Simple Steps to

Publish Your First Book

on Kindle Direct Publishing

Congratulations on your writing journey. I hope this checklist helps you stay organized on your publishing path. Feel free to reach out with questions or comments to: teskela@mail.com.

Best Wishes!

Lindsey Teske

**Editing**

* Outline
* First Draft
* Self-edit your manuscript
* Get in-depth feedback (writing group or developmental editor)
* Rewrite!
* Professional Line editing ($10-$20 per 1k words)
* Proofreading

**Marketing**

* Create a tagline for book
* Choose a Pen Name or your legal name
* Create a Facebook Page for your author side.
* Pick a title. Use this [title worksheet](https://www.ofinkandpearls.com/writer-s-resources) if you are stuck.
* Create a marketing plan and budget.
* Write the book description. Test it on real readers.
* Purchase e-book and paperback covers $100-$300
* Write the other stuff: dedication, author bio, excerpt from next book, etc.
* Pick Beta Readers. Give them 3-4 weeks to give you a short review.
* Schedule a book release party in person, online or both.
* Enjoy your book release party!
* Remind your fans to buy the book and to leave reviews.
* Advertise your first sale. Create a pricing strategy.
* Write book 2!

**Publishing**

* File all legal and business paperwork
* Submit book to copyright.gov ($55)
* Create KDP account
* Format your book (Fiverr $20-50)
* Pick a launch date and schedule a 2-week preorder period.
* Submit final version to KDP. Order author copies.
* Submit e-book version to Smashwords (optional)

What is not on here, and why:

* [Buying an ISBN](https://www.ofinkandpearls.com/post/isbn-myths-and-lies). Once you sell 250 books you can buy an ISBN and go wide (ie. Sell your book to different print retailers through IngramSparks). Until then, invest that $175 in marketing instead.
* Making your own cover. Unless you are a graphic artist who specializes in advertisements, please don’t. Give your book its best chance. You can get a premade cover if your budget is tight.
* A fancy website. If you are building an author business, go ahead. For most hobbyists, a Facebook page and a MailChimp landing page are enough.