Getting Started with Lulu
Welcome to Lulu!

In this guide you will find an overview of our platform, links to helpful resources, and best practices. We’ve compiled this information in an effort to help you successfully navigate our platform on your journey to share your content with the world!

Let’s dive in!
How Many Lulus?

Lulu
Lulu Direct
Lulu API
One company, multiple solutions. No matter where you are in your publishing journey, Lulu has the tools and solutions you need to succeed. In this section, we’ll outline Lulu’s business lines and how to use them.

It makes sense to begin with the one that started it all, right? Founded in 2002, Lulu is a self-publishing print-on-demand platform that is completely free to use. You only pay when you want to purchase print copies of your books. Use Lulu.com to print your book or publish your work to sell through the Lulu Bookstore or our Global Distribution partners that include Amazon, Ingram, Barnes & Noble, and more.

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- No minimum orders
- Sell via Global Distribution and/or Lulu.com Bookstore
- Retain 80% of gross profits per sale for print books; 90% for ebooks

**PERFECT FOR**

- Use Lulu.com to print your book or publish your work for sale through the Lulu Bookstore and other Global Distribution partners that include Amazon, Ingram, Barnes & Noble, and more
- If you are publishing projects and do not have ISBNs (we provide them for free)
- If you are publishing a project that has multiple payees
- If you are publishing ebooks only
- Printing copies of books to use for purposes other than retail sales
If you’re looking for a way to sell your books directly through your own website - our Lulu Direct App for Shopify is for you! Shopify makes creating your webstore easy and Lulu Direct connects you to the best print-on-demand for global order fulfillment. Sign up for Shopify, download our app for free, upload your books, and start selling!

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Free to use
- Customer data retained by you
- No inventory management
- Retain 100% of profits (no revenue sharing)
- Ability to white label

**PERFECT FOR**

- Individuals that want to sell directly through their own website
- Authors that want to set up their own publishing imprint
- Publishers that want to set clients up with their own webstore so they can sell directly to their readers
- Authors with multiple titles
- Anyone who wants to get out of the Amazon

For more information on how to get started with our Lulu Direct App for Shopify, please visit our site, or email us directly at ecomm@lulu.com.
Scale your business with our Print API! Our Print API makes it simple to integrate print-on-demand into your existing website. Once you’ve connected to our API, printing and fulfillment can be fully automated to save you time and money.

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<thead>
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<td>• Publishers or businesses that want to sell directly through their own website</td>
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<td>• Publishers with their own imprint who want to white-label fulfillment</td>
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<td>• Businesses with regular print needs for their audience</td>
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For more information on how to get started with our Print API, please visit our site, or email us directly at automations@lulu.com.
Exploring Lulu’s Platform

Your Lulu Account
Shipping Information
Production Times
Bulk Ordering
We’re not psychics but we know you’ll have some questions. This section is dedicated to all the information you need to Lulu successfully.

Your Lulu Account

Creating Your Lulu Account
Just head over to lulu.com and hover over the icon on the far right and click Register.

Fill in all the required information to create your Lulu account. We’ll email you a verification and once you follow that link, you’ll be signed in and ready to go!

Navigating Your Lulu account
Your Lulu account contains all your projects, personal payment information, and order history. Let’s quickly review the pages and navigation for your account.

My Account

My Account includes your order history and account settings.

- **Order History** - A list of all orders placed using this account.

  *Note:* These are just orders placed using your Lulu account, it does not include sales of your books.

- **Account Settings** - Manage your personal information and email preferences.
My Projects

My Projects include all the projects you’ve created with Lulu as well as sales and payment information for all your payees.

- **Projects Overview** - A searchable list of all print and ebook projects, including drafts and retired projects as well as those currently ready for sale and printing.
- **Promote My Projects** - Highlight your books and your social channels with a unique author spotlight page on the Lulu Bookstore.
- **Sales & Payments** - Track sales information from Lulu and our Global Distribution service. Also displays pending and past payments. All the data can be exported to CSV for your records.
- **Create A Project** - Click to create a new project!

Shipping Information

All print products created by Lulu are printed and bound on-demand. That means books are not printed until an order is received. Not only is print-on-demand better for the environment, but it also saves a ton in material and storage costs.

We provide expected fulfillment times (which includes printing and shipping) in the cart for each user during their checkout. You can also find these times listed in our [Pricing Calculator](#).

**Note:** Shipping times are always subject to change based on updates provided by our carriers.
In the event of production or shipping delays, Lulu will post notifications for users in their shopping cart. Delivery ranges in the cart and calculator will update to reflect delays as well.

Shipping information for trackable orders can be viewed from your Order History Page.

Production Times

We generally estimate 3-5 business days from the time of ordering to print, bind, and package a paperback order. Hardcovers typically take closer to 5 days to fulfill. The vast majority of orders are ready to ship in less than 3 days, but it is important to assume the longest production time when planning for an order.

Bulk Ordering

If you’re looking to stock up on books for an event, sale, or just to have on hand for rush orders, our bulk specialist can help ensure you get the best price. Bulk orders start at 500 copies and volume discounts begin at 100 copies. Ready to stock up? Check our Bulk Ordering page to contact our bulk specialist.
Our Products

Product Types
Book Sizes
Book Bindings
Interior Color Options
Paper Types
Cover Finish Options
Hardcover Linen Wrap Options
Product Types

At Lulu, we organize our book creation options into Product Types. This helps authors and creators find the best specifications for the kind of book they want to create. You can always find all available book options by selecting Print Book under the Create tab on the homepage.

Some of the specifications Lulu offers are not available from our distribution partners, so be sure to note the icon indicating distribution eligible options.

Note: Some options are restricted to specific product types, such as the calendar wire-o binding.
# Book Sizes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Book Size</th>
<th>Dimensions</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pocket Book</td>
<td>4.25 x 6.875 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>108 x 175 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Digest</td>
<td>5.5 x 8.5 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>140 x 216 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>A5</td>
<td>5.83 x 8.27 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>148 x 210 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Trade</td>
<td>6 x 9 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>152 x 229 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royal</td>
<td>6.14 x 9.21 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>156 x 234 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Comic Book</td>
<td>6.63 x 10.25 in</td>
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<td></td>
<td>168 x 260 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Executive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>178 x 254 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Crown Quarto</td>
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<td></td>
<td>189 x 246 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>A4</td>
<td>8.27 x 11.69 in</td>
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<td></td>
<td>210 x 297 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Letter</td>
<td>8.5 x 11 in</td>
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<td></td>
<td>216 x 279 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Square</td>
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<td></td>
<td>190 x 190 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Square</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>216 x 216 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Small Landscape</td>
<td>9 x 7 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>229 x 178 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>US Letter Landscape</td>
<td>11 x 8.5 in</td>
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<tr>
<td>A4 Landscape</td>
<td>11.69 x 8.27 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>297 x 210 mm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calendar</td>
<td>11 x 8.5 in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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## Getting Started with Lulu

Our products offer a wide range of book sizes to cater to various needs. Whether you’re planning a small project or a comprehensive piece, we’ve got you covered. From pocket books to large landscapes, and from hardcovers to calendars, our formats ensure that your content looks as good as it is.
Book Bindings

**Paperback Perfect Bound**
The industry term for traditional paperback binding, Perfect Bound is the most cost-efficient and popular way to bind on-demand products. The pages are aligned, cut together and glued. A strong flexible layer of 10 pt. cover stock holds the book together. Cover finish is available in Gloss or Matte lamination.

*Min/Max page count: 32-800*

**Paperback Coil Bound**
A flexible, black plastic coil bound through punched holes along the entire length of the spine allows the book to lie flat when open. Front and back covers are full color prints on 10 pt. cover stock. Coil bound is great for music books, notebooks, agendas, and any other project that needs to open flat for display. Cover finish is available in Gloss or Matte lamination.

*Min/Max page count: 2-470*

**Paperback Saddle Stitch**
Interior pages are folded and inserted between the cover, then stapled along the “spine” edge with 100#, 270gsm cover stock. Saddle stitch binding is designed for supplementary materials, coloring books, magazines, comic books, and other smaller page count projects. Cover finish is available in Gloss or Matte lamination.

*Min/Max page count: 4-48 pages (in multiple of 4*)

*Lulu will add white pages until page count is divisible by 4, if not already done so.*
Hardcover Casewrap
Traditional hardcover binding with the cover image printed full color then wrapped around .088 Binders Board. Casewrap binding is most often used for textbooks and hardcover portfolios. Includes white endsheets inside the cover. Cover finish is available in Gloss or Matte lamination.

**Min/Max page count: 24-800**

Hardcover Linen with Dust Jacket
Hardcover book featuring polycotton blend fabric with an aqueous acrylic coating wrapped around .088 Binders Board, available in the following colors: Navy, Black, Red, Green, Tan, Gray. Title and Author foil stamping available in Gold, Black, and White. Entire book is wrapped with a dust jacket cover, with interior cover folds. Includes white endsheets inside the cover. Suitable for special editions, memoirs, and gift books. Cover finish is available in Gloss or Matte lamination.

**Min/Max page count: 24-800**

Calendar Wire-O
The Wire-O binding is used exclusively for calendars to create a durable calendar that can easily be flipped without scratching or twisting. Cover finish available in Gloss lamination.

**Min/Max page count: 24-36**
**Interior Color Options**

**Standard Black & White**
Standard grayscale print is the most cost-effective printing option. Textbooks with few graphics or formatted abstracts look great with this quality black & white monochrome print.

**Premium Black & White**
Premium grayscale print with cost-effective printing options. Quality black & white print best for books with multiple graphics, charts, and tables.

**Standard Color**
Standard color provides a cost-effective option for content that does not require high ink coverage or heavy color. If your work includes colored text, small highlighted areas, charts or graphs choose this option to make a statement without busting the budget.

**Premium Color**
Best print quality for all color products. Best for photo books, portfolios, and high-resolution images. Consider this option when you want your work to speak for you.
Paper Types

Coated vs Uncoated
Our coated papers are treated with a special type of clay to smooth the papers’ texture.

60# Cream – Uncoated
90gsm
Traditional cream paper most frequently used for black & white novels and workbooks.

60# White – Uncoated
90gsm
Versatile and economical white paper commonly found in a wide range of books.

80# White – Coated
120gsm
Ultra-smooth, high opacity bright white paper used for photo books, magazines, and comic books.

100# White – Coated (Calendar Only)
150gsm
The heaviest available stock, used to create durable, vibrant calendars.
Cover Finish Options

**Glossy**
Stiff cover stock with a glossy coating finish. Glossy covers withstand wear and tear well while emphasizing the cover imagery. Most commonly used with gifts, textbooks, and art books.

**Matte**
Featuring a velvety, tactile finish with a more subdued appearance, matte cover finish gives your cover a more natural look. Used most often with novels and notebooks, matte finish withstands scratches and wear better than any other cover finish.
Hardcover Linen Wrap with Dust Jacket Options

**Linen Color**
- Navy: Most commonly used linen for a “standard” look
- Black: High contrast for a “professional” look
- Gray: Light colored linen for a "subdued" look
- Red: Bright, bold red for a “rich” look
- Tan: Muted, sandy beige for an "archival" look
- Forest: Rich, jewel tone for a “scholarly” look

**Foil Stamp**
The foil is text stamped onto the spine of the book.
- Gold: Bright, glossy text stamp for a “professional” look
- Black: Rich, glossy black text stamp for a “permanent” look
- White: Rich, glossy white text stamp for an “inviting” look

Available for Global Distribution
Global Distribution

Retail Distribution Network

ISBN
Retrace Distribution Network

Lulu’s Global Distribution service connects Print products to Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Ingram. Ebooks are distributed to Amazon, Apple, Barnes & Noble, Kobo, Scribd, Google, and Libri.

Using Global Distribution requires meeting unique specifications provided by the various channels. Part of this process includes purchasing and approving a printed proof of the book.

**Important Note:** Not all of our formats are eligible for distribution. Distribution eligible formats are denoted by the 🌍 icon.

Be sure to review our distribution guides for more information.

- [Global Distribution Guide](#)
- [Global Distribution Eligible Products Guide](#)

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**Print Book Network**

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<th>REVENUE SPLIT</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTION FEE</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTION PRICING</th>
<th>COMMISSION</th>
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<td>• Varies By Partner</td>
<td>• Apple: 30% • Other: 30-50%</td>
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**Ebook Network** (English Only)

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<tr>
<th>REQUIREMENTS</th>
<th>REVENUE SPLIT</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTION FEE</th>
<th>DISTRIBUTION PRICING</th>
<th>COMMISSION</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>• English Only • EPUB Format Required • Public Domain Not Allowed • 1x Publication Fee: $4.99</td>
<td>• 90% – 10%</td>
<td>• Varies By Partner</td>
<td>• Varies By Partner</td>
<td>• Apple: 30% • Other: 30-50%</td>
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</tbody>
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ISBNs

ISBNs are required for any projects going into Global Distribution. Projects being sold through the Lulu.com bookstore, the Lulu Direct app, or our Print API, do not require ISBNs.

If you do want to assign an ISBN to your project, you can bring your own or use a free one provided by Lulu.

**A Note About Imprints:** if you are publishing multiple authors under your own imprint, please be advised that an imprint can only be used in one account. You can publish as many titles as you want under that imprint, but you cannot create multiple accounts and publish projects under the same imprint in multiple accounts.
Book Creation & Publishing

Lulu offers a variety of free resources to assist you in creating a file for our printers. You can find a list of everything we offer on our Resources Page.

We recommend our Book Creation Guide to get the required file creation information, including resolution, font embedding, flattening, and other important requirements for your print file.

Book Design Guide Bundles

You can find template bundles including page templates, cover templates, Adobe Job Options, and guides on our Products Page. You can also download a cover template after entering your project specs into the Pricing Calculator or during the book creation process.
Help Center

Lulu’s help center includes knowledge base articles and contact information for our support team using email and live chat (during regular business hours). The help center is the best place to find detailed information about how to use Lulu’s publishing platform, information about shipping and production, and details about revenue, selling, and distributing projects.

Lulu Knowledge Base

Visit our Knowledge Base for articles about using Lulu’s platform, print-ready file specifications, and other information.

Damages, Refunds, & Returns

Unfortunately, print errors happen. Because each book is printed, bound, packed, and shipped individually, there is the potential for damages to occur. In the event of a customer reporting a damaged book, simply contact our support team. We ask that a digital image of the damage be provided to help improve our print-on-demand processes.

At the discretion of our support team, we may offer a refund for damaged books, lost shipments, or unexpected events that cause a delay. But because Lulu creates books using a print-on-demand process, we do not accept returns.

Thank You!

Thanks again and Welcome to Lulu!