



Preparing For Upload

This is the final step before your book goes out into the world. You've shaped the cover, refined the blurb, chosen your title, and prepared your metadata. Now it's time to assemble everything into a clean, platform-ready package. Uploading isn't difficult, it's simply a matter of having the right pieces in the right place.

A Quick Prompt to Get You Started

Ask yourself: *If a stranger saw my book online for three seconds, would everything they see feel clear, confident, and intentional?*

What You Need Before You Upload

1. Final Interior Files

- Print PDF with correct trim size, margins, and bleed
- Ebook file (EPUB or MOBI depending on platform)
- Double-check page breaks, chapter headings, and table of contents

2. Final Cover Files

- Print cover (full wrap: front, spine, back)
- Ebook cover (front only, high-resolution JPG or PNG)
- Ensure the spine width matches your final page count

3. Metadata

- Title and subtitle
- Author name
- Series name (if applicable)
- Categories
- Keywords
- ISBN (your own or platform-assigned)

4. Blurb / Description

- A clean, formatted version ready to paste into the platform
- Avoid special characters that may break formatting

Platform-Specific Considerations

Print Platforms (e.g., KDP Print, IngramSpark)

- Check bleed settings
- Confirm spine width
- Ensure the barcode area is clear
- Review the print preview carefully

Ebook Platforms (e.g., KDP, Kobo, Apple Books)

- Make sure your EPUB passes validation
- Check how your book looks on different devices
- Confirm that your table of contents is clickable

Each platform has its own quirks, but they all want the same thing: clean files and clear information.

Quality Checks Before You Hit Publish

Run through this short checklist:

- Does the cover look good at thumbnail size
- Is the title spelled correctly everywhere
- Are chapter breaks clean and consistent
- Does the blurb read smoothly when pasted into the preview
- Are categories and keywords aligned with your genre
- Does the print preview show any cut-off text or misaligned elements

A few minutes of checking now saves days of corrections later.

A Simple Exercise

Create a folder called **“Final Upload”** and place inside it:

- your print PDF
- your Ebook file
- your cover files
- a text file with your blurb and metadata

This becomes your clean, ready-to-go package for any platform.

A Final Thought

Preparing for upload isn't about perfection, it's about readiness. When your files are clean, your metadata is clear, and your presentation is consistent, you're not just uploading a book. You're launching it.