

KDP + IngramSpark Dual-Platform Setup Planner

Plan one print product across both platforms without losing track of ISBNs, files, metadata, distribution or updates.

ONE ISBN PRODUCT

TWO PLATFORMS

ONE MASTER VERSION

For one ISBN-identified print product supplied through two services.

This planner belongs to:

Product:

ISBN:

Started:

Platform rules verified 17 September 2026. SimpleLifeCalc is independent and isn't affiliated with Amazon KDP or IngramSpark.

START HERE

How to Use This Planner

One ISBN-identified print product, supplied through two services.

The text may feel like the same book to you, but an ISBN identifies a particular edition, format and binding from a particular publisher. That's the thing this planner tracks.

- Use it for one print product at a time. A paperback and a hardcover need separate ISBNs and separate copies of this planner.
- If one print product will appear through both services, use a publisher-owned ISBN. Platform-provided free ISBNs aren't the cross-platform route.
- Lock the physical product before building covers.
- Decide your distribution strategy before enrolling that ISBN in any distribution program
- Track one master interior version and two platform cover files.
- Work each platform's proof workflow separately. They aren't the same process.

HOW THE LABELS WORK

- PLATFORM RULE a current KDP or IngramSpark requirement.
- ISBN RULE a principle from ISBN authority guidance.
- SIMPLELIFECALC WORKFLOW our recommended sequence, not a platform requirement.
- CHECK CURRENT a platform setting that can change.

NOTES

Why I'm Using Both

Before any setup screen, write down what each service is for on this product.

This product: _____

WHY KDP IS PART OF MY PLAN

WHY INGRAMSPARK IS PART OF MY PLAN

WHAT I WANT FROM USING BOTH THAT ONE SERVICE ALONE DOESN'T GIVE ME

Primary role I expect KDP to play: _____

Primary role I expect IngramSpark to play: _____

Both services can touch overlapping distribution paths. The point here is to record your intended role for each, not to divide the world between them.

Deciding whether both belong in the plan? See [Amazon KDP vs IngramSpark](https://simplelifecalc.com/guides/amazon-kdp-vs-ingramspark) · simplelifecalc.com/guides/amazon-kdp-vs-ingramspark

ISBN and Product Identity

Confirm the ISBN can carry this product on both services.

My ISBN: _____

WHO SUPPLIED IT?

☐ I purchased or own this ISBN ☐ Free KDP ISBN ☐ Free IngramSpark ISBN ☐ Other: _____

SETTLE THIS BEFORE CONTINUING

If your goal is one print product on both services, each platform currently limits its own free ISBN to its own service: KDP states a free KDP ISBN can only be used on KDP, and an IngramSpark free ISBN stays with the title on IngramSpark under its imprint. An ISBN you own can be used to publish the same product on other publishing services. [PLATFORM RULE](#)

This is about the ISBN, not your content. You can publish your work elsewhere — that particular number just doesn't travel.

THE REGISTRATION BEHIND THE ISBN

Registered publisher / imprint

Registered title

Primary author

Edition	Language
_____	_____

Format: ☐ Paperback ☐ Hardcover

ISBN record checked on	Where checked
_____	_____

KDP checks what you enter against the ISBN agency record, including the imprint, and won't let you publish if they don't match. Copy and paste rather than retyping. [PLATFORM RULE](#)

Working out whether to buy your own? See the [ISBN Decision Guide](#) · simplelifecalc.com/resources/isbn-decision-guide

NOTES

One Product Specification

Lock the physical product both services will make. Everything downstream is checked against this.

Trim	Binding
Interior: ☐ Black & White ☐ Standard Color ☐ Premium or other supported option: _____	
Paper	Bleed
	☐ Yes ☐ No
Master content page count	Cover / product form
KDP supports this exact product? ☐ Yes ☐ Need to check CHECK CURRENT	
IngramSpark supports this exact product? ☐ Yes ☐ Need to check CHECK CURRENT	

IF THIS IS A HARDCOVER

KDP product form

IngramSpark product form

KDP hardcovers are currently case laminate; KDP doesn't currently offer a dust-jacket hardcover. IngramSpark offers other constructions.

PLATFORM RULE

SETTLE THIS BEFORE CONTINUING

If the two constructions differ — a case laminate and a dust-jacketed or Digital Cloth hardcover aren't the same physical product, and one ISBN doesn't cover both. Treat it as a separate product and ISBN question. If the two services are intentionally producing different physical sizes or materially different product forms, stop treating them as one ISBN product. Current ISBN guidance treats product form, product-form detail and physical size as things that need distinct identification. This is about deliberate specification differences, not the small manufacturing variation every printer allows.

ISBN RULE

NOTES

What Must Match, What Can Differ

Work down the list. For each element, record what you entered on each service, then use the comparison or decision control shown for that category.

Must match for the same ISBN product — differ and you no longer have one product. **Should be consistent in substance** — same meaning, each platform's own wording and limits. **Can legitimately differ** — a real choice, made deliberately. **Platform-specific** — different systems; don't copy across. **SimpleLifeCalc recommends aligning** — our suggestion, not a rule.

MUST MATCH FOR THE SAME ISBN PRODUCT same / differs

ISBN	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
PUBLISHER OR IMPRINT	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
TITLE	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
EDITION	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
LANGUAGE	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
PHYSICAL PRODUCT FORM AND BINDING	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
PHYSICAL SIZE AND TRIM	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
UNDERLYING CONTENT VERSION	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
PRIMARY AUTHOR (CORE CREDITED IDENTITY)	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐

SHOULD BE CONSISTENT IN SUBSTANCE same / differs

DESCRIPTION	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
ORIGINAL PUBLICATION DATE AND PUBLICATION HISTORY	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
SERIES IDENTITY, WHERE APPLICABLE	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐
SUPPORTING CONTRIBUTORS, WHERE THE SAME PERSON IS ON BOTH	INGRAMSPARK	same ☐ differs ☐

Optional contributor fields don't need identical population on both services.

What Must Match, What Can Differ

PLATFORM-SPECIFIC — ENTER SEPARATELY, DON'T COPY ACROSS

no comparison needed

COVER PDF KDP	INGRAMSPARK
BARCODE TREATMENT KDP	INGRAMSPARK
SPINE-TEXT TREATMENT KDP	INGRAMSPARK
CATEGORIES AND SUBJECTS KDP	INGRAMSPARK
KEYWORDS KDP	INGRAMSPARK
DISTRIBUTION SETTINGS KDP	INGRAMSPARK
PLATFORM PREVIEW AND PROOF STATE KDP	INGRAMSPARK

CAN LEGITIMATELY DIFFER

intentional?

RELEASE OR GO-LIVE DATE ON EACH SERVICE KDP	INGRAMSPARK	intentional? ☐
PLATFORM DISCOVERY-FIELD IMPLEMENTATION KDP	INGRAMSPARK	intentional? ☐
PRICE ENTRIES, VERIFIED AND LEGALLY ALLOWED — SEE D9 KDP	INGRAMSPARK	intentional? ☐

SIMPLELIFECALC RECOMMENDS ALIGNING

aligned?

VISIBLE FRONT-COVER BRANDING AND ART DIRECTION KDP	INGRAMSPARK	aligned? ☐
THE DESCRIPTION'S CORE PROMISE KDP	INGRAMSPARK	aligned? ☐
SERIES PRESENTATION KDP	INGRAMSPARK	aligned? ☐

A marketing-only cover redesign does not by itself require a new ISBN. A new ISBN can be required when the publication itself changes — for example its edition or text, language, title, publisher or imprint, binding, product form, or a meaningful physical-size or product-detail difference. Price changes alone do not require a new ISBN.

ISBN RULE

Anything ticked “differs” in the must-match block on page 6: stop and settle it before you set up either service.

Interior Master Plan

One interior file is the source of truth. Both services get the same content version, or you don't have one product.

Master source file	Master version
Version date	Master content page count
Print PDF	Exported on

CAN ONE PDF SERVE BOTH? TICK EVERY BOX BEFORE YOU ASSUME IT CAN.

- ☐ Same trim on both services.
- ☐ Same bleed choice.
- ☐ Page-count and product limits overlap on both.
- ☐ The file is within the smaller current upload ceiling.
- ☐ Same content version.
- ☐ Same interior and ink type.
- ☐ The PDF meets both platforms' current file requirements.

PDF/X is IngramSpark's requirement. For KDP the same file is simply a PDF submission — it still has to pass Print Previewer and KDP's later file review. Meeting PDF/X doesn't guarantee KDP acceptance. For the IngramSpark side of file checks, use the IngramSpark Cover & Interior File Preflight Checklist when it's installed. [PLATFORM RULE](#)

KDP INTERIOR UPLOAD

Filename	Master version	Upload date

INGRAMSPARK INTERIOR UPLOAD

Filename	Master version	Upload date

NOTES

Cover File Plan

One design, two platform exports.

Don't assume one exported cover PDF can be uploaded unchanged to both. Build or check each cover on that platform's current template — the templates, spine calculations and barcode handling differ.

KDP COVER

Template generated

Spine width shown

Barcode approach

Template or spec date

Spine text

☐ Yes ☐ No

Final filename

INGRAMSPARK COVER

Template generated

Spine width shown

Barcode approach

Template or spec date

Spine text

☐ Yes ☐ No

Final filename

If this is a paperback of 48 to 78 pages. KDP currently prints spine text only on paperbacks of more than 79 pages. IngramSpark currently allows spine text on softcovers from 48 pages. So your IngramSpark cover may carry spine text while your KDP cover may not. If your paperback is right at 79 pages, check the current KDP template, Cover Creator and Print Previewer — KDP's own help pages word that boundary inconsistently. **That's a cover difference, not a product-identity problem.** [PLATFORM RULE](#)

If this is a hardcover. Don't apply KDP's paperback spine-text page threshold here. IngramSpark currently allows spine text on hardcovers from 18 pages. For KDP, use the spine safe area on the current hardcover template rather than importing a paperback page minimum, and confirm that both services are representing the same hardcover construction. [PLATFORM RULE](#)

☐ Regenerate a template if page count, trim, paper, binding or ISBN changed.

For the IngramSpark cover, the IngramSpark Cover & Interior File Preflight Checklist covers this in detail when it's installed.

NOTES

Metadata by Platform

Shared identity travels with the ISBN. Discovery fields belong to each platform.

A. SHARED IDENTITY RECORD — THE SAME ON BOTH SERVICES

Title	Subtitle
Primary author	Series
Edition	Language
ISBN	Publisher or imprint
Original publication date	

KDP checks the ISBN and imprint against the agency registration, so these need to match what's registered. PLATFORM RULE

B. KDP PLATFORM FIELDS — ENTERED ACCORDING TO CURRENT KDP FIELD RULES

Description

Keywords

Categories

Reading age / audience

Primary marketplace

Contributors represented here

KDP release or live date

C. INGRAMSPARK PLATFORM FIELDS

Description

BISAC

Thema

Regional subject

Keyword phrases

Audience

Contributors represented here

IngramSpark distribution or live date

Descriptions may be adapted to each platform's field rules while describing the same book in substance. Keywords and categories are not copied field-for-field — they're different systems. For deeper IngramSpark metadata work, use the IngramSpark Metadata Guide and Metadata Workbook when they're installed.

BEFORE YOU EDIT ANYTHING AFTER PUBLICATION — CURRENT KDP RULES, VERIFIED 17 SEPTEMBER 2026

Locked after publication on print books:

language, edition number, publication date, ISBN choice, imprint and trim size.

CHECK CURRENT

Editable after publication:

contributors, description, keywords, categories, territories, reading age, pricing, publishing rights, Expanded Distribution, and — for certain black-and-white paper switches only — ink and paper type.

The 72-hour window:

title, subtitle and primary author can be edited within 72 hours of initial publication, once the book is no longer In Review. The edit sends it back to In Review. After 72 hours they're fully locked. This is a KDP rule, not an IngramSpark rule and not an ISBN standard.

Distribution Decision

Record the configuration and the reasoning behind it.

What role does KDP distribution play for this product? _____

KDP EXPANDED DISTRIBUTION

☐ Not enrolled ☐ Considering ☐ Not eligible for this format or product

Has this same ISBN already been submitted for distribution through another service?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Need to check

IF YES — SETTLE THIS BEFORE ENROLLING

This ISBN doesn't currently meet KDP's Expanded Distribution eligibility requirement, which is that the ISBN must not have been submitted for distribution through another service. Record your configuration and move on. [PLATFORM RULE](#)

KDP hardcovers aren't currently eligible for Expanded Distribution at all. Requirements are set by KDP's distributors, and enrolling doesn't guarantee that anyone orders or stocks the book.

INGRAMSPARK DISTRIBUTION

Distribution enabled? ☐ Yes ☐ No, not yet

Returns setting: ☐ Non-returnable ☐ Yes – Destroy ☐ Yes – Deliver ☐ Check the current option for my market

WHY I CHOSE THIS CONFIGURATION

Both services can reach overlapping channels. Neither guarantees that a retailer or library orders your book.

Returns decision worth thinking through? The SimpleLifeCalc IngramSpark Returns guide and Returns Risk Worksheet cover it — companion resources, linked once published.

Pricing by Market

Record what you entered. This planner doesn't calculate prices or royalties.

Market	Intended retail or list price
KDP entry	IngramSpark entry
Do they differ? ☐ No ☐ Yes why:	

Market	Intended retail or list price
KDP entry	IngramSpark entry
Do they differ? ☐ No ☐ Yes why:	

Current local price rules checked? ☐ Yes ☐ Need to check CHECK CURRENT

Some countries apply fixed-price laws to books, which means the same list price across the retailers you sell on or are registered with. Check current local rules before intentionally setting different prices. Verified 17 September 2026.

Setup Order and Upload Tracker

SIMPLELIFECALC WORKFLOW No platform requires KDP first or IngramSpark first.

☐ I decided each platform's role.	☐ I settled the ISBN.
☐ I locked one physical product specification.	☐ I decided distribution strategy before submitting the ISBN anywhere.
☐ I finalized the interior master.	☐ I confirmed the final page count.
☐ I built both platform cover exports.	☐ I prepared shared identity metadata.
☐ I prepared platform-specific metadata.	☐ I set up KDP.
☐ I set up IngramSpark.	☐ I recorded which master version went to each.
KDP setup or upload date	Master version uploaded
IngramSpark setup or upload date	Master version uploaded

SETTLE THIS BEFORE CONTINUING
If the master changed after one upload: stop and bring the other service back into sync before approving or publishing anywhere.

Two Proof Workflows

These aren't two versions of the same process. Work each one separately.

KDP

Master version reviewed

Date Publish submitted

☐ Print Previewer opened.

☐ Previewer approved, so a proof copy can be ordered.

☐ Proof copy reviewed, if used.

☐ Publish submitted.

☐ Required preview issues resolved.

☐ Proof copy ordered, if used.

☐ Final version still matches the master.

A KDP proof copy can be ordered while the title is still in Draft, once you've approved the book in Print Previewer. It carries a "Not for Resale" watermark and a barcode with no ISBN. **Previewer approval isn't publication** — Publish is a separate step. Author copies are a different, post-publication workflow and aren't part of pre-publication proofing.

PLATFORM RULE

INGRAMSPARK

Master version reviewed

Eproof approval date

☐ Eproof opened.

☐ Known corrections made.

☐ Print copy ordered and reviewed.

☐ Eproof checked.

☐ Eproof approved.

☐ Final version still matches the master.

Revisions are free until you approve the eproof. IngramSpark recommends reviewing a print copy after approval, before quantity orders or added distribution.

PLATFORM RULE

CROSS-CHECK

KDP master version

IngramSpark master version

Same content version?

☐ Yes

☐ No — resolve before continuing

NOTES

Platform rules verified 17 September 2026. Check current KDP and IngramSpark guidance before setup.

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Live Configuration and Future Updates

SHARED PRODUCT

ISBN

Title

Primary author

Edition

Language

Format

Trim

Binding and product form

Master interior version

KDP LIVE CONFIGURATION

Interior version

Cover filename

List price and key market

Expanded Distribution status

Live or release date

Last updated

INGRAMSPARK LIVE CONFIGURATION

Interior version

Cover filename

List price and key market

Distribution status

Returns setting

Live or distribution date

Last updated

Update both services

Interior content for the same edition · Cover design, where I want both customer-facing versions aligned · Shared bibliographic identity, where editing is still permitted

Platform-specific

Keywords · Categories, BISAC and Thema · Price entries · Distribution settings · Returns · Platform discovery fields

New ISBN or new product question

— substantial content change · edition change · language change · binding or product-form change · publisher change · title change · physical-size or product-identity change

ISBN RULE

KDP-specific current rule:

if a manuscript update changes the page count by more than 10%, KDP currently requires a new edition. This is a KDP rule, not universal ISBN law.

PLATFORM RULE

Review date

Platform rules last checked

On Amazon's catalogue.

This planner doesn't promise how Amazon will display or combine supply from KDP and Ingram for the same print ISBN. Keep the ISBN and shared product identity correct. If the live Amazon catalogue record is wrong, use current platform support rather than creating a second ISBN to force a result.

Where to go next

IngramSpark Seller Hub · ISBN Decision Guide · IngramSpark Publishing Checklist · Publishing with IngramSpark · Publishing on Amazon KDP

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