print like a *pro*

Everything you need to turn a PDF into something you're proud to put on the table, the fridge or your nightstand. Keep this guide next to your printer.

the 5-minute quick start

1. **Unzip first.** Kits arrive as a .zip. On a phone, open it in the Files app and tap it to unzip.
2. **Pick your size.** US Letter for the US, Canada and Mexico. A4 for everywhere else.
3. **Open in a real PDF app** (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview, or your phone's Files app), not a browser tab.
4. **Print at 100% / Actual size,** borderless off.
5. **Print one test page** before the whole stack.

which file do i pick?

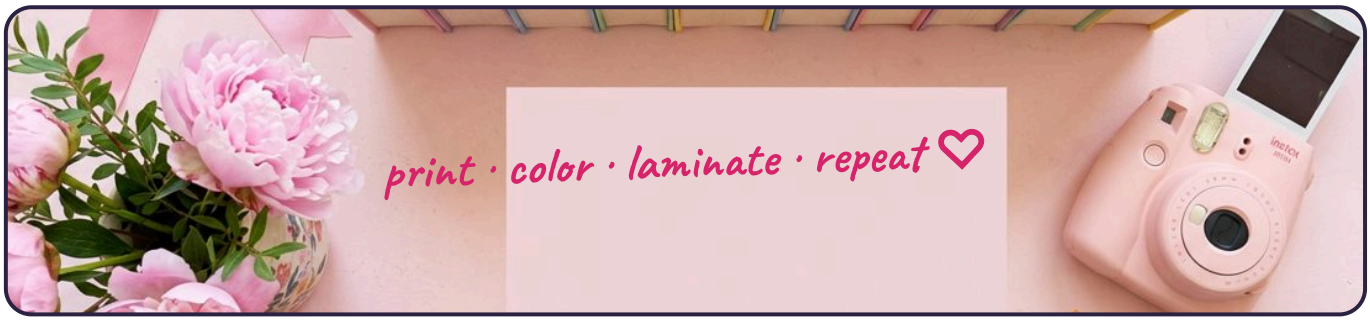
US Letter is 8.5 × 11 in (216 × 279 mm).
A4 is 210 × 297 mm (8.27 × 11.69 in).

Match the PDF to the paper in your tray. If you only have the other size, choose **Fit to page** instead of Actual size. It shrinks the page by about 3%, which nobody will notice.

Golden rule: print one page, check it, then print the rest. A single test sheet saves a stack of cardstock and a lot of ink.

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FOR PERSONAL USE · PRINT AS MANY COPIES AS YOUR CLUB NEEDS

paper cheat sheet

The right paper does most of the work. Here's what to load for each kind of printable.

YOU'RE PRINTING	BEST PAPER	US WEIGHT	METRIC	FINISH
Coloring pages (pencils, gel pens)	Bright white premium paper or light cardstock	32 lb – 65 lb	120 – 176 gsm	Smooth matte
Coloring pages (markers)	Smooth heavy cardstock, one side only	80 lb – 110 lb	216 – 300 gsm	Smooth matte
Reading journals + bujos	Premium paper so both sides take ink	28 lb – 32 lb	105 – 120 gsm	Matte
Planners, logs, trackers	Everyday copy paper is fine	20 lb – 24 lb	75 – 90 gsm	Matte
Invitations	Cardstock	80 lb – 110 lb	216 – 300 gsm	Matte, or satin for a pop
Bookmarks, name tags, tent cards	Heavy cardstock	100 lb – 110 lb	270 – 300 gsm	Matte
Bingo, game cards, scorecards	Cardstock, then laminate	65 lb – 80 lb	176 – 216 gsm	Matte
Puzzle books, question cards	Copy or premium paper	20 lb – 32 lb	75 – 120 gsm	Matte

paper weight decoder

US paper has two scales, which is why "65 lb" cardstock is heavier than "32 lb" paper. Grams per square meter (gsm) is the honest number, so check it on the pack.

- **75 – 90 gsm** everyday copy paper
- **100 – 120 gsm** premium "presentation" paper
- **176 gsm** light cardstock (65 lb cover)
- **216 gsm** medium cardstock (80 lb cover)
- **270 – 300 gsm** heavy cardstock (100 – 110 lb cover)

the starter stash

If you buy only three packs, buy these and you can print every product in the shop:

- [ ] Bright white premium paper, ~120 gsm
- [ ] Smooth white cardstock, ~216 gsm (80 lb)
- [ ] Heavy white cardstock, ~270 gsm (100 lb)

Check your printer's limit. Search your model plus "max paper weight". Most home inkjets take light cardstock in the main tray and heavier stock one sheet at a time through the rear or manual feed.

printer settings

Every printable already has safe margins built in, so the default "make it fit" tricks usually do more harm than good.

SETTING	CHOOSE	WHY
Scale	100% / Actual size	Keeps bookmarks, cards and cut lines at their true size. Use Fit to page only when the PDF and paper sizes don't match.
Paper size	Letter or A4, matching the tray	A mismatch is the #1 cause of cut-off edges.
Borderless	Off	Borderless zooms the page slightly and trims the edges.
Paper type	Matte / Cardstock / Heavy paper	Tells the printer to slow down and use less ink, so heavy paper doesn't smear.
Quality	High / Best for invites and gifts. Standard for practice	Best is slower and uses more ink, but the pinks look rich instead of streaky.
Color	Grayscale / Black ink only for coloring pages	Line art is black, so you save your color cartridge.
Pages	Type a range, like 3-5, 9	Print just the pages you need tonight.
Two-sided	Flip on long edge (portrait pages)	See page 4 for journals and booklets.

windows

Open the PDF in Adobe Acrobat Reader, press **Ctrl + P**. Under Page Size & Handling choose **Actual size**. Click **Properties** for paper type, quality and color.

mac

Open in Preview, press **⌘ + P**, then **Show Details**. Set Scale to **100%**. Open the **Media & Quality** dropdown for paper type and quality.

iphone + ipad

Open the PDF in the **Files** app, tap Share, then **Print**. Choose your printer, paper size and page range. Tap Options for black & white or two-sided if your printer offers them.

android

Open the PDF in Files or Drive, tap ⋮ then **Print**. Tap the down arrow to set paper size, color, two-sided and pages. You may need your printer brand's free print plugin.

double-sided + journals

Journals, bujos and planners feel like a real book when they're printed on both sides. Here are three ways to do it.

EASIEST

automatic two-sided

If your printer has a **duplex** setting, choose Two-sided, **Flip on long edge**. That's it.

Long edge is for portrait pages. Short edge is for landscape pages.

A LITTLE FIDDLY

manual two-sided

1. Print **odd pages** only.
2. Put the stack back in the tray. Most trays want it printed side up, top edge going in first.
3. Print **even pages**, often with "reverse order" on.

PRO MOVE

booklet mode

Acrobat Reader's **Booklet** option puts two pages side by side on each sheet, in order. Fold the stack in half and staple the spine for a cute half-size mini journal.

Best for 8 to 32 pages.

test before you commit

Print the **duplex test** on page 12 first. If the back comes out upside down, switch between long edge and short edge. If it lands on the wrong side, flip the stack over in the tray.

Draw a small pencil arrow on the top edge of your stack before you reload it. Future you will thank you.

when to print one side only

- Coloring pages for **markers** (they bleed through)
- Anything you'll **cut out**: bookmarks, tags, cards
- Pages you'll **laminate** or frame
- Wall art and photo props

Journal order: print the cover on cardstock, the inside pages double-sided on 105 – 120 gsm premium paper, and a plain cardstock back. Then bind it (page 8) and you have a reading journal that lasts the whole year.

color without *the bleed*

Every tool behaves differently on printed paper. Pick the paper to match the tool, and always test on page 13 first.

TOOL	BLEED RISK	PAPER	GOOD TO KNOW
Colored pencils	NONE	Any, 32 lb+ feels best	Wax and oil pencils both work. Layer light to dark and blend with a white pencil or colorless blender.
Gel pens + glitter pens	LOW	Any	Great for details and sparkle. Give them a minute to dry before you rest your hand on them.
Fineliners	LOW	Any	Perfect for journals and trackers. Water-based ink barely shows through 105 gsm paper.
Water-based markers + brush pens	MEDIUM	65 – 80 lb cardstock	Color in small circles and don't scrub one spot, or the paper pills.
Alcohol markers	HIGH	100 – 110 lb smooth cardstock, one side	They bleed through everything. Always slide a scrap sheet underneath.
Highlighters	MEDIUM	Any	Can smear fresh inkjet lines. Let pages dry overnight first.
Watercolor + gouache	HIGH	Inkjet-safe mixed media or watercolor paper	Regular paper buckles. Use little water, and know inkjet lines may soften.
Crayons	NONE	Any	Party favor for little readers at a family book club.

alcohol marker survival kit

- **Laser prints are best.** Alcohol can reactivate inkjet ink and smudge the black lines. A print shop laser copy fixes that.
- Printing at home on inkjet? Let pages **dry 24 hours**, and color up to the line instead of over it.
- Keep a **blotter sheet** under every page.
- Work fast and keep a wet edge to avoid streaks.

make pastels glow

Start with the lightest shade everywhere, then add a darker one only in the shadows. Leave a tiny white highlight on hearts, stars and eyes. It reads as shine.

pencils + gel pens on copy paper = zero stress, all cute ♡

cutting + finishing

Clean cuts make a home print look shop-bought. These tools range from "already in your drawer" to "treat yourself".

paper trimmer

The fastest way to straight edges. A small rotary or guillotine trimmer handles cardstock and pays for itself after one party.

craft knife + ruler

Use a metal ruler and a self-healing mat. Make two light passes instead of one hard one, and change blades often.

sharp scissors

Totally fine. Move the paper, not the scissors, on curves and keep the blade deep in the cut.

corner rounder

A cheap punch that rounds corners on bookmarks, cards and tags. Instantly more polished.

hole punch + ribbon

A single 1/8 in or 1/4 in punch for bookmark tassels, gift tags and favor labels.

scoring tool

A bone folder or an empty ballpoint pen run along a ruler gives crisp folds on tent cards and folded invites.

how to cut on the line

1. Trim the outer white margin off first, so pieces are easier to handle.
2. Cut **just inside** the cut line so no line peeks out.
3. Cut long straight edges before short ones.
4. Stack 2 sheets at most in a trimmer for accuracy.

envelope sizes

- **5 × 7 in invite** (2 per Letter sheet) → A7 envelope
- **4.25 × 5.5 in card** (4 per Letter sheet) → A2 envelope
- **A6 card** (4 per A4 sheet) → C6 envelope

Finishing touch: glue a cut-out to a slightly bigger rectangle of colored cardstock for an instant border. A glue stick or double-sided tape won't warp the paper the way liquid glue does.

laminate + *reuse*

Laminate a bingo card once and play it at every book club for a year. This is the single best way to stretch the value of a printable.

thermal laminator, step by step

1. Let inkjet prints **dry for a few hours** so the ink doesn't bubble.
2. Warm up the laminator until the ready light comes on.
3. Cut pieces out first, then place them in the pouch with **1/4 in (6 mm) of space** between them.
4. Feed the **sealed edge first**, nice and straight.
5. Let it cool flat under a book, then trim, leaving a **1/8 in (3 mm) clear border** so the seal holds.

pouch thickness

- **3 mil (75 micron):** flexible. Menus, checklists, journal pages.
- **5 mil (125 micron):** stiff and tough. Bingo cards, bookmarks, name tags, game boards.

no laminator? no problem

- **Self-seal laminating sheets:** peel, press, trim. No heat.
- **Clear sheet protectors:** slide the page in and it's dry-erase ready.
- **Clear packing tape** over bookmarks works in a pinch.
- Many print shops laminate per sheet while you wait.

which marker for reuse?

- **Dry-erase:** wipes off with a tissue. Best for games and bingo.
- **Wet-erase:** won't smudge until you wipe with a damp cloth. Best for trackers you update all month.
- **Ghosting?** Scribble over it with dry-erase and wipe, or use a little rubbing alcohol.

worth laminating

BINGO CARDS · TROPE BINGO · GAME BOARDS · SCORECARDS · READING TRACKERS · MONTHLY TBR · NAME TAGS · BOOKMARKS · SNACK LABELS · MENUS · HOSTING CHECKLIST

Bingo markers: skip the dabbers. Use mini candies, buttons, flat glass gems or tiny heart stickers on laminated cards, then wipe clean for next month.

binding + storing

Turn a pile of pages into a journal, a planner or a host binder you'll actually reach for.

METHOD	YOU NEED	BEST FOR	ADD PAGES LATER?
3-ring binder	3-hole punch (2-hole on A4), 1 in binder, sheet protectors	Host binders, kit collections, planners	Yes, easily
Disc binding	Disc-bound punch, discs, poly covers	Reading journals, bujos, planners	Yes, pages pop in and out
Spiral or coil	A print shop (a few dollars)	Coloring books, year-long journals	No
Saddle stitch (staple)	Booklet printing + a long-reach stapler	Mini journals, puzzle books, 8 – 32 pages	No
Binder clip or ring	Big binder clip, or a 1 in book ring and a hole punch	Question cards, recipe cards, a party's worth of pages	Yes
Clipboard	A cute clipboard	Coloring on the couch, game night scorecards	Yes

make it feel like a real book

- Print the **cover on heavy cardstock** and add a clear plastic front and a cardstock or poly back.
- Leave **space on the left** for holes. Our pages have a wide margin, so a standard punch won't touch the design.
- Add **tab dividers** between months or sections.
- Clip a pen loop or ribbon bookmark to the cover.

store it so you use it

- **One folder per kit.** A clear zip envelope holds the invites, games and labels for one party.
- Keep a **master copy** of each page unmarked, so you can photocopy it again.
- Save every PDF in a "printables" folder in your cloud drive, named by book.
- Store cardstock flat, in its box, away from damp.

Host binder hack: keep one 3-ring binder for your book club with laminated games in sheet protectors, a tracker for whose turn it is to host, and this guide at the back.

at the *print shop*

No printer, low on ink, or printing 12 invitations on fancy cardstock? A print shop is often cheaper than a new cartridge, and they can laminate and bind too.

in the us

Staples, Office Depot / OfficeMax and **FedEx Office** all take PDF uploads online for same-day pickup, or print from a USB stick in store.

everywhere else

Local copy shops, stationery stores and university print centers do the same. Search "same day printing near me".

the library

Many public libraries have cheap self-service color printing. Bring the PDF on your phone or a USB stick.

copy + paste this order

```
Please print [file name], pages
[__], [__] copies.
Paper: [US Letter / A4], [__] lb /
[__] gsm [cardstock / premium
paper].
Color, at 100% / actual size, no
scaling.
[Single-sided / Double-sided, flip
on long edge].
Extras: [laminate 5 mil] [coil bind]
[cut on the lines]
```

save money

- Print only the **color pages** at the shop and the black and white pages at home.
- Ask for a **proof** of one page before the full run.
- Laser prints are perfect for alcohol markers.
- Watch for paper sales around back-to-school.

"is this copyrighted?"

Shops sometimes ask about professional-looking files. Your purchase lets you print for your own personal use and your own book club. Show your order email if they ask.

Upload tip: send the PDF, not a screenshot or photo of the page. The PDF keeps every line crisp at full size.

go digital

Every PDF works on a tablet or e-ink notebook too. Write, color and track with a stylus, then print the pages you love.

goodnotes + notability (ipad)

1. Save the PDF to Files (unzip first).
2. In GoodNotes tap **+** → **Import** and pick the PDF. In Notability, use Import or share it from Files.
3. Long-press a page to **duplicate** it. Endless trackers and logs.
4. Use the highlighter at low opacity for marker-style coloring.

kindle scribe + e-ink

1. Use **Send to Kindle** (the app, website or email) to send the PDF.
2. Open it on the Scribe and write right on the page with the pen.
3. reMarkable, Kobo Elipsa and Boox take PDFs through their own apps or a USB cable.

E-ink is grayscale, so pastel pages show up in soft grays. Trackers and logs look great.

android + windows

Samsung Notes, Xodo, Flexcil and OneNote all open PDFs for stylus writing.

coloring apps

For real painting, import a coloring page as an image into Procreate or Ibis Paint, set it to Multiply, and color on a layer underneath.

backups

Export your filled journal as a PDF every month or so. Your notes stay safe if the app or device changes.

Best of both: plan and track on your tablet, then print a fresh copy of the pages you want to color by hand or frame. Same file, two ways to use it.

DIGITAL USE IS PERSONAL USE: PLEASE DON'T SHARE THE FILE

troubleshooting

Most print problems come down to scale, paper size or paper type. Find yours below.

WHAT HAPPENED	TRY THIS
Edges or text are cut off	Set scale to Actual size and borderless off, and check that the paper size matches the PDF.
Everything prints a little small	"Fit to page" or "Shrink oversized pages" is on. Switch to Actual size / 100%.
Bookmarks or cards are the wrong size	Print page 12 and measure the ruler. If it's off, the scale setting is the culprit.
Colors look dull or streaky	Choose High / Best quality, set the paper type to matte or cardstock, and run a nozzle check or head cleaning from your printer's maintenance menu.
Pinks print orange or brown	A color cartridge is low or clogged. Replace it, or print color pages at a shop.
Ink smears or stays wet	Set the paper type to cardstock or heavy paper, and let pages dry before stacking.
Cardstock jams	Feed one sheet at a time through the rear or manual tray, and check the printer's max paper weight.
Back side is upside down	Switch between flip on long edge and short edge. See page 4.
Markers bleed through	Use 100 lb+ smooth cardstock, print one side only, and keep a scrap sheet underneath.
Black lines smudge when I color	Inkjet ink reactivates under markers. Let pages dry 24 hours, or use a laser print.
The download won't open on my phone	Kits are .zip files. Open the Files app, tap the zip to unzip, then open the PDF.
The PDF opens in my browser and prints oddly	Download it and open it in Adobe Acrobat Reader or Preview instead.
Laminated page has bubbles	Let the ink dry longer, feed the sealed edge first, or switch to a thinner pouch.
I lost my download link	Search your inbox for your Pretty Little Obsessions order email, or reply to it and we'll help.

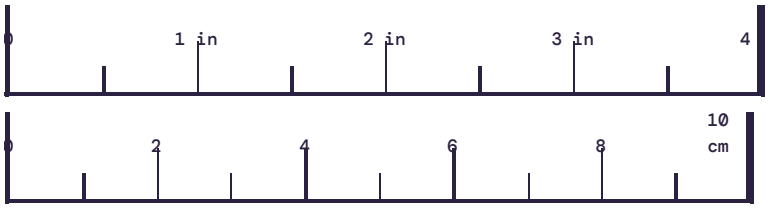
still stuck? reply to your order email and we'll sort it ♡

printer test page

Print this page at Actual size before any big print job. It checks scale, color, fine lines and two-sided printing in one sheet.

1 · scale check

This ruler should measure exactly **4 inches** on the top marks and **10 cm** on the bottom marks. If it's shorter, turn off "Fit to page".



2 · color check

All eight squares should look clean and even, with no stripes. Streaks mean it's time for a nozzle check.

3 · gray + line check

You should see ten separate steps and five lines, thinnest to thickest. Missing thin lines? Choose a higher quality setting.

front ↑

Print this page two-sided with any other page. Hold it to a window: the back should read the same way up.

4 · edge check

All four pink corner marks should be visible. If one is missing, your printer's margin is bigger than usual, so use Fit to page for designs that run close to the edge.

swatch *tester*

Print this on the paper you plan to color on. Swatch each pen, write its name on the line, then flip the page over to see what bled through.

blend test

Color a light shade, then overlap a darker one. Does it blend smoothly, or streak?

line test

Color over these printed lines and see if the black smudges.



my verdicts

PEN / MARKER	PAPER	BLEED?	VERDICT

supplies + print log

Tick off what you have, circle what you want, and keep a record of what worked so the next party is easier.

paper

- [ ] Copy paper 75 – 90 gsm
- [ ] Premium paper 120 gsm
- [ ] Cardstock 216 gsm / 80 lb
- [ ] Cardstock 270 gsm / 100 lb
- [ ] Colored cardstock
- [ ] Matte photo paper
- [ ] Envelopes (A7 / A2 / C6)

coloring

- [ ] Colored pencils
- [ ] Colorless blender
- [ ] Gel + glitter pens
- [ ] Fineliners
- [ ] Brush pens
- [ ] Alcohol markers
- [ ] Blotter sheets

finishing

- [ ] Paper trimmer
- [ ] Corner rounder
- [ ] Hole punch + ribbon
- [ ] Laminator + pouches
- [ ] Sheet protectors
- [ ] Dry-erase markers
- [ ] Binder / disc set

print log

PRINTABLE	PAPER	SETTINGS	NOTES FOR NEXT TIME