

DWS Book Templates

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 the first version of the novel template won a prize in a [template contest](#) and paid for half of my new 13” 2020 MacBook Air M1. Now I can a faster writer than ever ;=}

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 (EPUB 3) formats.
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 (DWS-BookTemp-Instructions.pdf) 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 US letter (8.5” x 11”) paper, and an EPUB 3 for viewing and submitting to Amazon. **Note:** Amazon now wants EPUB files for submission!
 - (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 EPUB 3 file for viewing and submitting to book distributors.
4. A LibreOffice Calc Worksheet to calculate the dimensions for a paperback cover. (DWS-Book-Calc.ods).

Files Included

- DWS-BookTempNovel in PDF, EPUB 3 and ODT source (~65 pages)
- DWS-BookTempTech in PDF, EPUB 3 and ODT source (~75 pages)
- DWS-BookTempReport in PDF and ODT source (~10 pages)
- DWS-BookTempMaster only in ODT source (~75 pages)
- DWS-BookTemp-Instructions in PDF and ODT source (~40 pages)
- Calc/DWS-BookCalc.ods (a worksheet)

The PDF and EPUB 3 versions are included in this repository so that you can see how a sample book would be formatted as a paperback or an eBook.

Getting Started

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.

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, EPUB 3 and Kindle MOBI 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.

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.

Installing

- See **DWS-BookTemp-Instructions.pdf**

Running The Tests

If you follow the examples in the instructions, you will have a sample 8.5x11" paperback, an EPUB 3 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.

Versioning

LibreOffice Writer isn't a good format for software version control. However, each file contains a date-formatted version ID near the top of the file similar to the two lines below.

File: README.odt **Title:** README.odt **Author:** David Snow

Last Modified: 2020-09-14 03:22 PM by David Snow — 306 words 2 pages.

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.

Authors

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License

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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

Notes:

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