

Royalty Rates for Self Published Authors

B&W Print Books (US Only, B&W only⁵, fees in other countries differ)

Note: Lightning Source no longer accepts small, self-published authors—they are referred to Ingram Spark.⁶

Vendor	Type	Royalty % Paid	Fixed Charge	Price Cover	Price per page	Additional Fees	Conditions
Create Space	PB	60%	2.15	NA	NA	None	Fixed charge for 24-108pp, no additional cost per page ¹
			NA	.85	.012	None	For books greater than 108pp ²
Ingram Spark ³	PB	60%	NA	.90	.013 ⁴	49.00	Title setup fee
						12.00	Annual “Market Access Fee”—Temporarily waived
						\$25	Change Fees (each, interior and cover)
	HC	60%	NA	7.55	.013	Same as PB	Hardcover can be cloth (\$6), case laminate (\$6), or cloth with dust jacket(\$7.55).

¹ For example, a 108 page or less book, any trim size, would cost \$2.15 per book to print

² For Example, a 300 page book, any trim size, would cost \$4.45 to print

³ For Example, a 300 page book, regular “small” trim size (e.g. 5.5x8.5, 6x9, etc), would cost \$4.80 to print

⁴ Print cost per page for a “small” paperback. The cost for a “large” paperback is .018 per page (see US Global Product Spec Sheet and Trim Sizes for details)

⁵ Prices for color books are significantly higher, see attached detail spec sheet)

⁶ Same trim sizes, less fees, same distribution. Trade discount for Ingram Spark cannot be less than 40%, vs Lightning Source which allowed as low as 20%. See Notes below for advice on Ingram Spark

Advantages/Disadvantages Create Space vs Ingram Spark (next page)

Create Space

Print Cost	Advantage: Slightly less than IS
Setup Fees	Advantage: No setup fees
Change Fees	Advantage: No Change Fees
ISBN Costs	Advantage: Can publish with a "Free" CS ISBN, or buy your own for \$10 via CS partnership with Bowker (limited to AZ.com) Or \$99 (use elsewhere besides AZ.com)
Availability on Amazon.Com	Within 3-5 days, and always "In Stock"
Availability on other Retail Sites besides AZ.com	Disadvantage: Only on AZ.com, and DO NOT sign up for their expanded distribution. Instead, publish separately on Spark to achieve same distribution and much better royalty rate.
Hardcover?	Disadvantage: NO, paperback only

Ingram Spark

Print Cost	Disadvantage: Slightly worse than CS
Setup Fees	Disadvantage: Setup fees of \$49 per title (PB and HC count as separate titles)
Change Fees	Disadvantage: Change Fees \$25 per change, interior or cover
ISBN Costs	Disadvantage: Must have your own ISBN, purchased via Bowker (~\$125 each, we recommend a pack of 10 for \$295 as you need one each anyway for PB, HC and ebook)
Availability on Amazon.Com	About 2 weeks, and "In Stock" but with warning of a 2-3 day delay
Availability on other Retail Sites besides AZ.com	Big Advantage: AZ, plus thousands of other retailers globally. In US, includes B&N.com, Baker & Taylor, others.
Hardcover?	Advantage: Yes, PB and HC both

Bottom Line: We usually recommend that, unless the author is looking for the absolute least cost way to get published:

1. Buy a pack of 10 ISBNs from Bowker
2. Publish first with CS to get the bugs out and to get quick, guaranteed Amazon availability
3. Then publish with IS for broad distribution (use the same ISBN for CS and IS)

If the author is looking for the absolute least cost way to get published (which will get you on Amazon and Kindle, but nowhere else):

1. Get a free or \$10 ISBNs from Create Space
2. Publish the book via Create Space only (gets you on Amazon and Kindle, no fees, no ISBN costs)