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Pictures On Kindle: Self Publishing Your Kindle Book With Photos, Art, Or Graphics, Or Tips On Formatting Your Ebook's Images To Make Them Look Great (Kindle Publishing)



Synopsis

*****#1 .COM BESTSELLER IN PUBLISHING & BOOKS (JULY 2013)*****#1 .COM

BESTSELLER IN BOOK DESIGN (NOV. 2013)*****Ã

VERSION: 1.10*****Ã

NOTE: PLEASE VISIT AARON'S PUBLISHING PAGE FOR ANY UPDATES TO THIS BOOK.Ã Almost everything you've read about formatting pictures for Kindle is wrong. The advice offered by Kindle experts and even itself can give images that are tiny, blocky, noisy, or wildly inconsistent on different Kindles.Ã Aaron Shepard, author of acclaimed books on both Kindle and print publishing, brings his years of experience in book design, webmastering, and photography to bear on a single question: How do you make pictures look great on the Kindle? He answers that question, while also providing beginners a basic course in picture editing.Ã Along the way, he discusses how to keep Microsoft Word from sneakily degrading your pictures; how to adjust HTML code to show images at their best; how to make part of a picture transparent against colored backgrounds; how to boost the power of your cover image as a marketing tool; and how to create anything from children's books to photography books to poetry books within minutes with the Kindle Comic Creator.Ã Nowhere else will you find such in-depth info on working with Kindle images. Whatever kind you're using -- photos, paintings, drawings, diagrams, tables, screenshots -- you'll find "Pictures on Kindle" an essential guide.Ã

Ã Aaron Shepard is a foremost proponent of the new business of profitable self publishing, which he has practiced and helped develop since 1998. He is the author of "Aiming at ,", "POD for Profit," "Perfect Pages," and "From Word to Kindle," 's #1 bestselling paid book on Kindle

formatting.Ã

Ã REVIEWSÃ "Far and away the best resource I know for self publishers who plan to include photos or other graphics in their Kindle books. From tips on taking photos, through sizing, optimizing, and placing, this book wastes no space in giving you exactly the information you need. Highly recommended." -- Joel Friedlander,

TheBookDesigner.comÃ "A detailed, comprehensive guide to getting the best out of your images on Kindle. From taking photos, to scanning, to optimizing, Aaron covers every possible step in making sure your images display well in Kindle format. In addition, he provides very useful explanations of the Kindle's image handling, for those of us who like to understand the reasons behind the steps. I for one will be adding this to my list of reference materials." -- Jim Brown, JimandZetta.com (ebook

services)Ã

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Book Information

Series: Kindle Publishing (Book 2)

Paperback: 174 pages

Publisher: Shepard Publications (January 10, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1620355175

ISBN-13: 978-1620355176

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.5 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 238 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #682,583 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #154 inÃ 9 Books > Arts &

Photography > Photography & Video > Business & Careers #186 inÃ 10 Books > Arts &

Photography > Graphic Design > Commercial > Book Design #215 inÃ 11 Books > Computers & Technology > Software > Design & Graphics

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"Far and away the best resource I know for self publishers who plan to include photos or other graphics in their Kindle books. From tips on taking photos, through sizing, optimizing, and placing, this book wastes no space in giving you exactly the information you need. Highly recommended." -- Joel Friedlander, TheBookDesigner.comÃ 12 "A detailed, comprehensive guide to getting the best out of your images on Kindle. From taking photos, to scanning, to optimizing, Aaron covers every possible step in making sure your images display well in Kindle format. In addition, he provides very useful explanations of the Kindle's image handling, for those of us who like to understand the reasons behind the steps. I for one will be adding this to my list of reference materials." -- Jim Brown, JimandZetta.com (ebook

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FAQ

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SAMPLE

To work with pictures, you'll need a photo editor like Photoshop, Photoshop Elements, Corel PaintShop Pro, Pixelmator, or Gimp. For Kindle-only publishing, Photoshop Elements should do fine. Besides having everything you're likely to need for Kindle pictures, it maintains the legendary quality of the Photoshop brand, is far less intimidating than its parent program, and is very reasonably priced. You can also find lots of help for it.

For publishing that includes print, Photoshop -- not Elements -- is no doubt the most capable program you can find. It now comes in two versions. Photoshop CC -- Creative Cloud -- is the current and most advanced version but is available only by subscription. Photoshop CS -- Creative Suite -- is the preceding version, still available for outright purchase. That is what I originally used for work on this book and is what I've most heavily featured in it.

When I talk about Photoshop without distinguishing the version, I'm talking about CS and Elements -- and usually CC as well, though notes on differences will have to wait for a future revision. Specific versions I discuss are Photoshop CS6 and Photoshop Elements 11. Though most of the screenshots here are taken from Photoshop CS, you'll usually find a similar dialog box in the Expert mode of Photoshop Elements.

By the way, don't be fooled about this book's coverage by the name Photoshop, or by it commonly being called a photo editor, or by my many example photos. This book is not just about photos, or even primarily so. Photoshop is the stalwart of graphic artists, art directors, illustrators, and photographers alike. The techniques I describe are ones I've learned from using it for everything from photos to illustrations for my own children's picture books. If photos make up the bulk of my examples, it's only because I'm no illustrator myself, while I can use my own photos without permission!

In writing this book, I've tried to assume that you know little or nothing about dealing with pictures. So, I start by explaining basic properties like format, resolution, and color mode, and then provide a basic course in picture editing. I also give tips on getting the best results from your camera or scanner.

Many of you will want to include pictures in Kindle books that you compose in Microsoft Word. That may well be the most treacherous program you could use for this purpose -- but I'll show you how to do it safely and keep Word from degrading your pictures. (To make sure I got it right, I composed this book in Word.)

Kindle books are built from HTML -- the common language of Web pages and ebooks -- along with its companion language, CSS. This code provides instructions that help define how pictures in your Kindle book are displayed. So, for those of you with suitable software, workflow, and skills, I'll also give tips on how to optimize your

code for pictures on Kindle.Â Â My focus here is on pictures used to illustrate a book with flowing text -- text that adjusts its layout to different screens and also to different font sizes, margins, or spacing chosen by the user. But offers another kind of book as well: fixed format. In this kind, each page has a static layout and is simply reduced or enlarged to fit the screen.Â Â Though there are disadvantages to fixed format, it may in some ways be the better choice for books featuring pictures more than text. So, toward the end of this book, I discuss a couple of specialized programs you can use to produce Kindle books of this kind, including the Kindle Comic Creator. It's not just for comics!Â Â Other topics of special interest include tables, screenshots, transparency, children's books, poetry, cover images, and how to submit your picture files to KDP.Â Â

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Aaron Shepard does it again! He's always on the cutting edge with information for independent publishers, and this book is among his most technical. That's the good news... and the bad news. "Most technical" means it'll make your brain hurt if you're new to computer graphics. Don't let that scare you. It also means that Aaron answers pretty much every question you'll have -- now or in the future -- as a book illustrator or cover designer. I've been a graphic professional for decades, and became an independent publisher (of my own books and others') about three years ago. My husband is a pre-press professional. And, I've been using Adobe Photoshop since the mid-1990s. So, I'm pretty fluent in graphic terminology. Despite that, some of what Aaron talks about... I'm still not at that level of expertise. It doesn't matter. I picked up enough "ah-HA!" tips to make this book worth the cover price, many times over. Plus that, I hope he'll publish this book in print. I'll buy it in a blink. I want to follow along... and write (by hand) notes in the margins as I work. I have a LOT to learn. Meanwhile, I'm grateful to have Aaron's book in Kindle format, right now. I needed this

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**CONS-** More technical details than most authors and illustrators need to know. Don't try to read every word in every sentence. Just skip through Aaron's book, picking out issues you've wondered about, like image resolution and illustration placement (alignment). - Kindle formatting is changing so rapidly, a lot of this is "what we're using, for now... but it'll probably change in six months." (Since I've bought Aaron's books before, I know he'll update this regularly, as new standards and techniques emerge.)

Aaron Shepard gained my unwavering loyalty with his "Aiming at " book, years ago. More recently, he helped resolve a major formatting headache by recommending Kindle Comic Creator for children's picture books. While this book isn't exactly recreational reading, it's the kind of technical advice you need but probably won't find anywhere else. If you're illustrating your own Kindle books or others', you need this book.

**UPDATE:** I ordered this as a printed book, too. Having hard copy at hand to consult easily as I'm working with images... pure gold. I'm glad I own both versions of this book.

Aaron...thanks for writing this. I have been answering MANY of the questions you answer in your book all too frequently. Now, I'll just refer people to it. The biggest question I get asked is formatting graphics inside Kindle. I am a stickler for a consistent and professional LOOK on the inside of a book. Well, I know of people who SAY they know what they're doing regarding formatting and the use of images, but their sample finds them out. However, once I looked at your sample, I KNEW you

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No need to write a long review of this eBook so I'll just sum it up this way: If you're using Word to prepare your manuscript for an eBook and you have images/photos or other graphics to be displayed within the contents, then you need this book by Aaron.

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many authors of family histories and biographies have some old photos they want to include. They need to be given some of the alternate ways of doing this. Scanning? Photographing the original on their phone? They will need to know how to read the image size and resize it if necessary, and then how to turn the image into a file which can be inserted into their text. They don't really care how technically perfect it is, they just want to put it in there. When I first downloaded this book my eyes glazed over and I stopped reading almost at once. Since then I have done a Photoshop and Intro to Graphic Arts course and I still can't follow it all. Really need a "Dummies" version I guess. Good for those already well advanced in graphic techniques.

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