PDF Submission Specifications

CreateSpace has provided specification requirements to enroll your title into the Print-on-Demand Program. This document contains PDF and Metadata requirements to allow the best product for our customers. These requirements are specific to our manufacturing process to ensure the highest quality. If the files we receive do not meet our specifications, CreateSpace will make minor modifications to the files to attempt to meet our guidelines.

createspace
an Amazon company

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Metadata Specifications



Metadata Requirements

- ***Metadata*** is information that describes your book such as title, subtitle, author name, volume number, page count, paper color, trim size, description, publication date, and more.
- Do not include URLs in any metadata fields.

Title

- The entire title must appear on the cover, interior, and in the metadata, and must exactly match. If a title page is not included in the interior, the ISBN must be listed on the copyright page and match the ISBN in the barcode on the cover.

Subtitle

- If you choose to include the subtitle on the cover and interior, they must match what appears in the metadata.
- The subtitle does not have to appear on the cover or interior.

Author Name

- If an author name is included on the cover and interior, it must match what appears in the metadata.
- If the author name is not available, please include “Unknown” in the “Contributor Last Name” field for the title to pass.
- Four (4) character limit for prefixes
- Six (6) character limit for suffixes

Book Description

Please click here for our book description requirements.

Volume Number

Any book with a volume number higher than one (1), should include the volume number in the interior, cover, and metadata.

General PDF Guidelines

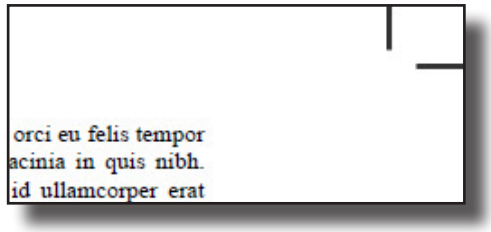


Embedded Fonts

- All fonts on the cover and interior should be embedded in the native program before submitting. This will ensure the book is printed as intended.
- Unembedded fonts may cause errors during printing or may fail to print at all.
- If we are unable to embed the fonts, the book will be rejected during the file review process.

Crop Marks/Trim Marks

- Crop or trim marks are placed in a document to define where the artwork is trimmed after it is printed.
- We do not recommend including crop marks as they could appear on the printed book.



Annotations

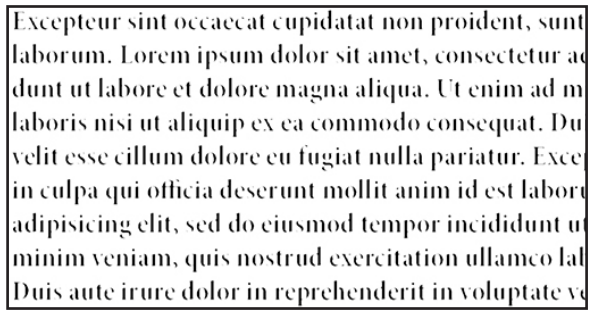
- Annotations are information added to PDFs that are not intended to print.
- Examples can include mark-ups, sticky notes, comments, etc.
- As annotations are not intended to print, they will be removed during the file review process, possibly causing a visible change to the book.
- All content intended to be visible in print should be included within the Safe Zone or margins.

Illegible Content

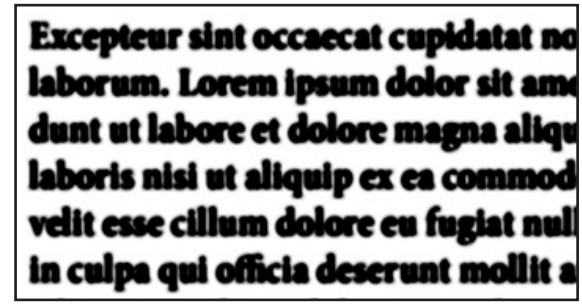
We are unable to accept any files that include text and/or images which are faded, blurry, pixelated, overlapping, cut-off, or obstructed by objects making the content unreadable unless a caption is included with the image and/or text. This also includes any overlapping text due to watermarks.

Below are examples of interior defects we do not accept.

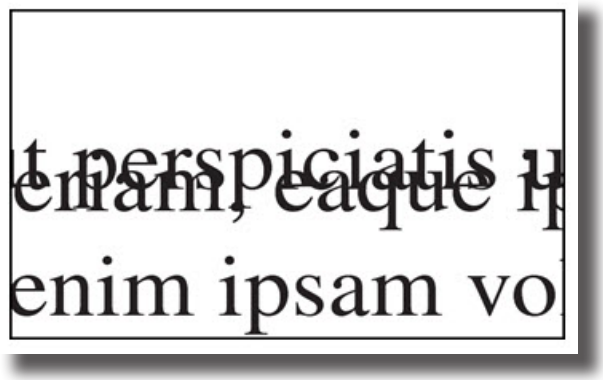
Example of faded text



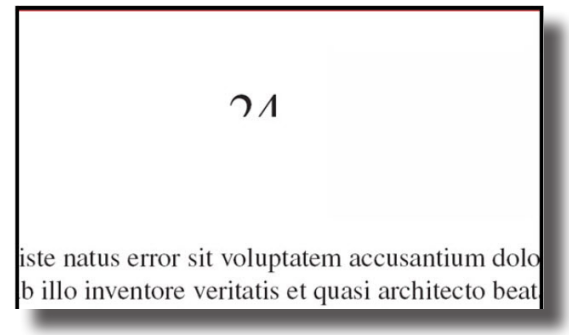
Example of blurry text



Example of overlapping text



Example of cut off text



Security Encrypted File

- Security encrypted or locked files prevent us from completing our file review process.
- All security should be removed from a file before submitting.

Transparency/Layers

- Transparencies and layers are created in the native file to create a visual effect.
- We recommend flattening all transparent objects and layers in the native file before submitting.
- If transparencies are not flattened in the PDF document, they can cause the file to fail at the printer or cause the file to print with missing content.
- We will attempt to flatten transparencies and layers in the review process and reject if this is not possible.
- Please note, flattening transparencies in the review process can cause a color shift or a change of appearance in the content of the file.

Resolution

- For optimal printing, we suggest that all images for both the cover and interior are at least 300 DPI.
- We will not reject a file for low resolution images unless there is text within the image that is blurry and illegible and a caption is not provided with the image.

Resolution (continued)

Image to the right - 300 DPI





Image to the left - 150 DPI

Image to the right - 72 DPI



References in Files

Disc References

- Your interior or cover file cannot imply that a disc product is packaged with the paperback book as CreateSpace is unable to support books that are intended to be multi-format collections.
- For legal reasons, if you include a disc reference in your files, the location of that disc must be specified.
- As an example, you may provide a URL of the disc title or a link to a digital download of the disc title in every location where a disc is referenced.

Example Phrases we do not accept:

- The CD-ROM included with this book...
- The accompanying DVD...
- The additional CD provided with this book...

"Printed By" and "Printed In" References

We recommend to not include any "Printed by" or "Printed in" information on the copyright page or anywhere in the book (For example, "Printed By X Printer, North Carolina, US"). This can be confusing to the customer since all of our books have the following information printed on the last page of the book.

Please note, this is just a recommendation and will not cause your book to be rejected.

Made in the USA
{City Manufactured}, {State Manufactured}
DD Month YYYY

File Limitations

- We cannot accept files over 1 gigabyte. To ensure successful delivery of your files, we recommend files to be no larger than 500 megabytes.
- We print all books at their original trim size within the following range:
    - Any width from 4” to 8.5” (10.16 cm to 21.59 cm)
    - Any height from 6” to 11.69” (15.24 cm to 29.6926 cm) for ***black and white books***
    - Any height from 6” to 11” (15.24 cm to 29.21 cm) for ***color books***

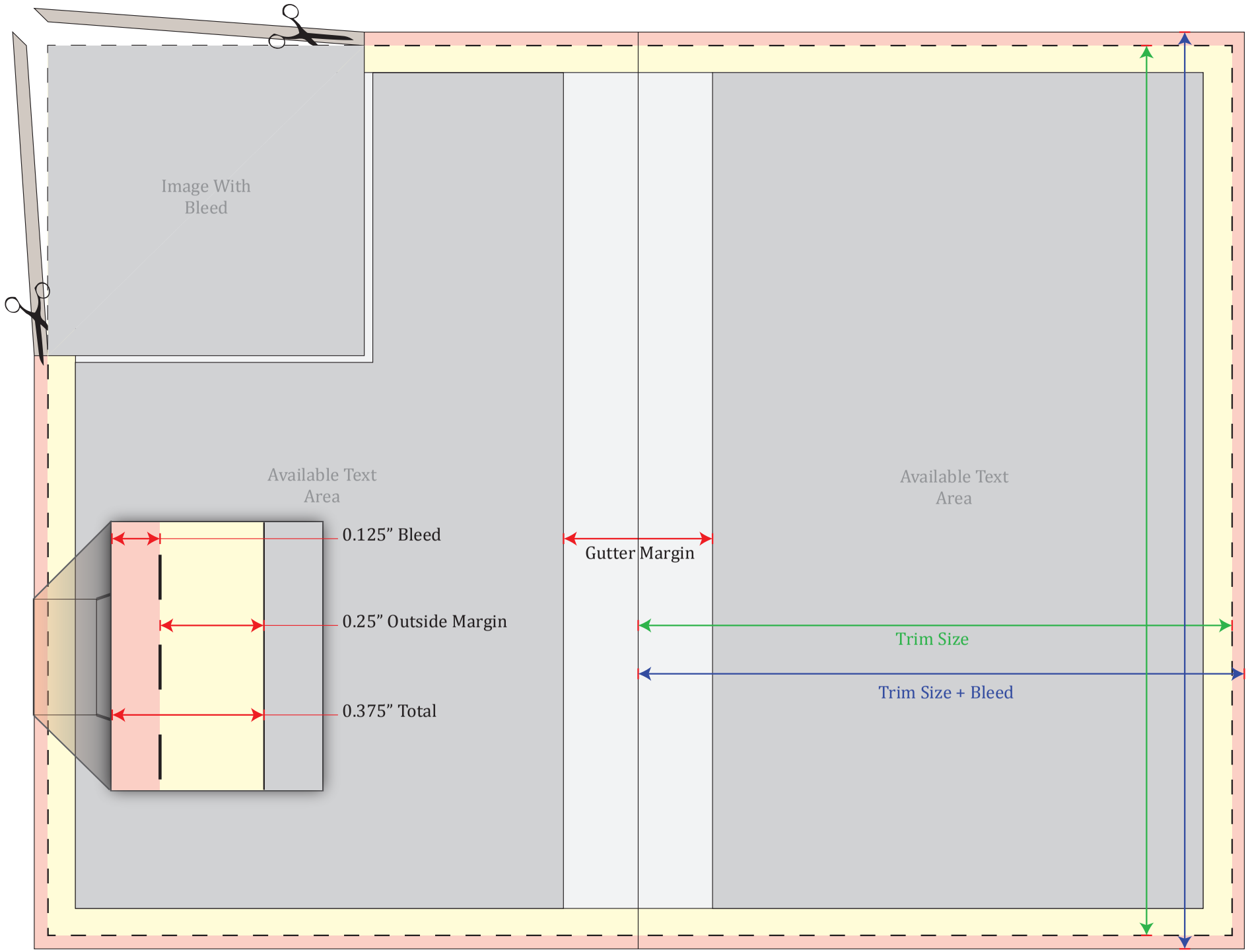
- The following table provides maximum page counts based on trim width and paper choice. All books must have at least 24 pages.

Trim Width (in inches)	**Trim Width** (in centimeters)	**White Paper** (444 ppi)	**Cream Paper** (400 ppi)	**Full-Color** (426 ppi)
4 to 8.12	10.16 to 20.6248	828	828	500
8.25	20.955	828	770	500
8.27	21.0058	828	750	500
8.5	21.59	630	570	500

Bleed Requirements

- Bleed is defined as the excess graphic area to be cut off during the bookmaking process so the design elements reach the edge of the page or cover once trimmed.
- For the interior, we require 0.125” or 1/8” bleed on the top, bottom, and outside (bleed is not required on the gutter) of pages with bleeding design elements.
- For the cover, we require 0.125” or 1/8” bleed on all four sides of the cover design.
- When the cover and interior files have sufficient bleed, print variance will not affect the final print quality of your book.




Image With
Bleed
Available Text
Area
Available Text
Area
0.125” Bleed
0.25” Outside Margin
0.375” Total
Gutter Margin
Trim Size
Trim Size + Bleed

Interior Specifications



Color Interior Requirements

- We support books with color inserts, however we require black and white pages to be true black and white.
- Make sure the black and white images are saved as grayscale or if they are line art, designed with single color black and not registration black (made up of a build of CMYK). They should not use a spot color (like a spot black or a spot gray).
- Please note black and white pages without color images should not be saved in an RGB color space or as a CMYK build.
- For color images, we recommend these to be saved in an RGB color space.

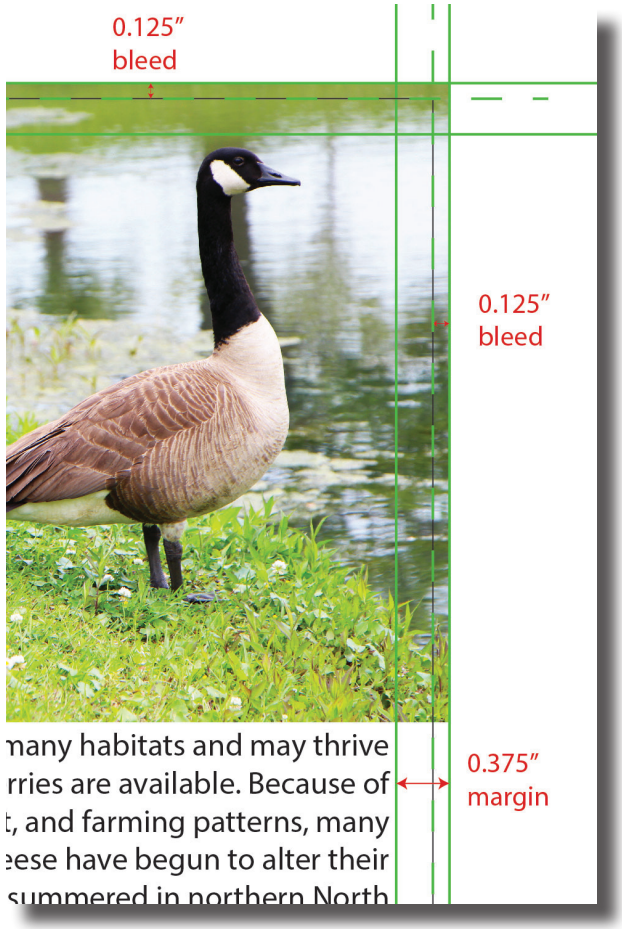
Spread Format

For the interior file, we require a single page PDF, not a spread or 2-Up.

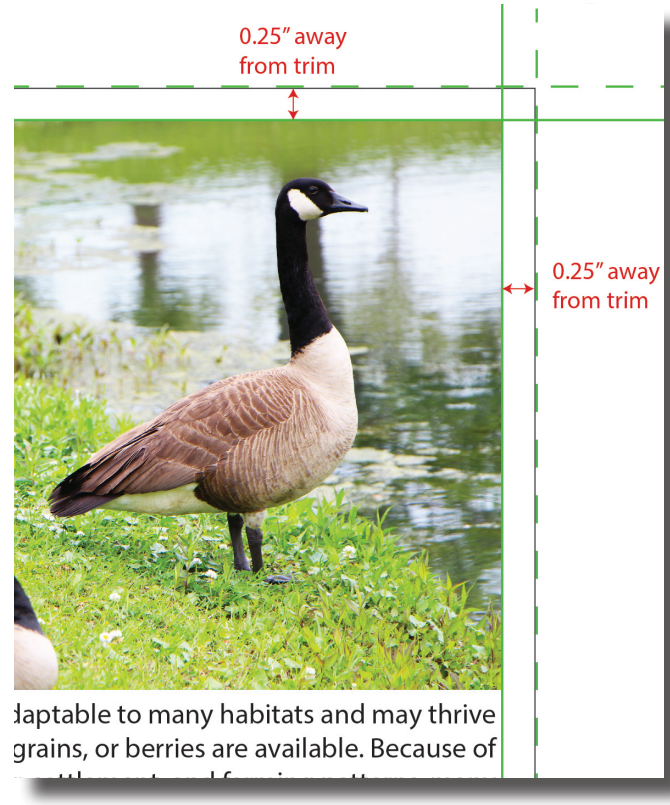
Margins Requirements

- CreateSpace's margin requirements ensure that your content is not cut on the outside edge and is not lost in the inside edge (or "gutter").
- ***Inside (gutter) margins***: This margin is near the book's binding (the middle of an open book). The gutter margin stops text from extending into the binding. The amount of PDF pages in your book's interior determines the minimum required gutter margin.
- ***Outside margins:*** These are the top, bottom, and outside edges of an open book.
- Based on your book's page count and interior type, the minimum margin requirements are below:

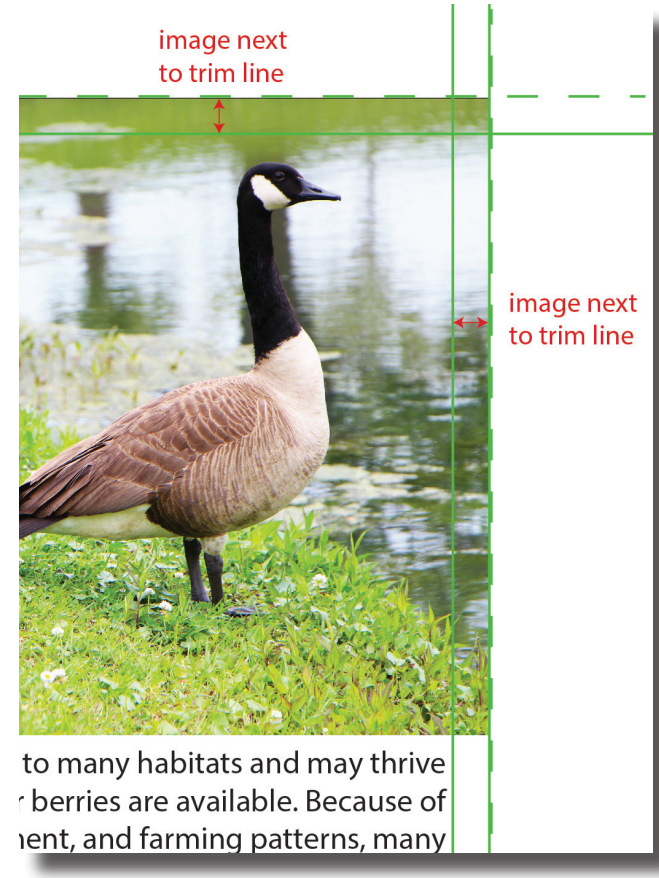
Page Count	Inside Margin	Outside Margins
24 to 150 pages	**.375"**	at least .25"
151 to 400 pages	**.75**	at least .25"
401 to 600 pages	**.875"**	at least .25"
More than 600 pages	**1.0"**	at least .25"



The file above would be accepted, because the image extends to the edge of the page (bleeds) however and the margin for the text is 0.375” (because full bleed interiors must be submitted 0.125” wider and 0.25” higher).



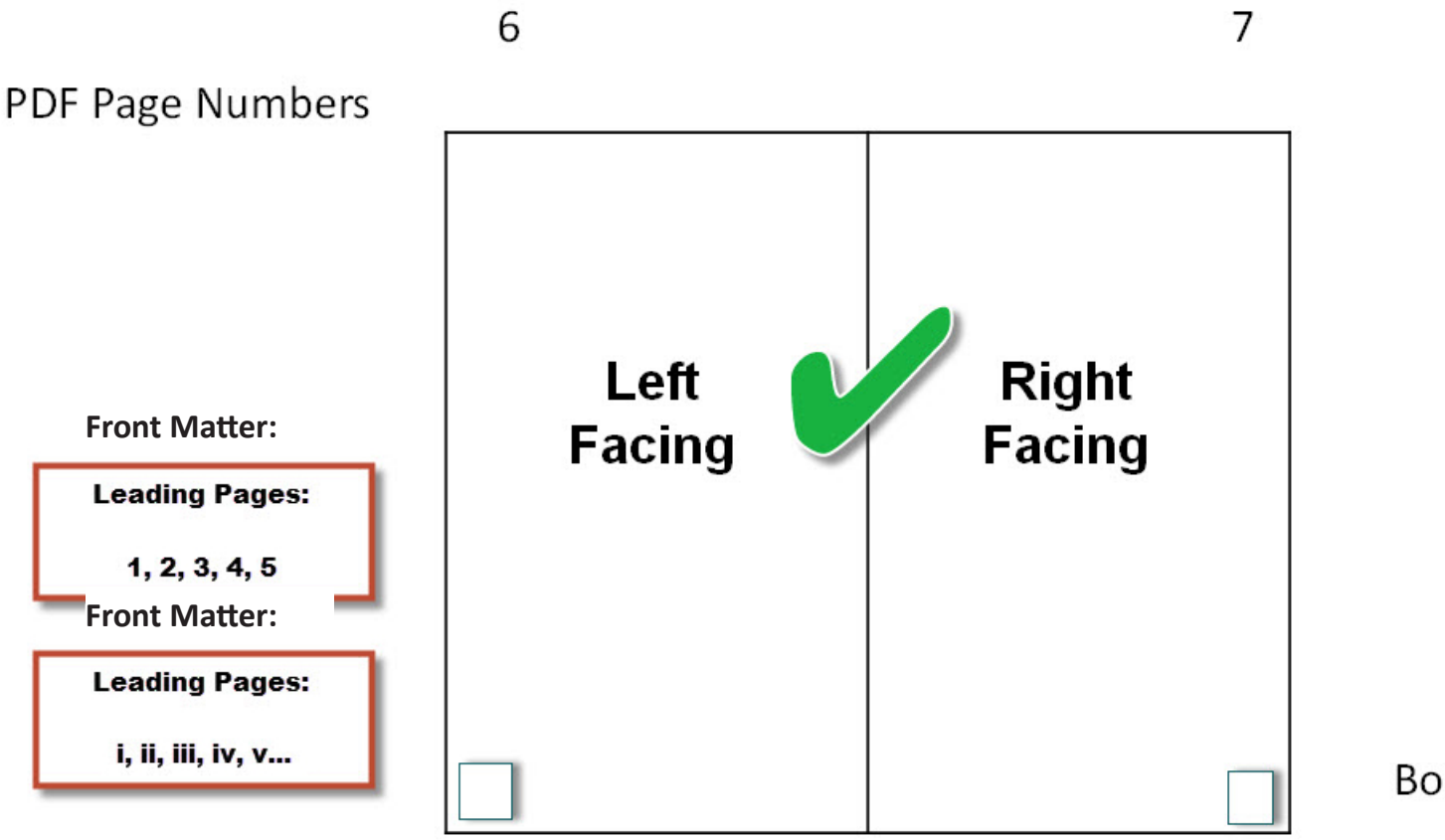
The file above would be accepted, because the file was submitted at the exact trim size and the image and text have a 0.25” margin.



The file to the right would be rejected because the image extends to the edge of the page (bleeds) however the margin for the text is only 0.25” away from the trim.

Pagination

- All page numbers should be ordered logically and sequentially where the even numbers are located on the left page and the odd numbers are located on the right page.
- A skip or change in page numbers could indicate pages are missing or ordered incorrectly causing production issues or customer confusion.
- Any gap in the pagination should still account each individual page so that all pages are accounted for as if there was no gap. The following example indicates how a book might be numbered where the x's equal unnumbered pages: 1,2,3,4, x, x, x, 8,9,10…
- Roman numerals may also be used as long as they indicate the correct page number. After the use of Roman numerals, you must begin with standard numeration to indicate the beginning of the interior. The following two examples show acceptable uses of Roman numerals: i, ii, iii, 4, 5, 6… or i, ii, iii, 1, 2, 3…
- If a table of contents is provided, please ensure all content is present in the book and corresponds with the listed page number.
- Books starting on a high page number (for example: p. 301) will be accepted if the volume number is present on the cover, title page of the interior, and in the metadata. This is only applicable for volumes higher than one.



Blank Pages

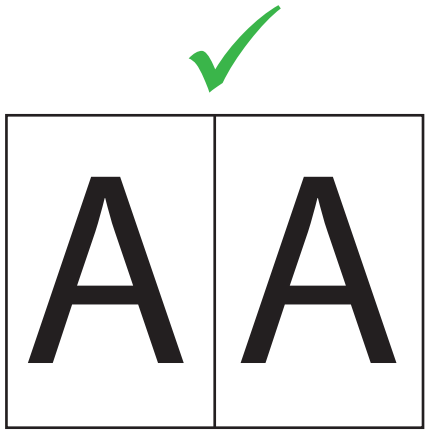
- There should not be more than two (2) consecutive blank pages at the start or middle of an interior file, and/or 10 consecutive blank pages at the end of an interior file.
- Excessive blank pages can look like production issues where the body text is not printing.
- If you wish to use more than the allotted number of blank pages, then you must indicate that the page is intended to be blank. For example, you may use lines running across the page to signify a place for writing or note taking. A header or footer indicating “Notes” or “Intentionally Left Blank” is also acceptable.

Page Orientation

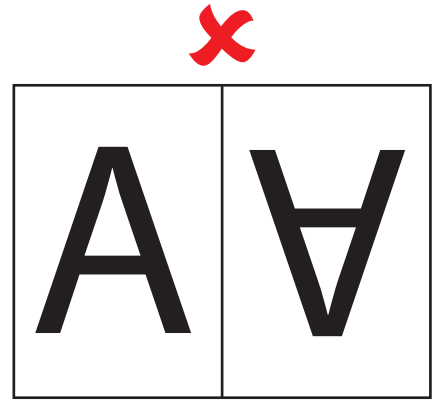
- All pages and contents must be oriented the same way; otherwise, this could be confused as a mistake during the printing process.
- For example, if a book has a trim size of 6 in. x 9 in., all pages must be setup with a width of 6 inches and a height of 9 inches. If a page has a map, image, or chart wider than 6 inches, it must be rotated to fit on the page so the orientation of the book is the same.

Upside-down Pages

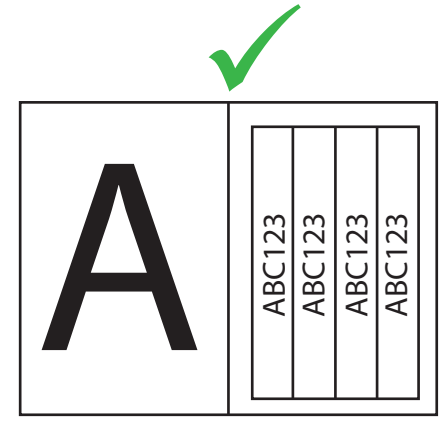
All pages must be right-side up or this will cause an error in our printing process.



(Right and left facing pages are Right side up)



(One page is upside down)

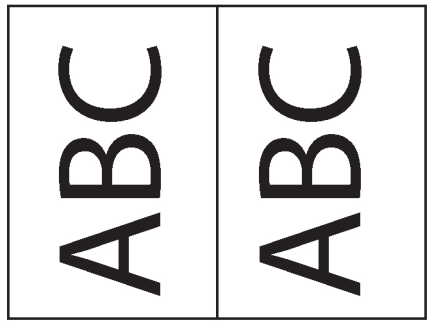


(The left facing page is Right side up and the right facing page is landscape to show a graph or image more effectively. This will pass)

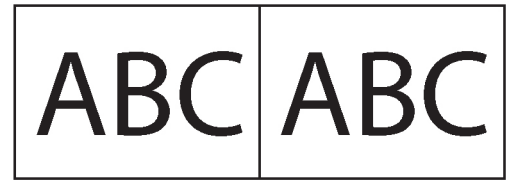
Calendar or Landscape Style

If the book is intended to print as a calendar or landscape style, please note the following:

- The interior PDF still needs to be sized at the trim size in width by height.
- All text and images within the interior PDF should be rotated 90 degrees counterclockwise.
- The binding will be on the top of the content instead of the left (calendar style).
- **Please note**: the thumbnail image that will display on Amazon will be oriented counterclockwise and cannot be adjusted.
- Margins for the book's page count and interior type should meet the same requirements. Please see Margins section of this document for more information.



Calendar Style



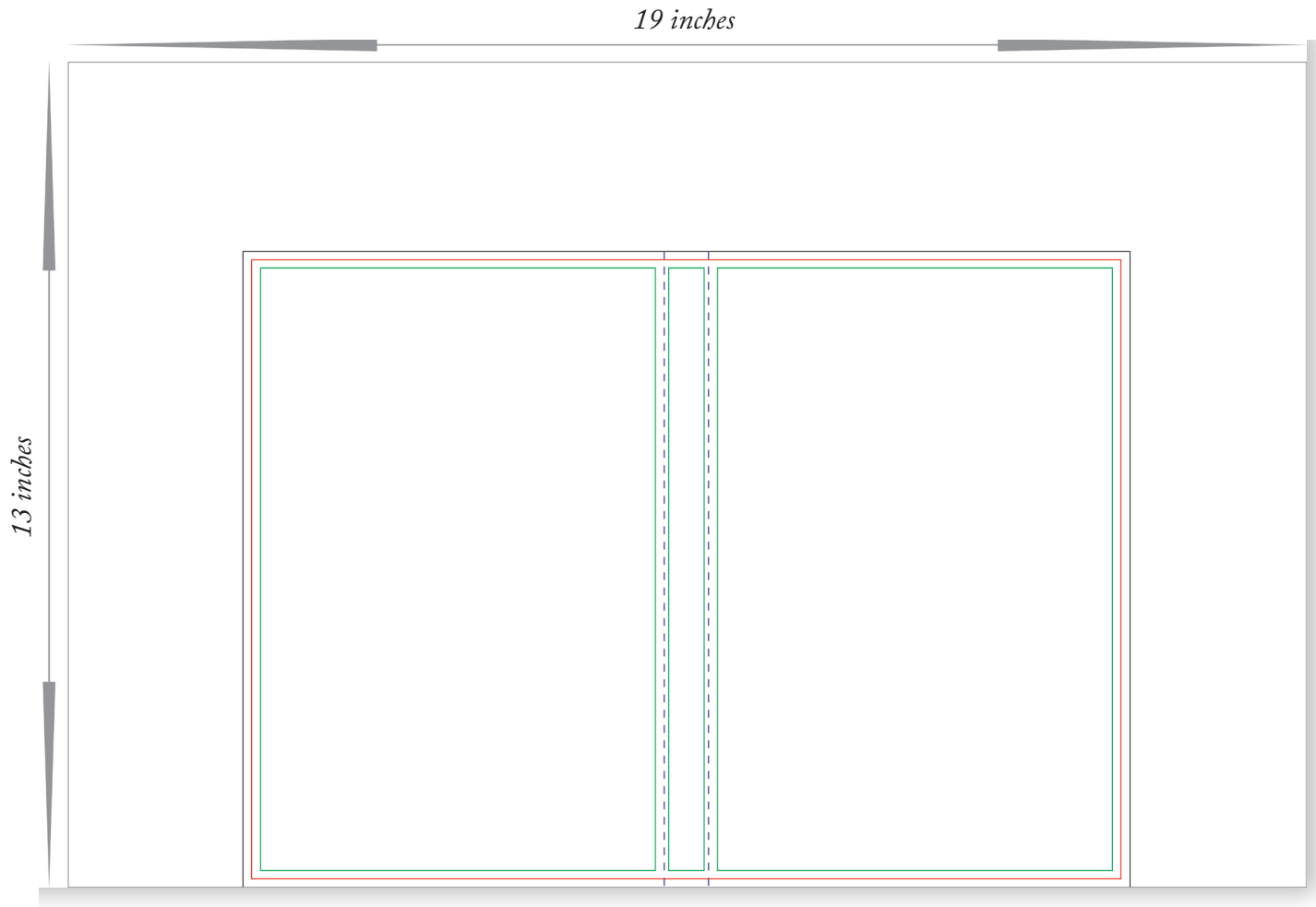
Landscape Style

Cover Specifications



Cover Size Requirements

- Your cover must be a single PDF including the back cover, spine, and front cover as one image with 0.125” bleed on all sides.
- Please submit the cover image with bleed on a 19 x 13 sheet. The cover must be centered and shifted to the bottom as shown below.



Calculating the Cover Size

Spine Calculation:

To calculate the spine width of a book, multiply the total page count with the spine multiplier associated with the book's paper type below:

- ***For black and white-interior books:***
  - White paper: multiply page count by 0.002252"
  - Cream paper: multiply page count by 0.0025"

- ***For full color books and books with color inserts:***
  - Multiply page count by 0.002347"

Example Calculation:
A 60-page black and white book printed on white paper will be created using the following formula:

60 (pages) x 0.002252" (spine multiplier) = 0.135" (spine width)

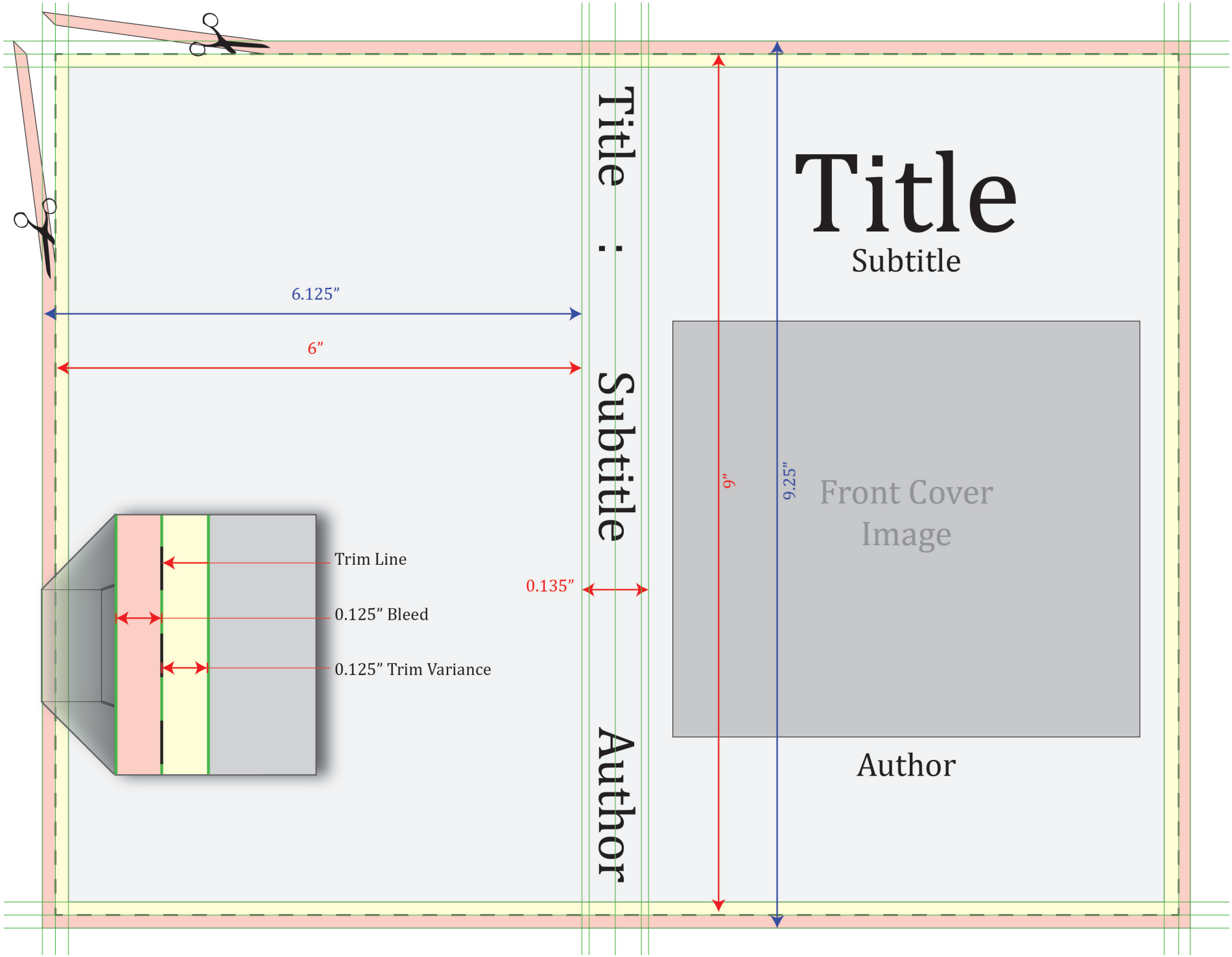
Calculate the cover size using the spine width (as described above), trim size width and height, and 0.125" bleed.

- Cover Width = Bleed + Back Cover Width + Spine Width + Front Cover Width + Bleed
- Cover Height = Bleed + Trim Height + Bleed

Example Calculation:

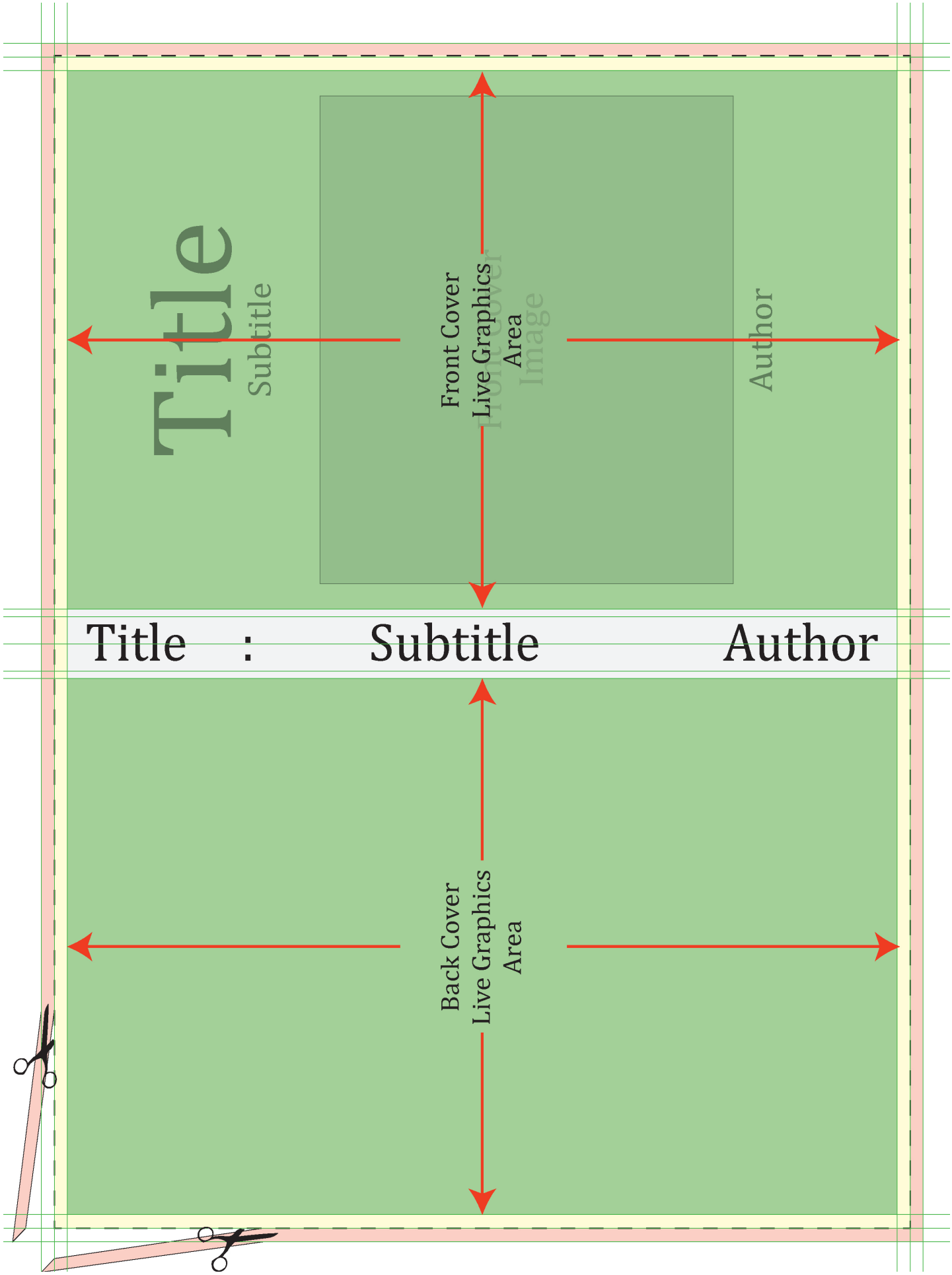
6" x 9" trim size with 60 B&W pages on white paper:

Cover Width = 0.125" + 6" + 0.135" + 6" + 0.125" = ***12.385"***
Cover Height = 0.125" + 9" + 0.125" = ***9.25"***


Title : Subtitle Author
6.125”
6”
0.135”
9”
9.25”
Trim Line
0.125” Bleed
0.125” Trim Variance
Title
Subtitle
Front Cover Image
Author

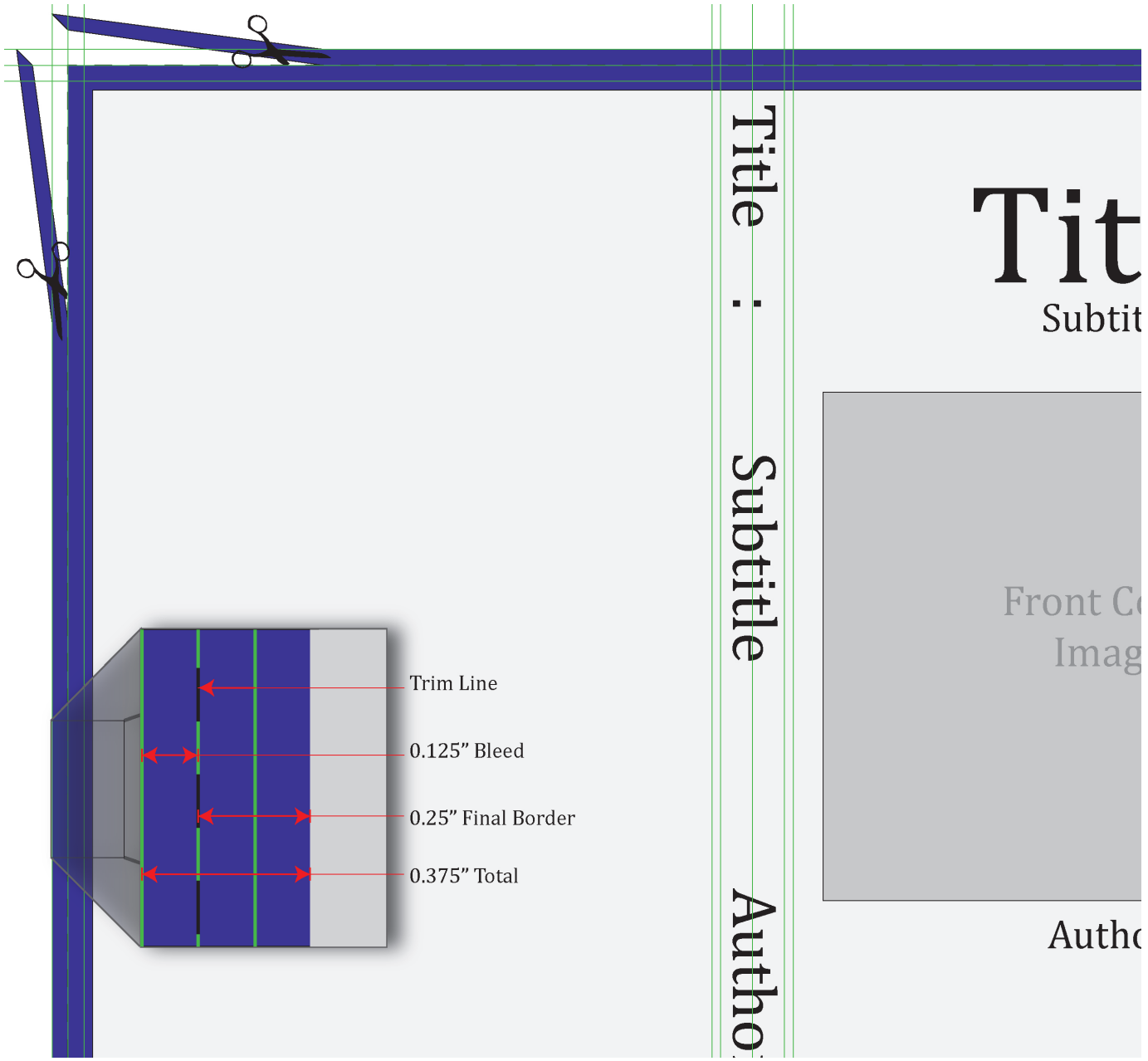
Live Elements/Graphics Requirements

- Live elements or graphics are the content that is placed within the viewable area (or safe zone) of a page. The safe zone is 0.25 inch away from the edge of the book.
- All metadata such as the title, subtitle, author name(s), volume, etc. are considered to be live graphics and must be inside the live graphics safe zone.
- Ensuring all elements are contained within this area safeguards that no essential elements are cut off during the bookmaking process.
- We cannot accept cover designs with live elements or graphics extending off the cover even if it is intentional because it may look like an error in the production of the book.


Title
Subtitle
Front Cover
Live Graphics
Area
Front Cover
Image
Author
Title : Subtitle Author
Back Cover
Live Graphics
Area

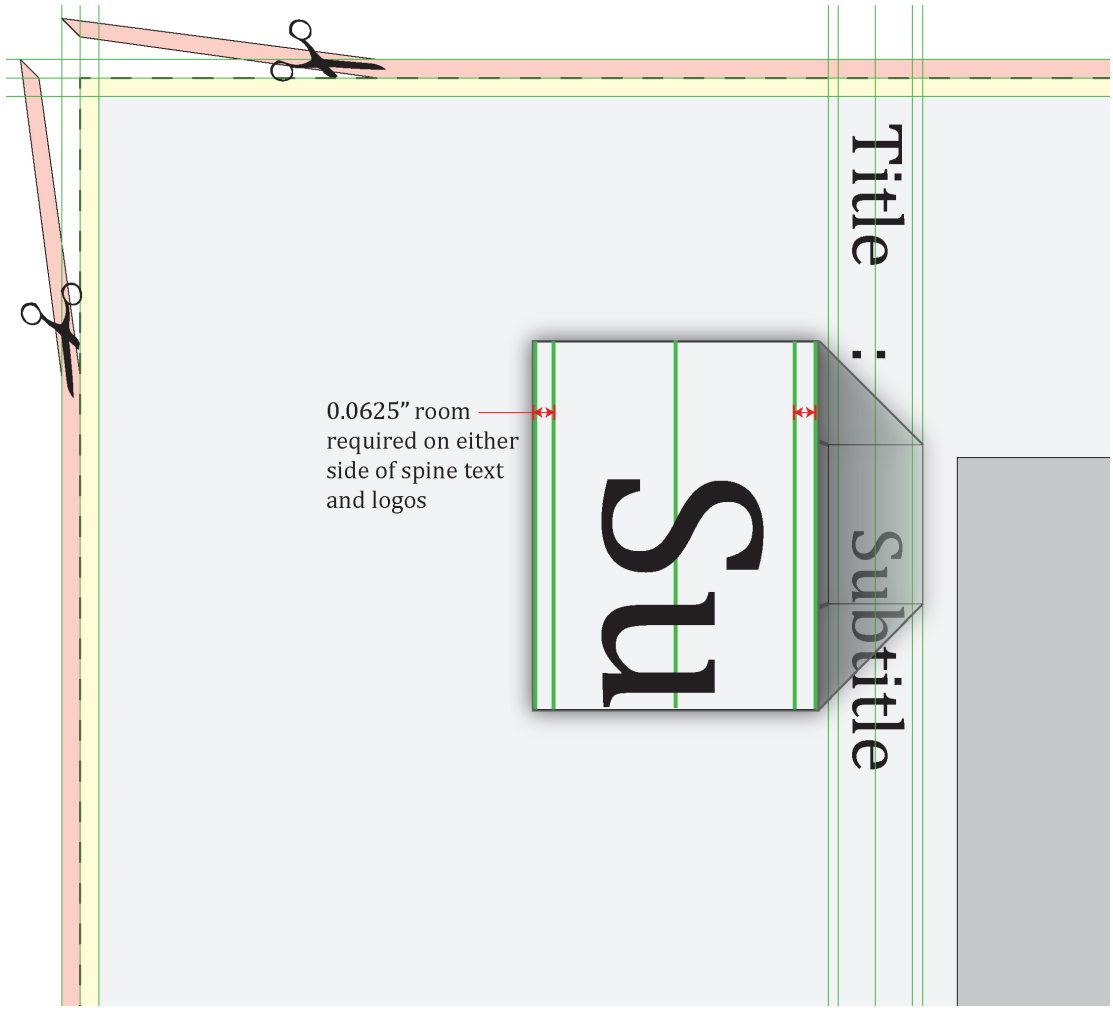
Border Requirements on Covers

- We do not recommend including borders around the cover due to our production variance of 0.0625” in either direction. Borders may appear unevenly when trimmed.
- If the cover is designed with borders, we recommend the borders extend inside the trim area by at least 0.25” to ensure the best outcome in print.



Spine Text and Image Requirements

- ***Books must have more than 100 pages to include spine text.*** We remove spine text for books with fewer than 101 pages because the text would be too small to be easily read.
- Spine text and spine logos must have 0.0625" of space on either side. This includes letters with ascenders and/or descenders like y, g, or d where the letter extends below the baseline or above the mean line of a font.
- We will attempt to adjust spine text or spine logos to meet our requirements during the review process.



Barcode Size

- For manufacturing and distribution reasons, your book's back cover must include a valid ISBN barcode.
- It must be at least 300 DPI and at least 2" width by 1.2" height.
- Please ensure the barcode does not overlap any text or images on the cover.

ISBN Requirements

- The ISBN or EAN (ISBN13) on the barcode should match the ISBN or EAN (ISBN13) provided in the metadata.
- The ISBN or EAN (ISBN13) must only be used for a paperback book. We cannot accept an ISBN or EAN (ISBN13) that has previously been used for a book in a different binding type, format, or edition (for example: hardcover).
- We will verify the accuracy of the Imprint Name and binding type against the ISBN provided.
- If additional ISBNs are referenced on the cover and/or interior (for example: the copyright page), you must specify the format (i.e. hardcover or ebook) or title of each to avoid misunderstanding.