

Indie Author's Checklist



Created by [Debbi Mack](#)

Image by Shahid Abdullah from Pixabay

Indie Author's Checklist	URL	Date
Register business name (aka, dba)	Check local requirements	
Buy ISBNs		
Set up website/blog	Free vs. paid hosting/domain	
Write book description		
Hire graphic artist to create cover		
Request author blurbs, endorsements		
Revise after editor's review		
Revise after copyeditor/proofreader's review		
Choose distribution options		
– KDP Select (Amazon exclusive)		
– wide distribution - direct to platform		
– wide distribution - third-party distributor		
– D2D		
– Smashwords		
– PublishDrive (for Google Play and other retail distribution)		
– StreetLib (for Google Play and other retail distribution)		
Choose formats		
– print		
– ebook		
– audiobook		
Print distributors		
– IngramSpark		
– KDP Print (see Amazon's "Getting Started" guide)		
– D2D Print (see guide on "How to Publish with Draft2Digital")		

Indie Author's Checklist	URL	Date
– Kobo Writing Life - POD		
– Barnes & Noble Press - POD		
Ebook distributors		
– Amazon		
– Kobo Writing Life		
– Barnes & Noble Press		
– Apple Books (see guide “Publish and Sell Books with IBooks Author)		
– Google Play (see guide on “How to sell a book on Google Play”)		
Audiobook distributors		
ACX/Amazon/Audible		
Findaway Voices – D2D		
Author's Republic		

Compiled by Debbi Mack, New York Times bestselling author
February 2021