## Description

When I started writing an eBook with LibreOffice Writer I could not find a template that worked and demonstrated the styles used within the template, so I created two. In March 2021, the first version of the novel template won a prize in a [template contest](#) and paid for half of my 13" 2020 MacBook Air M1. Now I can write 50% faster than before ;=}
The Novel and Technical book templates are designed such that you can easily produce and eBook (EPUB3) file for Amazon Kindle and a PDF file for a paperback from a common source file.

## Author

David W. Snow

## License

This project is licensed under  a CC0 ([CC0 1.0 Universal](#)) license.

## Prerequisites

None.  It is assumed that you know how to use basic word processing software such as LibreOffice Writer, Microsoft Word or Apple's Pages.

## What's Included

1. LibreOffice Writer templates for both a novel and light technical books containing a style sheet and sample content for a book. Both templates work for print/paperback (PDF) and eBook (EPUB3) formats. **Note:** Amazon Kindle now wants EPUB formated files for eBooks, so these templates work for Amazon Kindle books.
2. There is also a version of the technical template that is reformatted for printed technical reports.
3. A step-by-step set of instructions for:
   (a) Setting up the environment on Mac or Windows PC.
   (b) Starting a book project and producing a PDF file for viewing and printing on 6″ x 9″ paper, and an EPUB3 for viewing and submitting to Amazon, Apple, etc.

(c) Creating both the JPEG cover for an eBook and a PDF file for the front cover, back cover and spine of a paperback book.

(d) Final post processing for paperback printing.

(e) Producing an EPUB3 file for viewing and submitting to book distributors.

4. A LibreOffice Calc Worksheet to calculate the dimensions for a paperback cover.

## Changed In Version 25.01.0

- Changed the format of the version/edition number.
- Make a separate *DWS-BookTempNovel* and *DWS-BookTempTech* that are much leaner and not just copies of the relevant sections of *DWS-BookTempMaster.*
- The novel was resized to 5"x8". The Tech and Master templates were resized to 6"x9".
- Make an EPUB3 file for *DWS-BookTempMaster* and dropped the two other ebook files.

## Files Included

**Warning:** When viewing PDF files at GitHub, hyperlinks and links in the Table of Contents **may** not be clickable! In the actual PDF files, when downloaded they are.

1. DWS-BookTemp-Instructions in [PDF](#) and ODT source (~40 8.5"x11" pages)
2. DWS-BookTempNovel in [PDF](#) and ODT source (~40 5"x8" pages)
3. DWS-BookTempTech in [PDF,](#) and ODT source (~40 6"x9" pages)
4. DWS-BookTempReport in [PDF](#) and ODT source (~6 8.5"x11" pages)
5. DWS-BookTempMaster in PDF, EPUB3 and ODT source (~130 6"x9"pages)
6. OutTakes.odt a holder for work that has been "cut" out of your book and that you might want to use later.
7. Calc/DWS-BookCalc.ods (a worksheet)

## Getting Started

The file **DWS-BookTemp-Instructions.pdf** contains the instructions for:

- Software Installation on macOS & Windows.
- New Book Project Setup—The instructions to process the template into a paperback, EPUB3 and Kindle files.
- Post Processing Steps—The final steps prior to producing an eBook or paperback for production.

- Creating both an eBook cover and a paperback book cover.
- Other useful stuff.

## Running Tests

If you follow the examples in the instructions, you will have a sample 6x9" paperback (PDF), an EPUB3 eBook built using the templates as a test. Each showing the named style elements. **DWS-BookTempNovel_Epub3.epub** is what the novel will look like. You can view this in any EPUB reader, including [Amazon's Kindle Previewer](#).

You can follow the same instructions using the DWS-BookTempTech template and get an example from the light technical template. **DWS-BookTempTech_Epub3.epub** is now included in the repository.

## Version Control

LibreOffice Writer's ODT files are not a good format for software version control. However, each file contains version ID, usually near the top of the file, similar to the image below.

### Metadata Block

**Title:** *Instructions for using DWS-BookTemp* **Author:** David Snow
**Length:** 9298 words, 41 pages. **Editing Time:** 03:31.00
**File:** DWS-BookTemp-Instructions.odt **Created:** 2020-05-16 07:36:13 AM
**Last Modified:** 2021-11-22 02:21 PM (Rev#387) by David Snow
**Copyright ©** 2020 David Snow

Also, each template has an *Edition Number* near its beginning. Usually the whole set of templates and the instructions are updated as a set and the edition number is incremented.

## Edition History (Git Tag)

- v1.1.0  January 2021  The basic templates (Novel & Technical) plus instructions. The novel template won [Adfinis](#)' template contest. See [thier](#) blog.
- v1.2.1  June 2021  Updated several sections and a report template (DWS-BookTempReport) added. Tested with LibreOffice Writer 7.1.4.2
- v25.01.0 Jan 2025  Applied more *Chicago Manual of Style* / Turabian style elements to the report template.  Tested with LibreOffice Writer 24.8.4.2 and

Jutoh v3.16.4. I also charged to the same format of version numbering as LibreOffice at this time. It includes an OutTakes.odt file in the package. This is the file that I store content that I have written, but haven't decided where to use.

*Notes:*

README.md is created with pandoc via:
**pandoc README.odt -o README.md**