

Plan your publishing budget

Self-Publishing Budget Template & Pricing Kit

Turn a book project into a budget you can review, fund, and update.

Use the spreadsheet for calculations.

Use these printable pages to define the project, compare quotes, record decisions, and prepare the figures you will enter.

Your planning sequence

- 1. Define:** choose formats, scope, and a spending limit.
- 2. Budget:** obtain quotes, identify stock cash, and choose a reserve.
- 3. Price:** verify provider payouts and costs you still incur.
- 4. Review:** record actual costs and decide what to change next time.

Book / project name

Author / imprint

Planning date and currency

Print only the pages you need. Save a fresh spreadsheet copy for each book. Example figures are fictional teaching inputs, not recommended budgets or supplier quotes.

Editing and design

Match each quote to the same manuscript scope.

Expense	Planned	Actual paid	Vendor / date
Developmental edit			
Line / copyedit			
Proofread			
Cover design			
Additional design work			
Other editing or design			

Quoted scope, exclusions, and assumptions

A blank actual amount means it has not been recorded. Enter a confirmed zero when no payment is required. Spreadsheet variance is actual paid minus planned.

Calculate break-even

Use contribution per copy, then round the required copies up.

Contribution per copy = revenue paid to you - per-copy costs.

Copies to recover the project target = project recovery target / contribution per copy, rounded up.

A zero or negative contribution does not produce a sales break-even.

Project recovery target

Contribution per copy for the offer you are checking

Target divided by contribution; whole copies rounded up

Fictional worked calculation

A \$17.99 price, 60% retained share, and \$4.60 print deduction leave \$6.194 per copy. A \$1,760 recovery target divided by \$6.194 requires **285 copies**. The spreadsheet retains full precision for this calculation, although currency cells display two decimals.

Planned quantities across formats and channels

Each offer row assumes all recovery-target sales use that offer. The combined planned contribution uses your chosen quantities across offers. It is a scenario based on your assumptions.