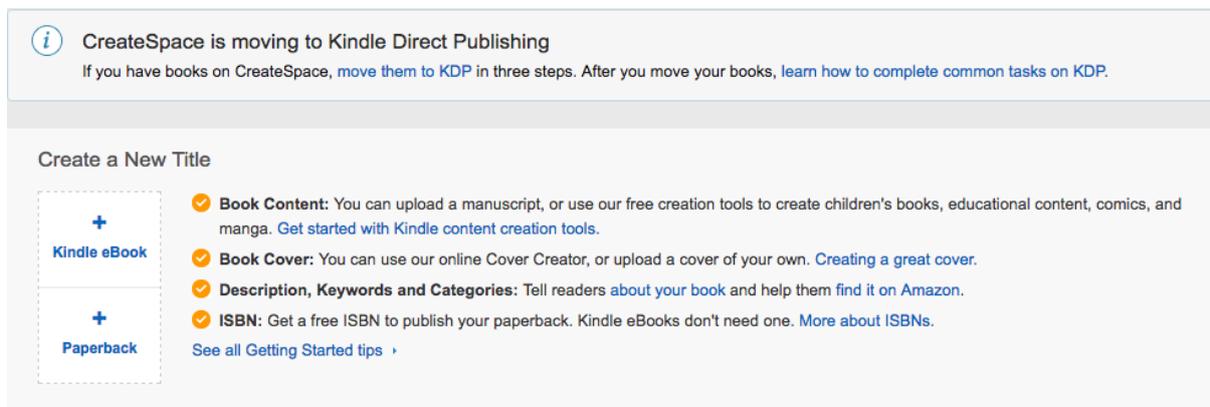
KDP Print Publishing

For those who prefer publishing paperback books, CreateSpace was the premier service because it helped get your books on Amazon while also giving you expanded distribution to physical retailers. However, as you may have heard, CreateSpace has closed, leaving Amazon KDP (Kindle Direct Publishing) as the main alternative.

The good news is that KDP Print has been expanded, and it gives you many options for designing and distributing your paperback books. While it's behind CreateSpace in a few ways, Amazon is quickly catching up and making it easier for authors to publish and distribute their books internationally. Let's cover the major differences along with how to migrate your books and how to publish new titles through KDP Print.

What's Changed?

There are some big changes when migrating from CreateSpace to KDP Print, but overall most of the changes are minor. Amazon is doing their best to make the transition as smooth and seamless as possible.



i CreateSpace is moving to Kindle Direct Publishing
If you have books on CreateSpace, [move them to KDP](#) in three steps. After you move your books, [learn how to complete common tasks on KDP](#).

Create a New Title

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✔ Book Content: You can upload a manuscript, or use our free creation tools to create children's books, educational content, comics, and manga. Get started with Kindle content creation tools.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✔ Book Cover: You can use our online Cover Creator, or upload a cover of your own. Creating a great cover.✔ Description, Keywords and Categories: Tell readers about your book and help them find it on Amazon.✔ ISBN: Get a free ISBN to publish your paperback. Kindle eBooks don't need one. More about ISBNs.

[See all Getting Started tips](#) ›

Perhaps the biggest change for the better is that your POD books will now be counted as part of your Kindle revenue, which means that everything is lumped together, and you'll get paid all at once. This makes payments simpler while also meaning that you'll have fewer checks to wait for. Royalty for POD

books through Kindle will be up to 60% through the website and 40% with expanded distribution.

Expanded Distribution

Expanded distribution is accordingly having some hiccups, but it's expected for Amazon to quickly acclimate and completely take over CreateSpace's distribution channels. This is a minor problem that should be fixed very quickly. You should have access to all the same distributors that you did with CreateSpace, ensuring that you can have your book sold through bookstores. You can also order your own books to sell at wholesale prices, and you can get a proof copy of the book to get a look at it before selling.

Proof Copies

Some people are disappointed by the proof copies. They look good, but they have the word PROOF stamped on them, which just isn't appealing. However, international sellers (like those living in Europe) will be happy to hear that now the proof copies can be made and shipped from different countries, which drastically reduces shipping costs. CreateSpace used to only ship proof copies from America.

Printing costs are roughly the same. However, low-content books may experience higher printing costs specifically in Europe. These are for color books under 30 pages and black-and-white books under 110 pages. This will only affect a very small portion of writers, so you likely won't have to worry about that.

Printing Cost

KDP prints your book on demand and subtracts your printing costs from your royalties. That means you don't have to pay any costs upfront or carry any inventory.

[How we calculate printing cost](#)

[Minimum list price](#)

[Maximum list price](#)

[Setting and updating list prices](#)

One of the major benefits of using KDP Print is that you gain access to many different national versions of Amazon. You can currently put your paperback book on Amazon in America, Europe (such as England, France, Germany, Italy and Spain) and Japan. There have been some problems in moving to Amazon Canada and Mexico, but it's expected that these problems will be quickly resolved, and you'll be able to sell there as well.

Advertising

Several years ago, Amazon allowed authors to use paid advertising to help bring more visitors to their pages. This wasn't available for paperback books published through CreateSpace, but it's now available to KDP Print books. This can help you generate more traffic and money because your book will be right in people's faces, making it easier to get ahead of the crowded Amazon market.

Cover Creator

One of the problems with the transition is that KDP doesn't work perfectly with the CreateSpace cover creator. Any books that you migrate from CreateSpace to KDP won't allow many design changes to the cover, so you'll either must start from scratch or just keep the cover the way it is.

KDP Print does have a cover creator and templates. While it's a matter of preference, some have voiced annoyance because the tool is different, and some don't find it as robust. However, this should still give you everything that you need to make your book look beautiful. There might be some pains here and there as you get used to the new design program, but it should be good enough for your needs.



Publishing

When your book is all ready to go, then you can easily add the digital version of it to Kindle, and you can even enroll your book in the KDP Select program. This gives you higher royalties and puts your ebook in the Kindle Unlimited program, which gives you another way to make some income with your book.

The file preview and approval process take longer on KDP than with CreateSpace, but this may or may not be a good thing for you. CreateSpace just allowed you to push a file through and it was then printed. If everything is perfect, then that's good because it gets your book ready for sale as quickly as possible.

Amazon puts you through a few extra steps. First, you must look through the print previewer and approve the file. This gives you a chance to look through the book and see if it looks good. After that, someone from KDP will manually look through the book and will then email you if there are any issues with the formatting. You will be expected to correct these issues before submitting the file again. Then, and only then, will your book be published. This can be annoying, but it also ensures that there are no printing errors when everything is all said and done.

There are a lot of little changes here and there, but overall things are mostly staying the same. While you lose access to CreateSpace's design program, you are gaining access to international versions of Amazon, the same expanded distribution network and your revenue will be counted right alongside your ebook sales.

Now that you understand the differences, let's talk about how to migrate your book from CreateSpace to KDP Print.

Migrating Your Current Books

Now that we've gone over the differences, both the pros and cons, of CreateSpace being dissolved and KDP Print being the new best paperback provider for authors, let's talk about migrating your books over to KDP.

To be honest, the process is fairly easy, and it's being said that all books will be automatically transferred anyway as CreateSpace closes down. However, migrating your books now ensures that you won't have to worry about any hiccups or issues during the automatic migration. Also, this gets you ahead of the curve and gives you time to get used to the new Kindle system.

All the steps are simple. It just involves linking your CreateSpace account with KDP Print, verifying the account and then waiting for the files to go over. While there is a brief moment between your books being on CreateSpace and being on KDP, sales will continue. This ensures that you don't lose any money as your books move over. In fact, many authors have seen a temporary jump in sales after transitioning (though that's obviously impossible to guarantee).

The whole process only takes a few minutes. We'll take it slow to ensure that you understand each and every step. The first step differs whether you first login to CreateSpace or Kindle. Aside from that, every step afterwards is the same.

Step 1: Login CreateSpace

After logging into CreateSpace you will see a popup appear that says you can now manage your books through Kindle Direct Publishing. Click on the orange “Get Started” button to continue. This will bring you directly to the Kindle page for the rest of the process. If you cannot find the link anywhere, then you can also access it here: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_us/createspace-transfer b. Kindle After logging into your Kindle profile, you will see a box that says “CreateSpace is moving to Kindle Direct Publishing.” You will see a link underneath this heading that says, “move them to KDP.” Click this link to continue. It will bring you to the Kindle page needed for the rest of the process.

Step 2: Verify Your CreateSpace Account

You will now have to verify your CreateSpace account so that it can be linked to KDP Print. This is simple and only requires a login procedure, so be sure to have your username and password ready.

1: Verify your CreateSpace account



Verify and access your CreateSpace account

If you came here from CreateSpace, then you should already be logged in. You will know this because under the heading of “Verify your CreateSpace account” you will see your account name, email and the name of titles associated to your account. Be sure to check this number to ensure that it’s correct.

If you are not logged in, or if you came here through Kindle, then click the “Verify and access your CreateSpace account” yellow button. This will bring you to a page where you can access your CreateSpace account. Just enter your login information and you’re ready for the next step.

Step 3: Link the Accounts

Much like the above step, this primarily concerns logging into your KDP account. You'll know if you're logged in because the screen will display your name, email and the number of books associated to your account. If you're new to KDP or haven't published anything here yet, then there won't be any books linked to your account yet, so don't worry about that if you haven't published anything to Kindle.

2: Link your existing account or create a new KDP account

Create or link your KDP account

[Do you use different tax information for your CreateSpace paperbacks and KDP eBooks?](#)

If you came here through Amazon, then your account should already be logged in. If you came here from CreateSpace, then you may need to enter your Kindle login information. Click the "Create or link your KDP button" to enter your username and password.

If you don't have a KDP account yet, then you'll instead go to a screen where you fill out all the details needed to generate an account. There's nothing too special about this process, it's largely the same as setting up an account on any other website.

Step 4: Move Your Books

If you thought the last steps were easy, then be prepared for this one because it's the easiest of them all. Under the heading "Move Your Books" you'll see a button labeled "Start your move." Click this button to finalize the move. Once you do this you cannot take it back, your books will now be published through the KDP Print service.

3: Move your books

When your account is ready, you'll be redirected to KDP. This can take a few minutes.

Start your move

By clicking here you agree to the [Kindle Direct Publishing Terms and Conditions](#).

You'll see a little popup appear that says "We're working on it." Depending on how many books you have, this can take anywhere from a few seconds to a couple of minutes. Even if you have numerous books, it shouldn't take too long. Once finished, you'll see all of your books should properly listed on Amazon with KDP.

However, I have noticed with some books that migrated, I needed to go through the steps again of adding keywords, categories, and a few other items manually. It's a good idea to check each book that is migrated over.

Step 5: Proof Review

CreateSpace allowed you to order proofs of your book so that you could see the finished product firsthand and ensure that everything was right. What happens if you move a book from CreateSpace to KDP while it's in this state?

While KDP doesn't technically have a "awaiting proof" or "proof review" step, it does have a "draft" step, and your book will be placed in that category, so it won't be published yet. You will receive your scheduled proof, so don't worry about it not coming or not being produced.

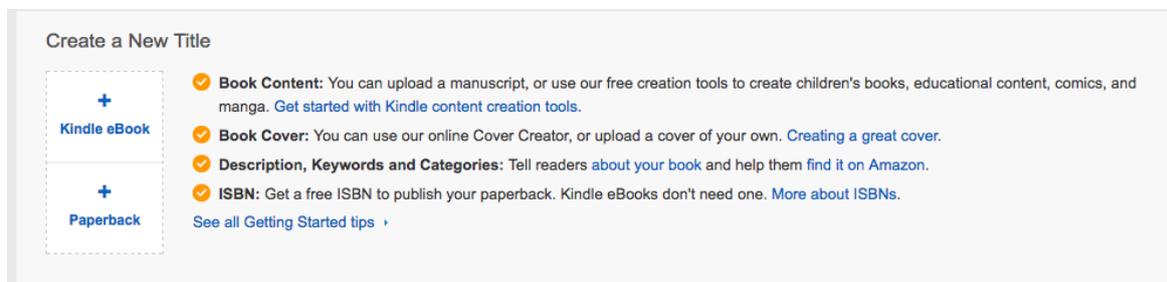
All changes and approval will now be done through KDP. It's business as usual, you're just making your edits or giving your approval through Amazon now instead of CreateSpace. It's a very small change that really shouldn't affect your publishing.

Publishing New Books

Some of you will be curious about how to make new paperback books through KDP. Maybe this is your first time making a paperback book in general, or maybe you want to know how different the KDP process is compared to CreateSpace. Let's go over the process so that you're ready to make your book printable and sellable.

Step 1: Login and Enter Details

Login to your KDP account and click "Bookshelf" to create a new book project. From here, click the "Paperback" option. This will tell Amazon that you want to make a printable book rather than an ebook.



The next part is very simple. You're just entering basic details like author name, book name and so on. Since there isn't much more to this part of the process, we won't elaborate on it too much.

Paperback Details <i>i</i> In Progress...	Paperback Content <i>i</i> Not Started...	Paperback Rights & Pricing <i>i</i> Not Started...
<p>Language Choose your paperback's primary language (the language in which the book was written).</p> <p>English <input type="text"/></p>		
<p>Book Title Enter your title as it appears on your book cover. Learn more about entering your title information.</p> <p>Book Title</p> <p><input type="text"/></p> <p>Subtitle (Optional)</p> <p><input type="text"/></p>		
<p>Series Enter this information if your book is part of a series. How to provide accurate series information ▼</p> <p>Series Information (Optional)</p> <p>Series name <input type="text"/> Series number <input type="text"/></p>		
<p>Edition Number You can provide an edition number if this title is a new edition of an existing book. What counts as a new edition? ▼</p> <p>Edition number (Optional)</p> <p><input type="text"/></p>		

Step 2: Description, Keywords and Categories

These are important regardless of whether you are making an ebook or paperback book. Keywords make it easier for someone to search for your book, so be sure to use both searchable and popular keywords so that people can find your book. You are allowed to add seven, and you are encouraged to enter the maximum amount.

Description This will appear on your book's Amazon detail page. [Why do book descriptions matter?](#) ▾

4000
characters left

Publishing Rights

I own the copyright and I hold necessary publishing rights. [What are publishing rights?](#) ▾

This is a public domain work [What is a public domain work?](#) ▾

Keywords Choose up to 7 keywords that describe your book. To enter the **Kindle Storyteller** contest, you need to add the keyword *StorytellerUK2018*. [How do I choose keywords?](#) ▾

Your Keywords (Optional)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	

As for the description, this is what people will read when they are looking at your product page. Your description can literally be the thing that either causes or kills a sale, so it has to be good. You have 4,000 characters to describe your book, get people interested and to close the deal. Make sure that your description gives readers a good idea of why your book is worth purchasing.

Lastly, categories will determine where people find your book if they are going through genre pages. For example, you can select “fantasy” so that people find your book in the fantasy section. It’s good to be specific and to ensure that the category really fits your book. You are able to select two categories, and it’s best to select both so that you have more chances of being found.

Categories Choose up to two browse categories. [Why are categories important?](#) ▾

Large print. [What is large print?](#) ▾

Step 3: Changes to KDP ISBN Policies

KDP used to give you the option to either use a free Kindle ISBN or to provide your own. If you do happen to have your own, then you can use it, **but they are no longer offering a free Kindle ISBN for low-content products.**

This is KDP's definition of low-content:

A low-content book has minimal or no content on the interior pages. These pages are generally repetitive and designed to be filled in by the user.

Common examples include notebooks, planners, journals, and other similar works. This does not typically include activity/puzzle books or coloring books, generally do not feature repetitive content on each page.

When you create a low-content book, you can either use your own ISBN or publish without an ISBN. The price for a single ISBN from [Bowker](#) is \$125, but it is discounted to \$295 for 10, or \$575 for 100.

Without an ISBN, Amazon will still add a barcode to a book. But it will not include a transparency code.

KDP has made some additional changes for low-content publishers with regards to ISBNs:

- Expanded Distribution is not supported for low-content books, regardless of the ISBN option you select.
- The Look Inside feature is currently not supported for low-content books published without ISBN. If you want this feature for your book, you'll have to buy your own ISBN from Bowker or through your local ISBN agency.
- Transparency codes are not available for low-content books that are published without an ISBN.

Step 4: Print Options

Up until now, most of these steps are similar to setting up an ebook, but this one is distinctly for print books. You are now supposed to select your print options, or how you want the book to be printed.

The most popular options will be automatically selected, which are black and white printing, cream paper, 6x9 size, matte cover and no bleeding. These are perfectly fine settings for most books, but there are other options.

Print Options The default options selected below are based on the most common selections. [How will printing cost be calculated?](#) ▾

Interior & paper type
[What ink and paper types does KDP support?](#) ▾

Black & white interior with cream paper	Black & white interior with white paper	Color interior with white paper
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Trim Size
[What is a trim size?](#) ▾

6 x 9 in 15.24 x 22.86 cm	Select a different size
-------------------------------------	-------------------------

Bleed Settings
[What are bleed settings?](#) ▾

No Bleed	Bleed
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Paperback cover finish
[What is a cover finish?](#) ▾

Matte	Glossy
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You can also choose to have white paper instead of cream, or color printing with white paper. If you click “Select a different size” near the “Trim Size” section, then this will open a whole new menu with various sizes for your book. Some of these sizes are 5x8, 5.5x8.5, 7.5x9.25 and 8.27x11.69.

Trim Size ✕

Most Popular Standard Trim Sizes:

5 x 8 in 12.7 x 20.32 cm	5.25 x 8 in 13.34 x 20.32 cm	5.5 x 8.5 in 13.97 x 21.59 cm	6 x 9 in 15.24 x 22.86 cm
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More Standard Trim Sizes: Compare all standard sizes

5.06 x 7.81 in 12.85 x 19.84 cm	6.14 x 9.21 in 15.6 x 23.39 cm	6.69 x 9.61 in 16.99 x 24.4 cm	7 x 10 in 17.78 x 25.4 cm
7.44 x 9.69 in 18.9 x 24.61 cm	7.5 x 9.25 in 19.05 x 23.5 cm	8 x 10 in 20.32 x 25.4 cm	8.5 x 11 in 21.59 x 27.94 cm

Non Standard Trim Sizes:
These sizes have limited distribution options. [How is my book affected?](#) ▼

8.27 x 11.69 in 21 x 29.7 cm	8.25 x 6 in 20.96 x 15.24 cm	8.25 x 8.25 in 20.96 x 20.96 cm	8.5 x 8.5 in 21.59 x 21.59 cm
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Self Define Trim Size:
Set up your book with your own trim size.

in

↕

Width:

Height:

Select

There are a lot of options here, and most will easily find one that works for them. However, what if none of them are perfect? In the “Self Define Trim Size” section you can enter your own size. Just put in the right size for your book and move on to the next section.

You can also change your cover to glossy instead of matte, and you can choose to have the pages bleed. This means that the printing runs all the way to the edge of the paper instead of leaving a border around the paper.

Step 5: Upload Manuscript and Cover

Now you have to upload the text file and cover. Uploading the manuscript should be easy. PDF files tend to work best for the printing process as they will not change, but you can elect to upload DOC, DOCX, HTML or RTF. If you want a KDP template to help ensure that your book is properly sized, look here: https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/help/topic/G201834230

Manuscript

Upload a manuscript of your book interior content. For best results, we recommend using a formatted PDF file to create your paperback. You can also upload a DOC (.doc), DOCX (.docx), HTML (.html), or RTF (.rtf). [Learn more about manuscripts](#) or [download a KDP template](#) for your preferred trim size.

Upload paperback manuscript

Book Cover

We recommend a book cover for a good reader experience. You can create a cover using our Cover Creator tool or upload your own book cover. [Learn more about book covers](#) or [download a KDP template](#) to create your own cover.

Use Cover Creator to make your book cover (upload your own cover image or use KDP's stock images)

No Cover Uploaded

Launch Cover Creator

Upload a cover you already have (print-ready PDF only)

If you have your own cover, then just upload the PDF (that is the only file type accepted here) and you're done. If you don't have a cover yet, then click "Launch Cover Creator."

How to Use Cover Creator

1 Choose Design
Select an initial design concept for your cover.

2 Style & Edit
Customize the layout of your cover by changing the position of elements, colors, and typefaces.

3 Preview
Preview your book cover before you publish.

Got it. Don't show me this again.

Continue

You might spend a lot of time here fussing over your design, but the whole process is made to be simple so that you don't spend too much time here. Start by selecting a design (there will be a few sample covers to choose from), change the styling by swapping colors, entering text and changing font and then preview the cover to ensure that it looks good.

If you know what you want, then this might only take a few minutes. But don't rush it. You want to make sure that everything is perfect before moving onwards.

Step 6: Rights and Pricing

You're almost there, now you just need to read through the rights and select pricing. If you've gotten this far, then this final part is easy.

KDP Jumpstart Topic 12 - Paperback Rights & Pricing

WHAT THIS TOPIC COVERS

After reading this topic, you'll know how:

- To select the territories for which you hold distribution rights
- Royalties and printing costs are calculated
- To set your list price

YOUR PROGRESS

You've completed Milestones 1, 2, and 3. Now you're working on Milestone 4. When you're done, you'll be ready to publish your book on KDP.



HOW TO SET PAPERBACK RIGHTS & PRICING

1 Select territories

During title setup, you'll be asked to select the territories for which you hold distribution rights. You have two options:

- **All territories (worldwide rights).** This will allow customers from around the world to buy your paperback on: Amazon.com, Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.de, Amazon.fr, Amazon.es, Amazon.it, Amazon.co.jp*. If your book is your original content and you've never published it before, you most likely have worldwide rights.
- **Individual territories.** Select the territories in which you hold rights. This will limit sales of your paperback to the corresponding Amazon website.

*Paperback publishing is not yet available for titles written in Japanese. KDP publishers can, however, publish paperbacks written in the languages we support on Amazon.co.jp

TIP: For a KDP paperback to be available on one of our marketplaces in Europe (Amazon.co.uk, Amazon.de, Amazon.fr, Amazon.es or Amazon.it), you must have rights in the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Italy, and Spain. If you don't have rights in any one of those territories, do not select "United Kingdom," "Germany," "France," "Italy," or "Spain" as a territory.

2 How paperback royalties are calculated

Paperback royalty rates are 60% of the list price displayed on Amazon at the time of purchase, minus printing costs, applicable taxes, and withholding:

Estimated royalty = 60% of list price - printing costs - applicable taxes or withholding

No need to worry about calculating this yourself. When you enter your list price, our pricing grid will automatically calculate your estimated royalty.

Rights are more about where your book will be published and available for sale. You can choose either "All Territories" or "Individual Territories." All territories means that your book will be available for sale on all of the Amazon pages, such as the American, European and Japanese ones. This is, in most cases, the best option as it gives you access to the most customers.

However, if you feel that your book should only be in one or two territories, then select "Individual Territories." You can then choose where to print your book.

You will then have to select pricing. At this point Amazon will show you the printing price so that you know how much it costs to produce the book. You can then create a list price that will be higher than the printing price. Your royalties are calculated by taking 60% of the list price, minus printing costs and taxes. Make sure that you calculate for this to ensure that you are making an adequate amount of money on each sale.

When selecting price, you can either have a price that automatically converts to the currency of that marketplace, or you can make individual prices for each territory. This is completely up to you. After that, all you have to do is approve the book, wait for Amazon to approve it and then it will be for sale.