



The Leanpub Manual

The Leanpub Manual

Peter Armstrong and Len Epp

This book is for sale at <http://leanpub.com/manual>

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This is a [Leanpub](#) book. Leanpub empowers authors and publishers with the Lean Publishing process. [Lean Publishing](#) is the act of publishing an in-progress ebook using lightweight tools and many iterations to get reader feedback, pivot until you have the right book and build traction once you do.

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[#leanpubmanual](#)

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Support

Where to Get Help

Readers

Help Center

We have **lots** of great documentation and FAQs for readers and authors in our Help Center at <http://help.leanpub.com>. Basically, whenever we're asked a good, general question, we post a generalized version of the answer there as well. There are specific sections for [readers¹](#) and [purchasing²](#), or you can just [search the entire help center³](#).

Email hello@leanpub.com

If you have a specific problem that you can't find the answer to in our Help Center and don't want to post on the forum, email us at [hello@leanpub.com⁴](mailto:hello@leanpub.com) and we'll be happy to help you.

Leanpub Authors

Help Center

Our help center isn't just for readers. We have **lots** of great documentation and FAQs in our Help Center for Leanpub authors as well. In fact, there are about three times as many [articles for authors⁵](#) on our Help Center as there are for readers. The Help Center is at <http://help.leanpub.com>.

The Leanpub Author Forum

Just as every Leanpub book can have a forum, we have a forum for Leanpub authors as well. Join the [Leanpub Author Forum⁶](#) and post your question there. Our authors enjoys helping each other out, and we pay attention too. Please ask all general questions there.

¹<http://help.leanpub.com/en/collections/32701-reader-help>

²<http://help.leanpub.com/en/collections/32925-purchasing-help>

³<http://help.leanpub.com/en/>

⁴<mailto:hello@leanpub.com>

⁵<http://help.leanpub.com/en/collections/32694-author-help>

⁶<https://community.leanpub.com/c/authors>

Email hello@leanpub.com

If you have a specific problem that you can't find the answer to in our Help Center and don't want to post on the forum, email us at hello@leanpub.com⁷ and we'll be happy to help you.

Getting Started

To learn how to get started with the various writing modes, read this manual.

Markua

To learn how to write in Markua on Leanpub, see [The Markua Manual](#)⁸.

Leanpub Flavoured Markdown

To learn how to write in Leanpub Flavoured Markdown, see [The Leanpub Flavoured Markdown Manual](#)⁹.

The Leanpub Frontmatter Podcast

Leanpub has a podcast called [Frontmatter](#)¹⁰, where we interview authors about their lives & careers, their areas of expertise and the issues of the moment, and their experiences as authors. Every episode is deeply researched and covers subjects that are equally of human interest, general interest, and of professional interest, particularly for writers. We highly recommend it as a resource during your writing journey.

⁷<mailto:hello@leanpub.com>

⁸<https://leanpub.com/markua/read>

⁹<https://leanpub.com/lfm/read>

¹⁰<https://leanpub.com/podcasts/frontmatter>

About The Leanpub Manual

Welcome to [The Leanpub Manual¹¹](#)!

This is a short manual. It contains three things:

1. A description of the various writing modes.
2. A discussion of Leanpub Flavoured Markdown vs. Markua
3. Getting Started instructions for each writing mode.

The Getting Started instructions in this many vary based on the writing mode of your book. So, you should only read the Getting Started chapter for the specific writing mode you have chosen.

If you already know which writing mode you want to choose, and if the Leanpub Flavoured Markdown vs. Markua decision doesn't apply (or you want to save it for later), you can skip to the Getting Started chapter for that writing mode now.

If you want to first learn a bit about the different writing modes, and a bit about the Leanpub Flavoured Markdown vs. Markua decision, read on.

¹¹<http://leanpub.com/manual>

The 5 Writing Modes of Leanpub

There are 5 different writing modes on Leanpub:

1. Leanpub In-Browser Text Editor
2. Dropbox
3. GitHub
4. Bitbucket
5. Bring Your Own Book

In the first four writing modes, you write in plain text. This plain text can be formatted in either Leanpub Flavoured Markdown (LFM) or Markua. Both of these are dialects of Markdown, which was created as a way for bloggers to easily write blog posts. (Markdown is easier to write than HTML.)

In the last writing mode, Bring Your Own Book, you don't write in plain text, so you don't write in either Leanpub Flavoured Markdown or Markua. Instead, you write your book any way you like (such as using Word, Pages, or LaTeX), and then you just upload PDF, EPUB, and MOBI files that you produce using your tools. (You can also choose to upload any one or two of these formats - you don't need all three.)

So, if you're using our In-Browser Text Editor, Dropbox, GitHub, or Bitbucket, you'll be able to use Leanpub Flavoured Markdown or Markua. You can change back and forth between them as often as you want. It's as easy as clicking a checkbox.

Reasons to Use GitHub or Bitbucket

If you're a programmer and comfortable with Git, we recommend you choose GitHub or Bitbucket over Dropbox. Here are 5 reasons why:

1. You can run your own version control, which is great for collaborating with co-authors and keeping track of versions for yourself.
2. You can also choose a Dropbox folder for the generated preview and published versions of your book to be automatically copied into.

3. You can set up webhooks so that whenever you commit and push, we automatically preview (or, if you live on the edge, automatically publish) your book.
4. You can use different branches for preview and publish, so that you can have a bugfix branch (say master) and a development branch for the next version of your book.
5. You can use a different branch for a course, based on the same repository as the book. (Again, courses require that you use Markua, so if you're writing a book which you think might be a good course, that's another reason to use it.)

If you're not a programmer, we recommend using Dropbox mode. Every time you preview or publish, we store a version of your manuscript as a backup, so we recommend you preview and publish often.

Markua vs. Leanpub Flavoured Markdown

On Leanpub, there are two ways to write in plain text:

1. Markua
2. Leanpub Flavoured Markdown (LFM)

Leanpub Flavoured Markdown came first; Markua is its replacement. Both LFM and Markua are dialects of Markdown. Markua is newer and better than LFM.

To write in Markua or LFM, you need to be in Dropbox, GitHub or Bitbucket writing mode, or you need to be writing in the Leanpub In-Browser Text Editor.

There are six good reasons to write a book in Markua:

1. Markua is better than LFM. A lot better. Markua fixes the many mistakes we made with LFM.
2. Markua is the future of Leanpub.
3. Markua has more features than LFM.
4. If you want to create a course on Leanpub, you need to use Markua.
5. The Leanpub In-Browser Text Editor is better with Markua now, and it's going to be way better soon. (We're working on an upgrade to the Leanpub In-Browser Text Editor which will only be available for Markua books.)
6. The Markua Manual is newer and better than the Leanpub Flavoured Markdown Manual.

There are two good reasons to write a book in LFM:

1. You already started your book in LFM and you don't want to convert it yet.
2. You are writing a translation of a book which is written in LFM.

Switching Writing Modes

If you have an existing Leanpub book and you want to switch writing modes, you go here:

Author > Books > (your book) > Settings > Writing Mode

Once you've chosen an appropriate writing mode, you then can switch between the Markua and LFM dialects of Markdown here:

Author > Books > (your book) > Settings > Markdown Dialect

Getting Started with In-Browser Plain Text Editor Writing Mode

You can write a Leanpub book using the In-Browser Plain Text Editor writing mode. In this section we'll show you how to create a book, how to write in the In-Browser Editor, and how generate your first preview.

We also have a video, if you prefer to learn that way! You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/QC8Utbrc9MM>¹².

Once you have successfully generated your first preview, you'll know everything you know to get started writing in the In-Browser Plain Text Editor writing mode.

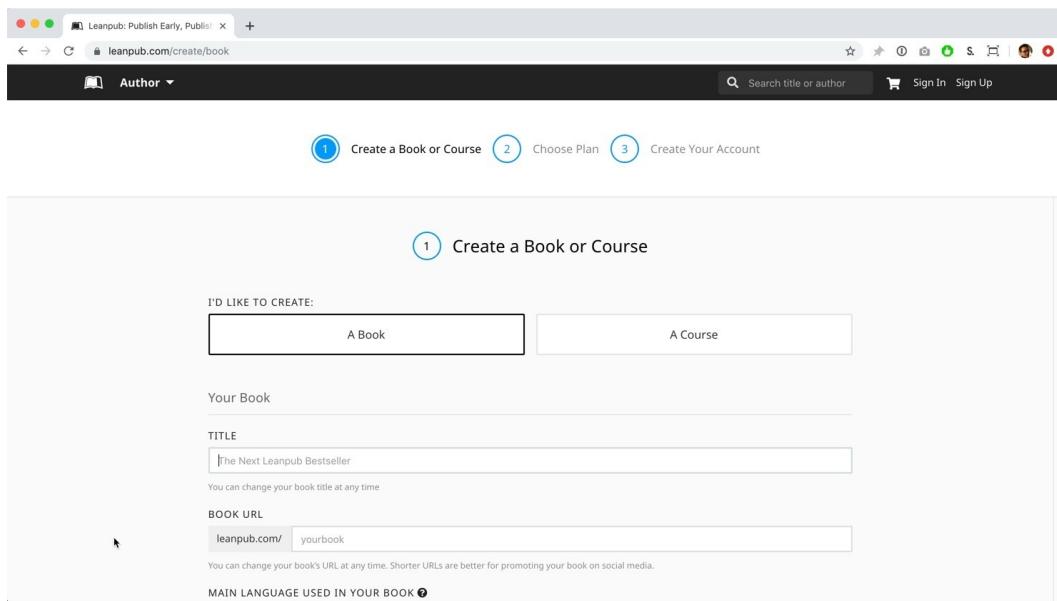
You'll find more information and detailed instructions on the "Getting Started" page for your book, which you'll go to automatically when you create your book.

Creating a Book in In-Browser Plain Text Editor Writing Mode

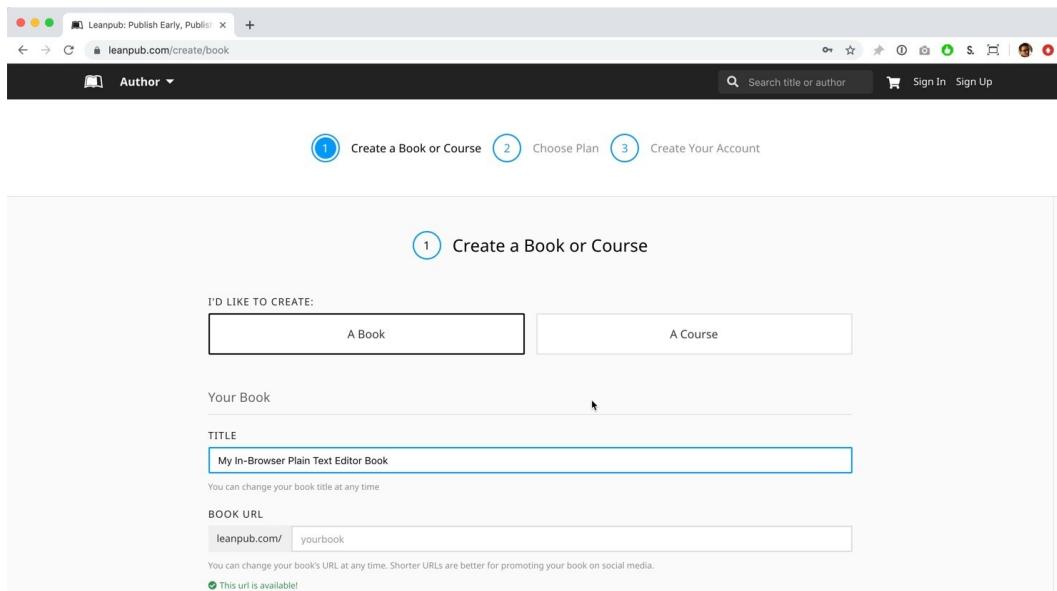
Go to <https://leanpub.com/create/book>¹³ to create a book in our In-Browser Plain Text Editor writing mode.

¹²<https://youtu.be/QC8Utbrc9MM>

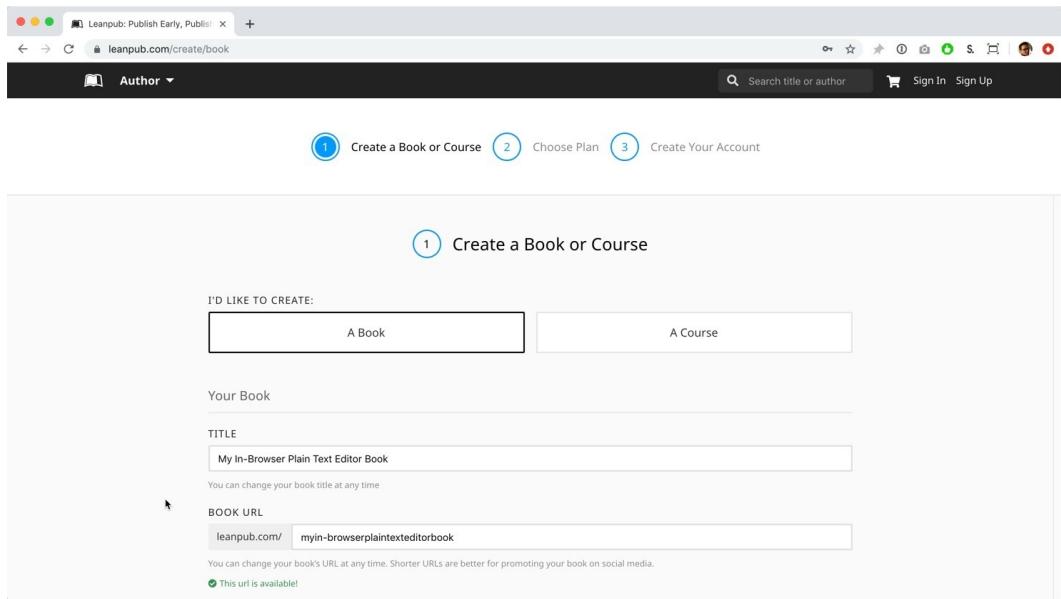
¹³<https://leanpub.com/create/book>



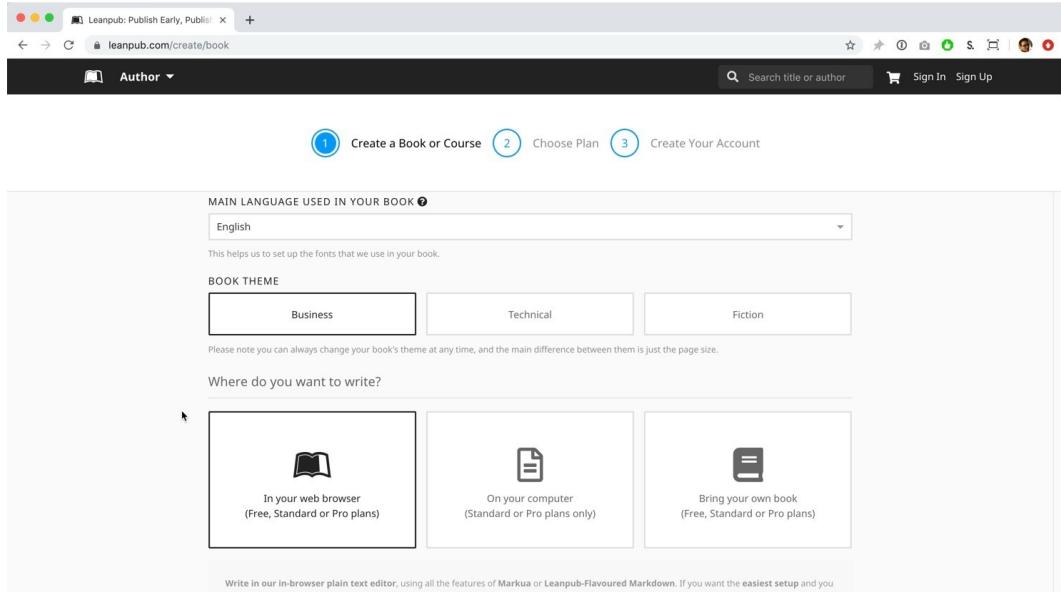
Next, type a title for your book into the “TITLE” box. You can change your title later.



Click in the “BOOK URL” box. Leanpub will automatically suggest a URL for your book’s web page on Leanpub. You can change this URL at any time.

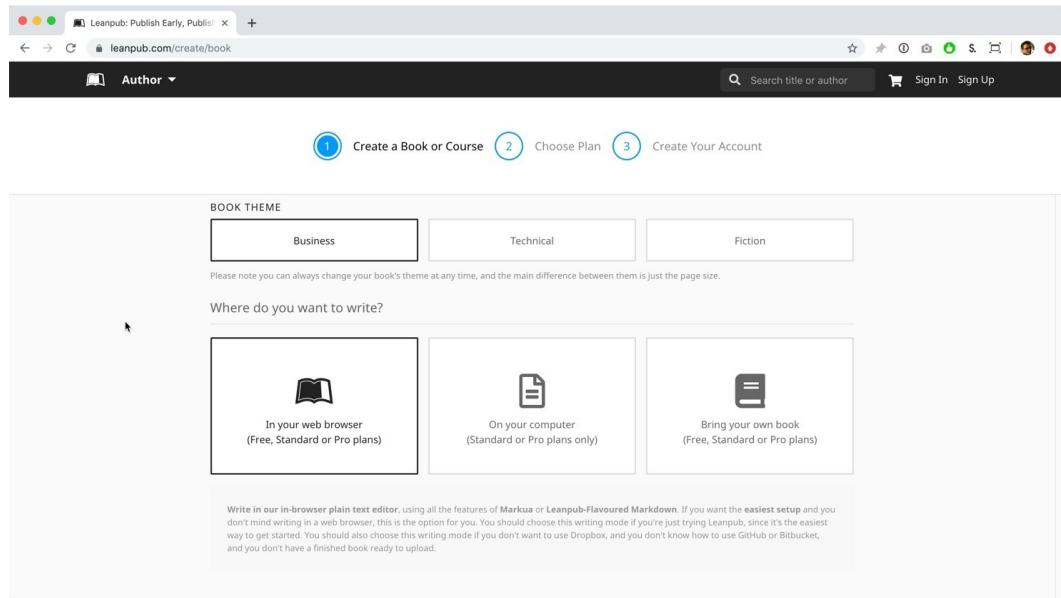


Scroll down and you will see “MAIN LANGUAGE USED IN YOUR BOOK.” You can select a language from the drop-down. Like the other settings, you can change this at any time.



Scroll down and you will see the “BOOK THEME” options. “Business” will be selected by

default. The Book Theme is just a set of standard formatting options conventional for books on these subjects. You are not required to choose any particular option. You can change your Book Theme at any time.



In the section below, you will be presented with various Writing Mode options. By default, the “In your web browser” option will be selected, which is what we want:

The screenshot shows a web browser window for the Leanpub website (leanpub.com/create/book). The header includes a 'Author' dropdown, a search bar, and 'Sign In' / 'Sign Up' buttons. Below the header, three circular buttons are displayed: 'Create a Book or Course' (selected), 'Choose Plan', and 'Create Your Account'. The main content area is titled 'Where do you want to write?' and contains three options:

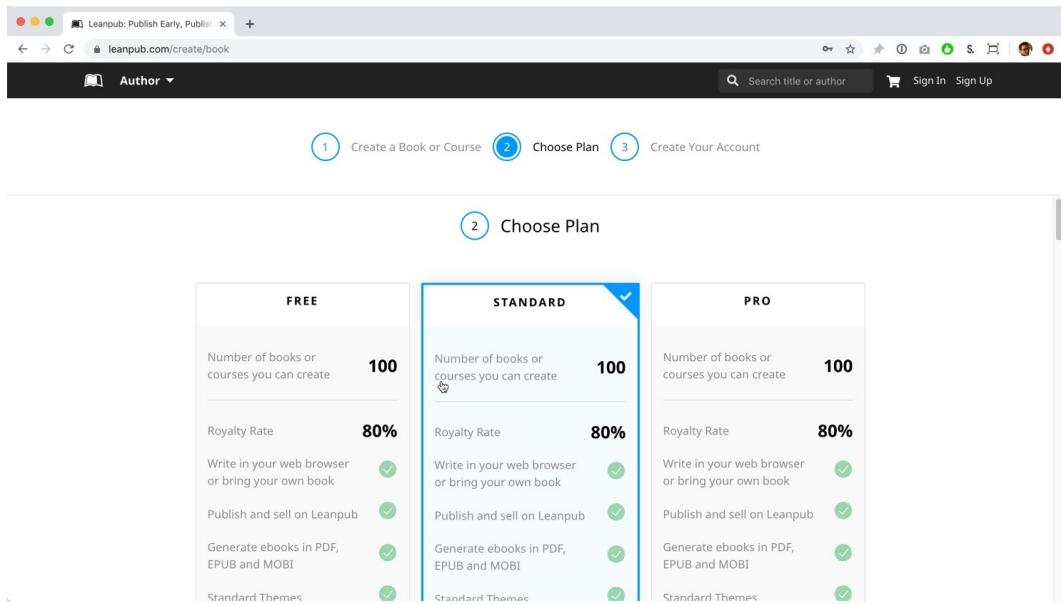
- In your web browser** (Free, Standard or Pro plans)
- On your computer** (Standard or Pro plans only)
- Bring your own book** (Free, Standard or Pro plans)

Below these options, a note reads: 'Write in our in-browser plain text editor, using all the features of [Markua](#) or [Leanpub-Flavoured Markdown](#). If you want the easiest setup and you don't mind writing in a web browser, this is the option for you. You should choose this writing mode if you're just trying Leanpub, since it's the easiest way to get started. You should also choose this writing mode if you don't want to use Dropbox, and you don't know how to use GitHub or Bitbucket, and you don't have a finished book ready to upload.'

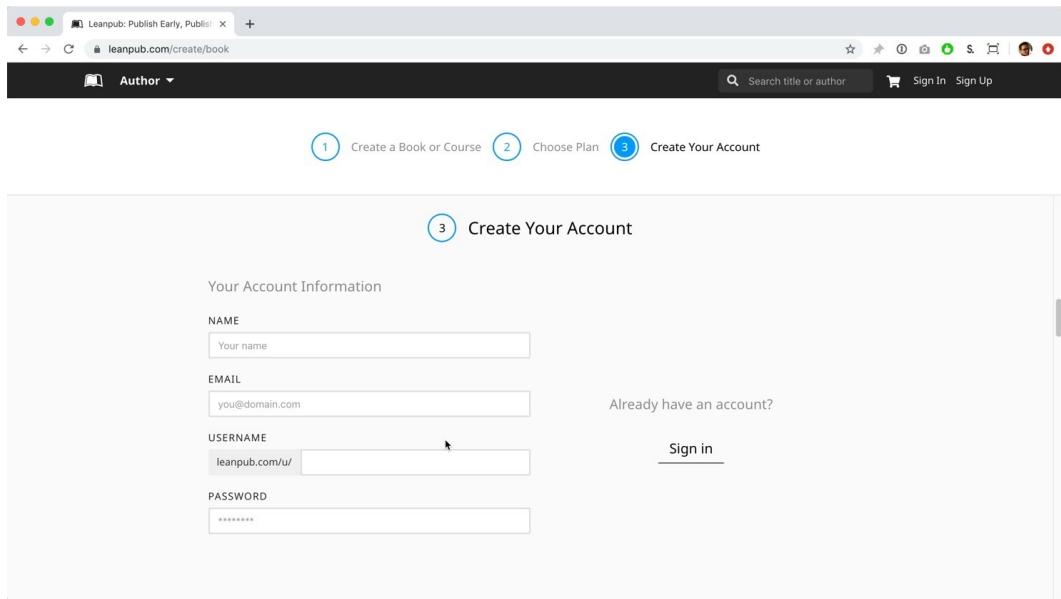
Authors have earned **\$8,148,640** writing, publishing and selling on Leanpub, earning **80% royalties** while saving up to **25 million pounds of CO₂** and up to **46,000**.

When you scroll down, you will see the subscription plan options. By default, “Standard” will be selected, if you are setting up your first book in Leanpub.

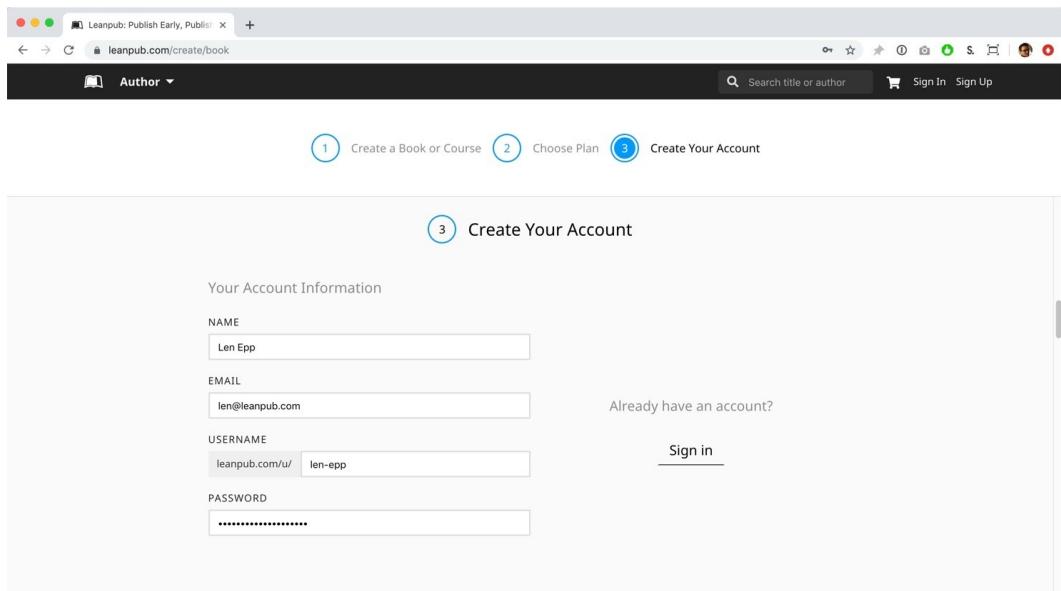
Select a plan.



Scroll down and, if you are not signed in to a Leanpub account, you will see an option to enter information to create a new account. You will also see an option to sign in, if you already have a Leanpub account.



To create a new account, fill in the relevant information.



If you selected a paid account, you'll see a form for entering your payment information:

The screenshot shows the Leanpub payment interface. At the top, there are three numbered steps: 1 Create a Book or Course, 2 Choose Plan, and 3 Create Your Account. Step 1 is highlighted with a blue circle.

SELECT PAYMENT TYPE:

Visa **PayPal**

To pay with American Express or Discover, choose the PayPal option above and choose "Pay with Credit Card or Visa Debit" on the PayPal website.

RESIDING COUNTRY:

United States

CARDHOLDER'S NAME:

First Name _____ Last Name _____

CREDIT CARD NUMBER:

XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-1234

EXP. DATE: MM **CVV:** CVV: YYYY

I accept the Leanpub [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).

OVERVIEW

YOUR ORDER

| Standard plan monthly payment | \$8.99 |
|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Subtotal | \$8.99 |
| Total | \$8.99 |

All prices are shown in US\$. Leanpub accepts Visa and MasterCard here. Since we are a Canadian merchant, if you use a Visa or MasterCard debit card there may be a small international transaction fee (typically about 10 cents) which is charged by your bank or by our payment processor. We do not store your credit card data on our servers. Instead, we send this form securely via SSL to PayPal, which processes our credit card payments. Having trouble making a purchase? Please contact us at hello@leanpub.com

Finally, click the blue button to finish creating your new In-Browser Plain Text Editor book.

The screenshot shows the Leanpub payment interface again, but the payment form is collapsed. A large blue button labeled "Sign up for the Standard plan" is prominently displayed in the center.

Leanpub Authors Love Leanpub

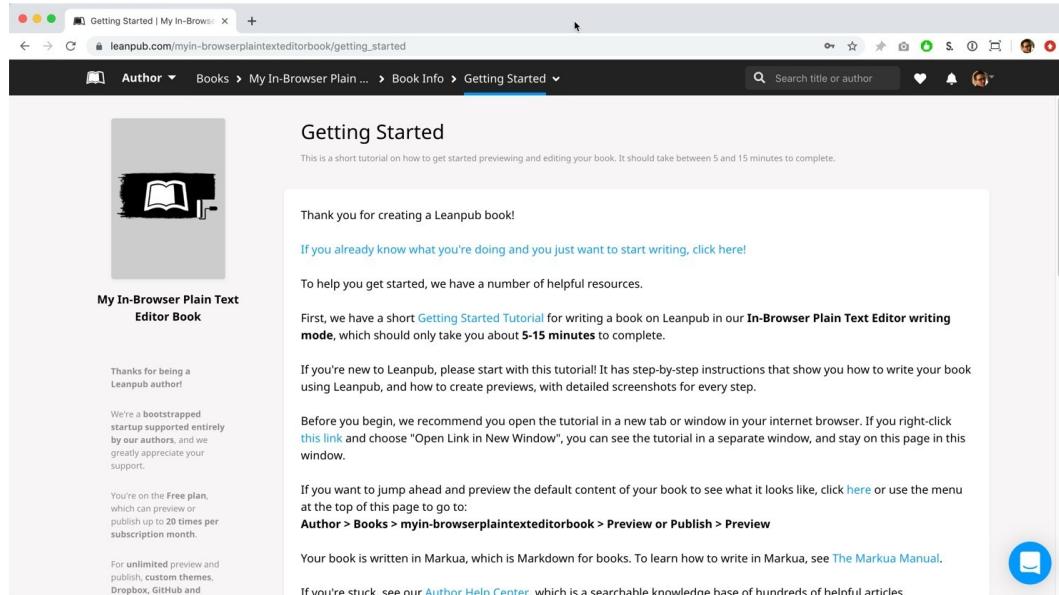
Roger D. Peng
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOSTATISTICS AT THE JOHNS HOPKINS BLOOMBERG SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
"As an academic, I like Leanpub because it lets me write and get my ideas out there quickly."

Chris Hartjes
THE GRUMPY PROGRAMMER
"Leanpub's book-creation tools allowed me to focus on creating the types of books I wanted to write instead of worrying how to"

Ryan Bigg
AUTHOR, MULTITENANCY WITH RAILS
"Leanpub takes the pain out of publishing. They provide the tools, you provide the books and then magic happens."

Getting Started

You will now be taken to the Getting Started page for the In-Browser Plain Text Editor writing mode:



Getting Started

This is a short tutorial on how to get started previewing and editing your book. It should take between 5 and 15 minutes to complete.

My In-Browser Plain Text Editor Book

Thank you for creating a Leanpub book!

If you already know what you're doing and you just want to start writing, click here!

To help you get started, we have a number of helpful resources.

First, we have a short [Getting Started Tutorial](#) for writing a book on Leanpub in our **In-Browser Plain Text Editor writing mode**, which should only take you about **5-15 minutes** to complete.

If you're new to Leanpub, please start with this tutorial! It has step-by-step instructions that show you how to write your book using Leanpub, and how to create previews, with detailed screenshots for every step.

Before you begin, we recommend you open the tutorial in a new tab or window in your internet browser. If you right-click [this link](#) and choose "Open Link in New Window", you can see the tutorial in a separate window, and stay on this page in this window.

If you want to jump ahead and preview the default content of your book to see what it looks like, click [here](#) or use the menu at the top of this page to go to: **Author > Books > myin-browserplaintexteditorbook > Preview or Publish > Preview**

Your book is written in **Markua**, which is Markdown for books. To learn how to write in Markua, see [The Markua Manual](#).

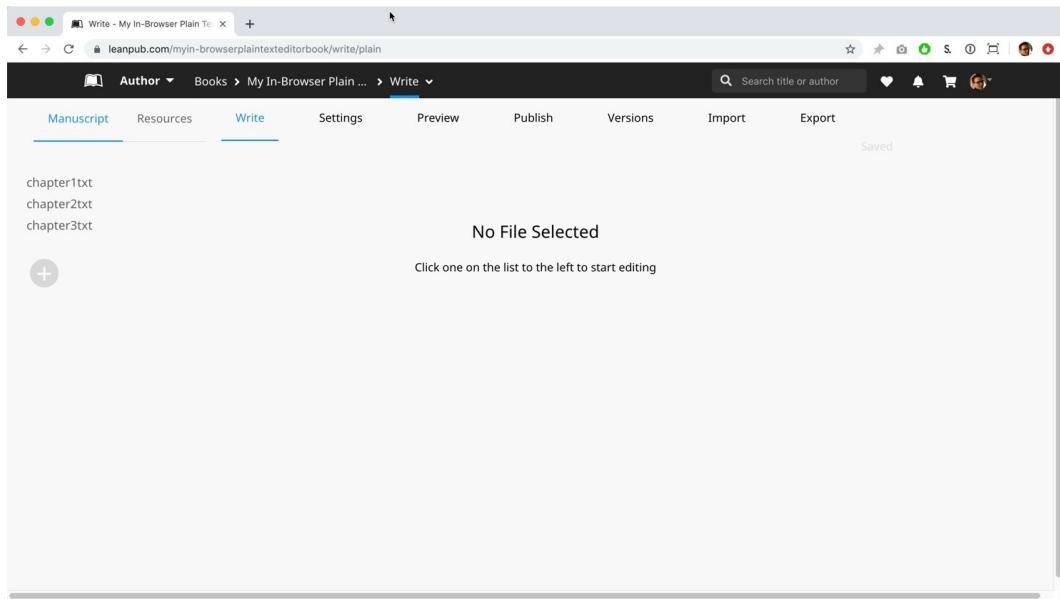
If you're stuck, see our [Author Help Center](#), which is a searchable knowledge base of hundreds of helpful articles.

On this page, you will see lots of helpful information that we recommend you read at some point. However, for this tutorial, let's just dive in to the In-Browser Plain Text editor, where you will spend your time writing your book!

To go to the editor, click the link at the top of the page that says "**If you already know what you're doing and you just want to start writing, click here!**"

Where You Write Your Book

You will now be taken directly to the page where you will be writing your book:



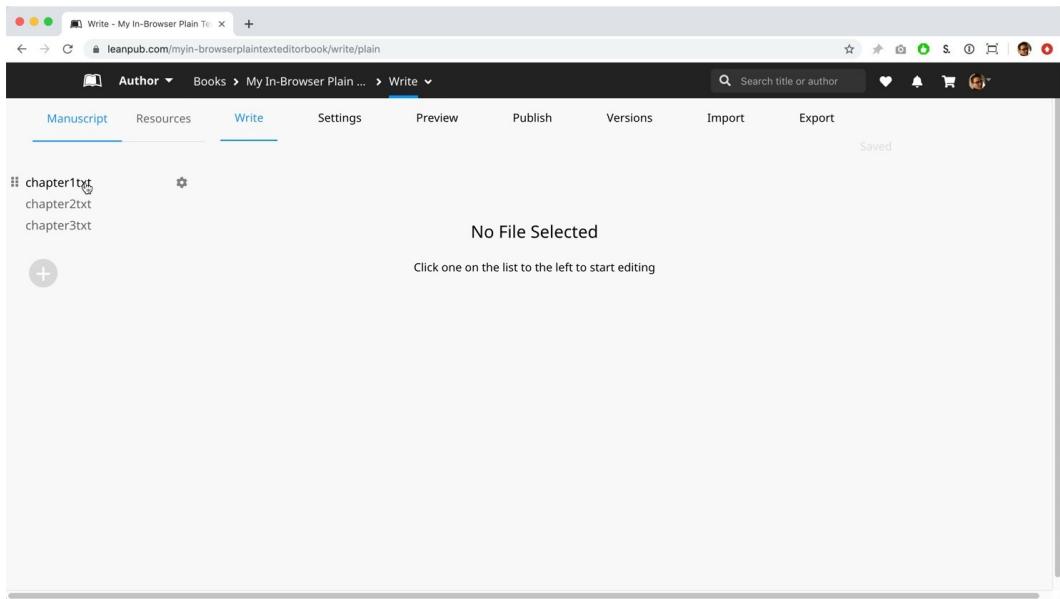
If you use bookmarks in your web browser, we recommend you bookmark this page in your web browser in a bookmark folder for your book, but this is not required.

When you are on the Write page, you will see a menu of files at the top left.

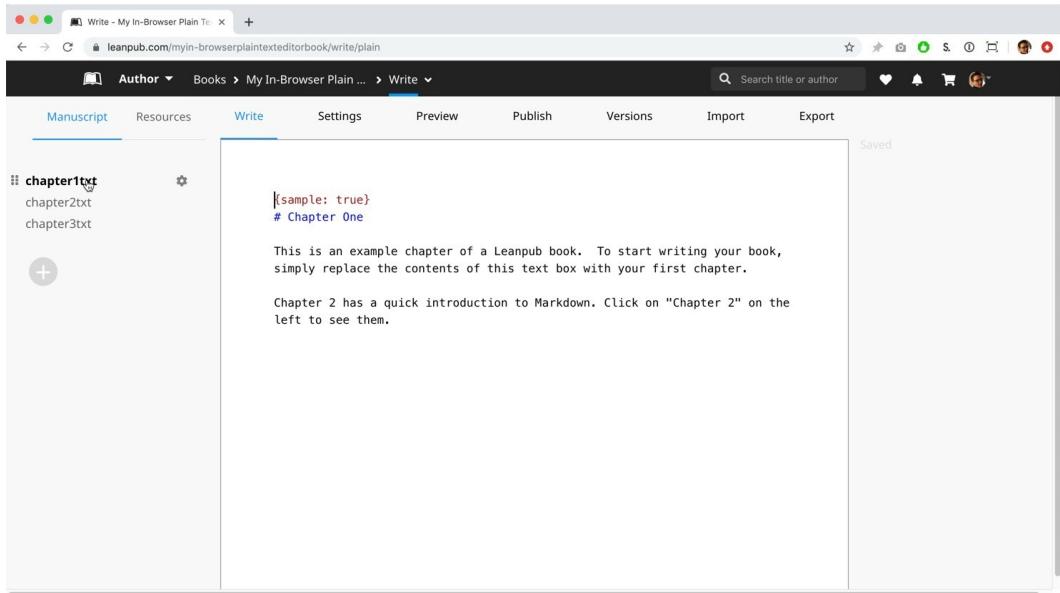
You will see that we have provided three default chapter files:

chapter1txt
chapter2txt
chapter3txt

First, click on the chapter1txt file at the top right.



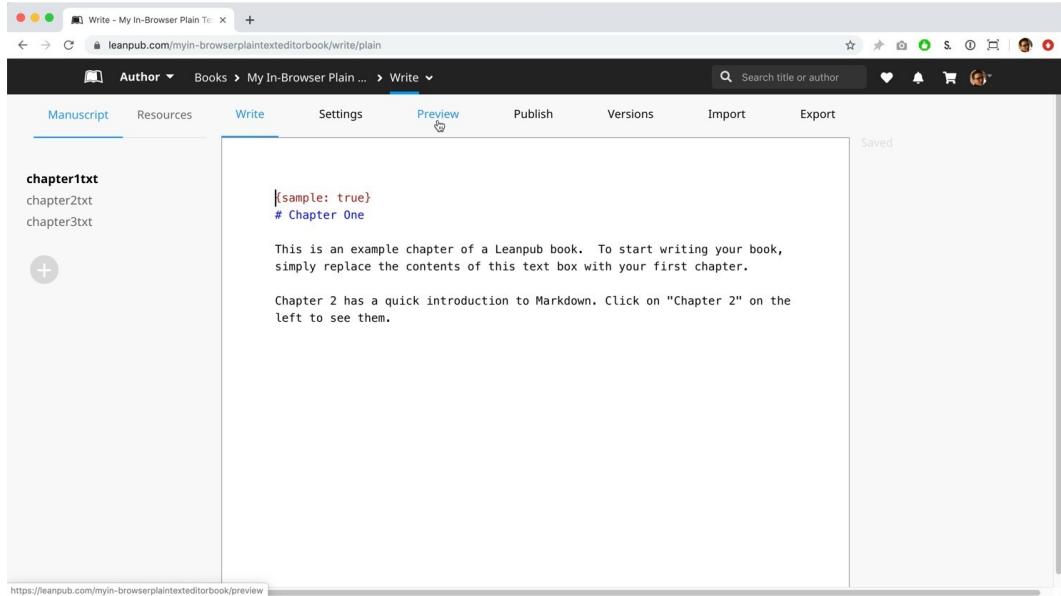
This will take you to the first chapter of the default content Leanpub provides to help you get started with each new book:



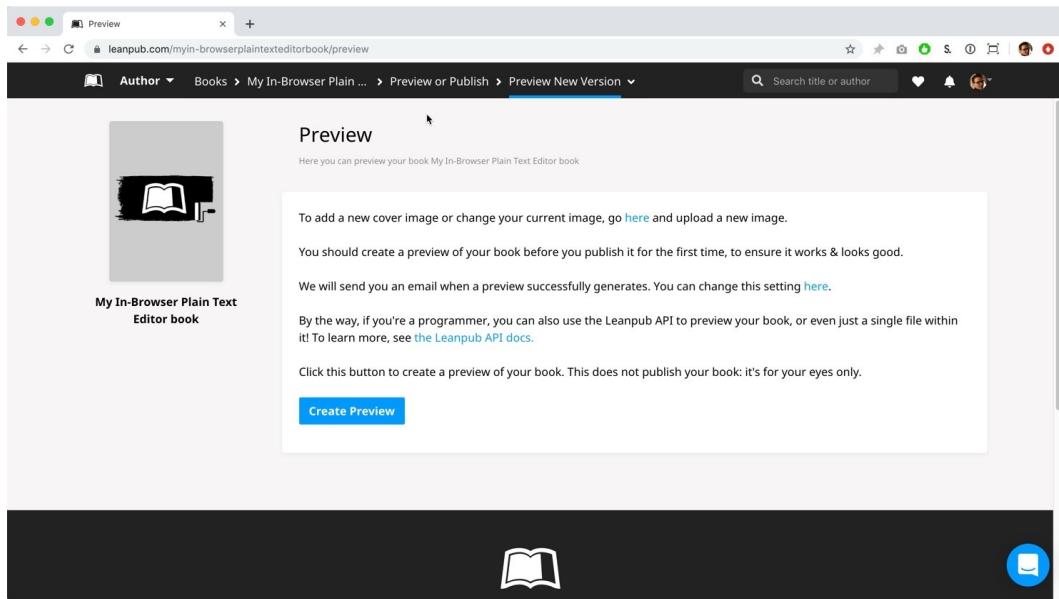
Creating a Preview

Next, let's create a Preview of your book from the default chapter content. (A "Preview" is a private version of your book you can create at any time, to see what your book looks like.)

To do this click on the [Preview](#) link you'll see at the top of the page:

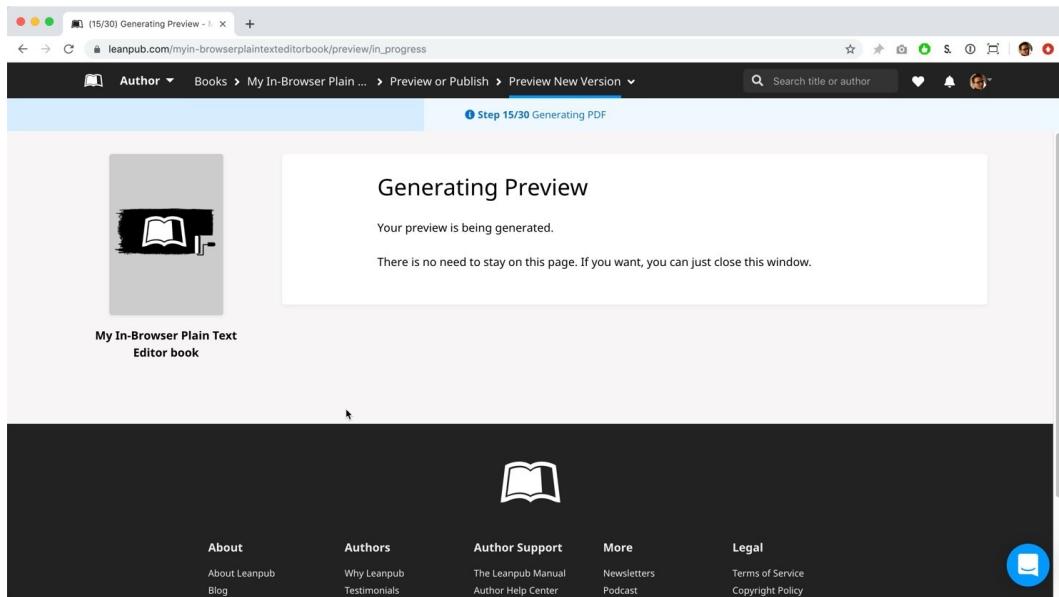


This will take you to the Preview page for your book:

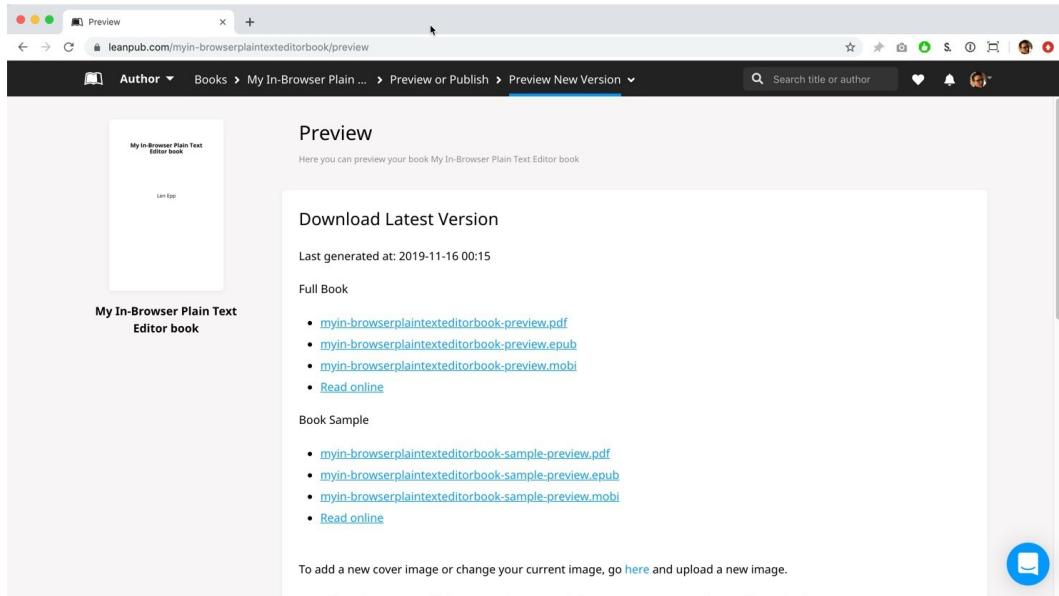


Now, click the blue “Create Preview” button.

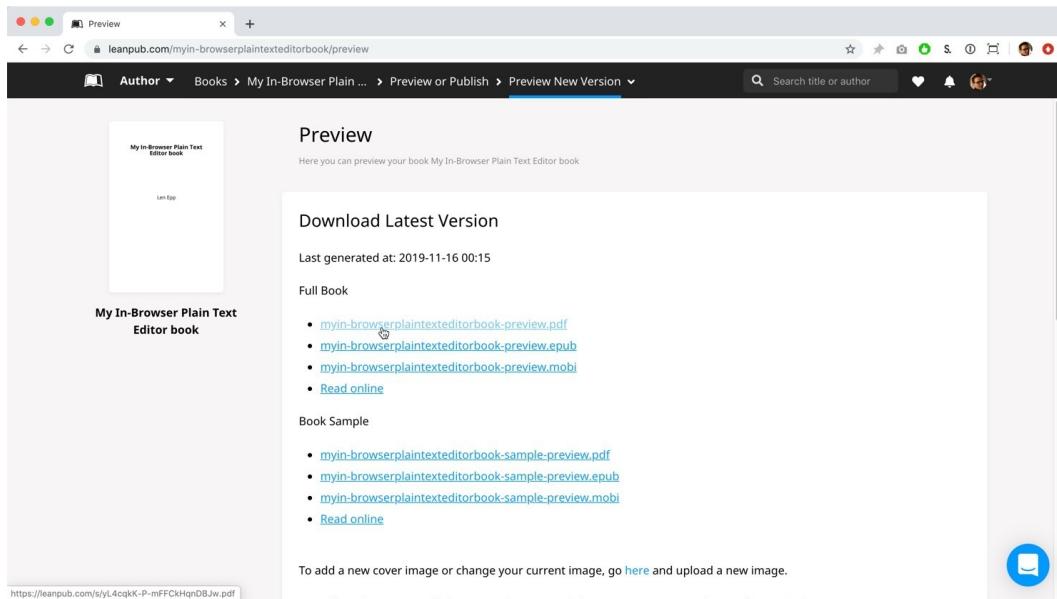
You will now see a progress bar at the top of the page. This shows the steps carried out by Leanpub’s book generators, every time you create a new Preview.



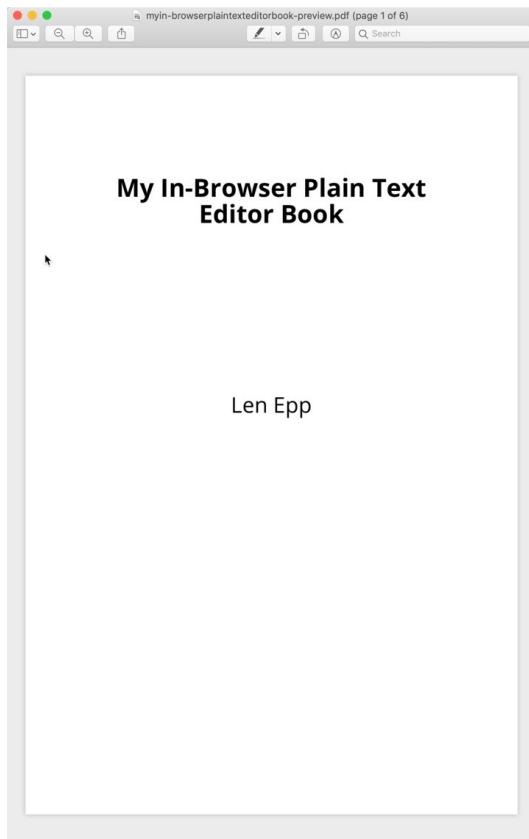
When the process is complete, the progress bar will turn green, and you'll see the download links for your book:



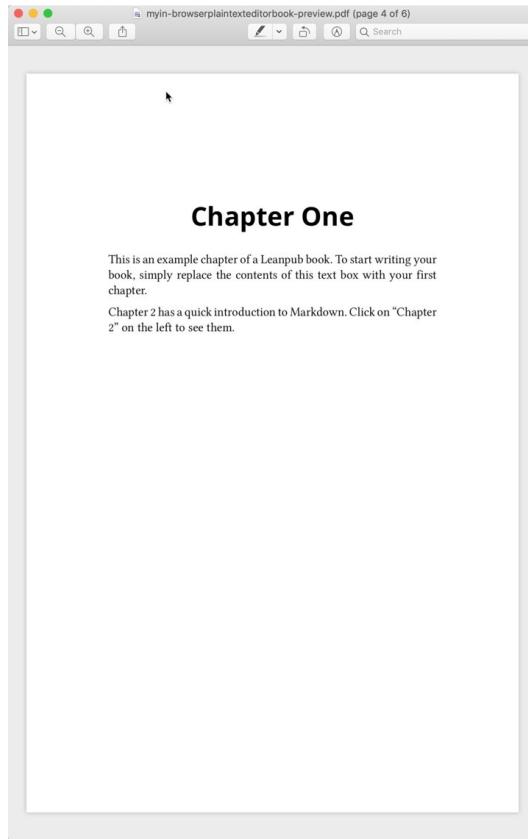
Next, click the top link to download the PDF version of your Preview:



Here's what the PDF looks like when it is opened on a Mac (your PDF might look different, depending on your settings, and what app is used to open the PDF on your device):



Go to the fourth page in the document, and you'll see the same content you saw on the Write page earlier, when you selected the first chapter:



(Also, your device might not open the PDF automatically. If it does not open automatically when the download completes, to open the PDF, you'll need to go to the folder on your computer where you keep files downloaded from the internet.)

Writing In Your Book

OK, now let's do some writing!

Let's go back to the Write page for your book. To do that, select `Write` from the Leanpub menu:

The screenshot shows a browser window for the URL leanpub.com/myin-browserplaintexteditorbook/preview. The page title is "Preview - My In-Browser Plain Text Editor Book". The left sidebar has sections for Books, Bundles, Courses, Course Sets, Publisher, University, Invitations, Metrics, Royalties, and Your API Key. The main content area displays a list of chapters: Create Book, Dashboard, 2018 Business Book Template, 2018 Fiction Book Template, 2018 Technical Book Template, A Million Lessons, A5 Paper Image Test, Changelog Example Book, Copyright Take Down Policy, Customer Derailment, Default New Book Content, Demo Setting Up a Leanpub Book ..., Digest Image Test, Formatting Options When You Are W..., Frontmatter, Mainmatter, and Back..., Game of Moose, GD Test Book 19-5-28, GD Test Book 19/05/06, Hello Book Testing Icons etc. At the bottom of the content area, there are two links: "myin-browserplaintexteditorbook-sample-preview.mobi" and "Read online". Below these links, a note says "To add a new cover image or change your current image, go [here](#) and upload a new image." A blue "Write" button is located in the top right corner of the content area.

This will take you back to the Write page:

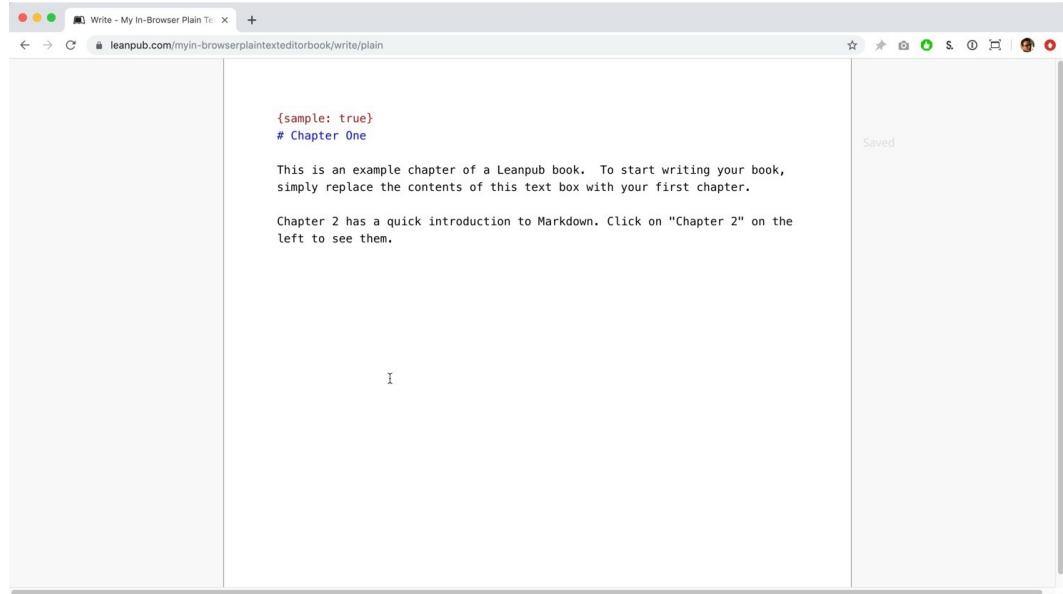
The screenshot shows a browser window for the URL leanpub.com/myin-browserplaintexteditorbook/write/plain. The page title is "Write - My In-Browser Plain Text Editor Book". The left sidebar has sections for Manuscript, Resources, Write (which is active), Settings, Preview, Publish, Versions, Import, and Export. The main content area shows a code editor with the following content:

```
{sample: true}
# Chapter One
```

A note below the code editor says "This is an example chapter of a Leanpub book. To start writing your book, simply replace the contents of this text box with your first chapter." Another note below it says "Chapter 2 has a quick introduction to Markdown. Click on "Chapter 2" on the left to see them." A blue "Save" button is located in the top right corner of the content area.

In this step of the tutorial we will show you how to write in your book, and how to add and delete chapters.

First, let's type something in the first chapter. Click into the page, and you'll see the editor changes to a "focus" mode, with less clutter, so you can focus when are writing:

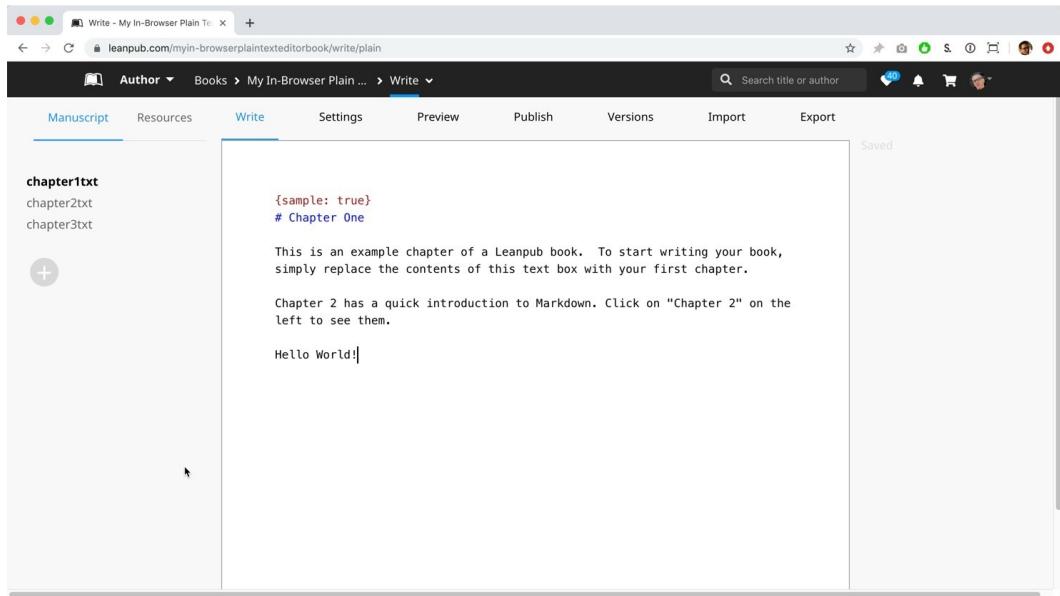


Next, hit the Enter or Return key a couple of times and then type Hello World!

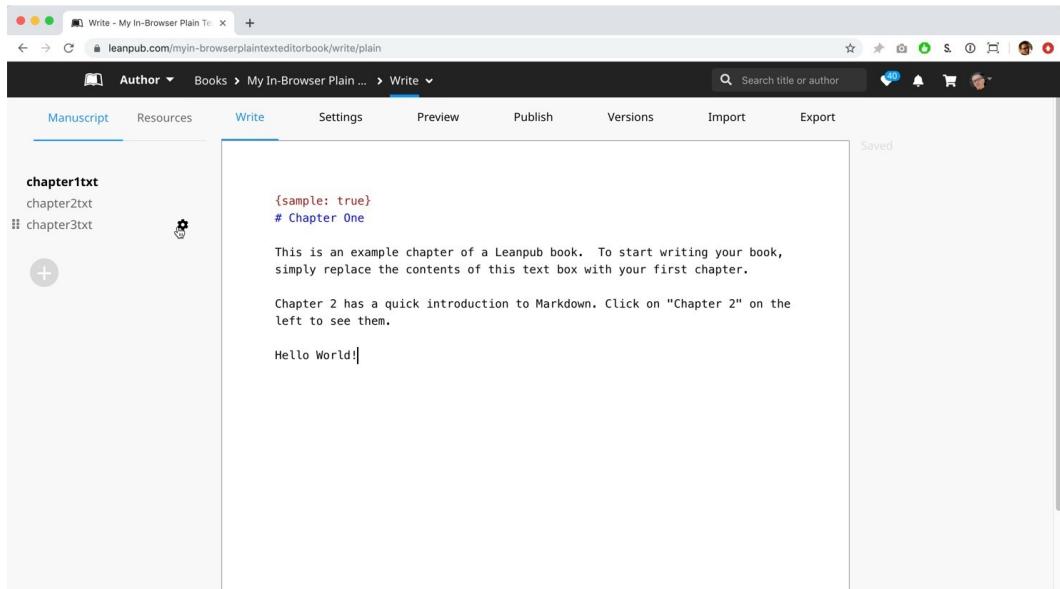


Any changes you type in the editor will be saved automatically.

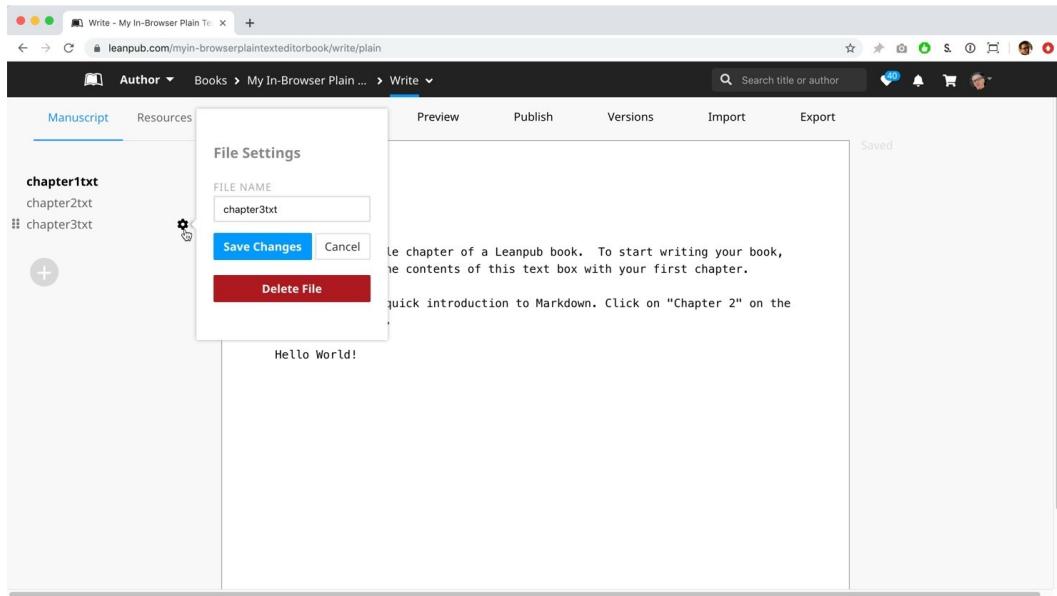
Next, let's delete a chapter. Click on the left side of the screen to bring back the chapter menu:



Hover your mouse over chapter3txt and click on the gear wheel icon you will see:

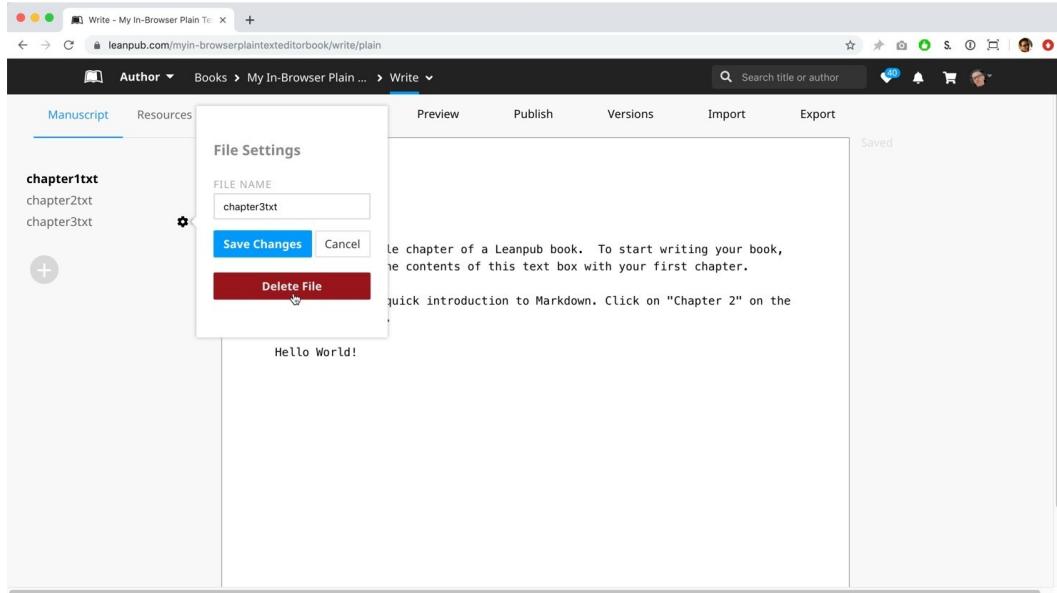


Now, you'll see a box appear called File Settings:

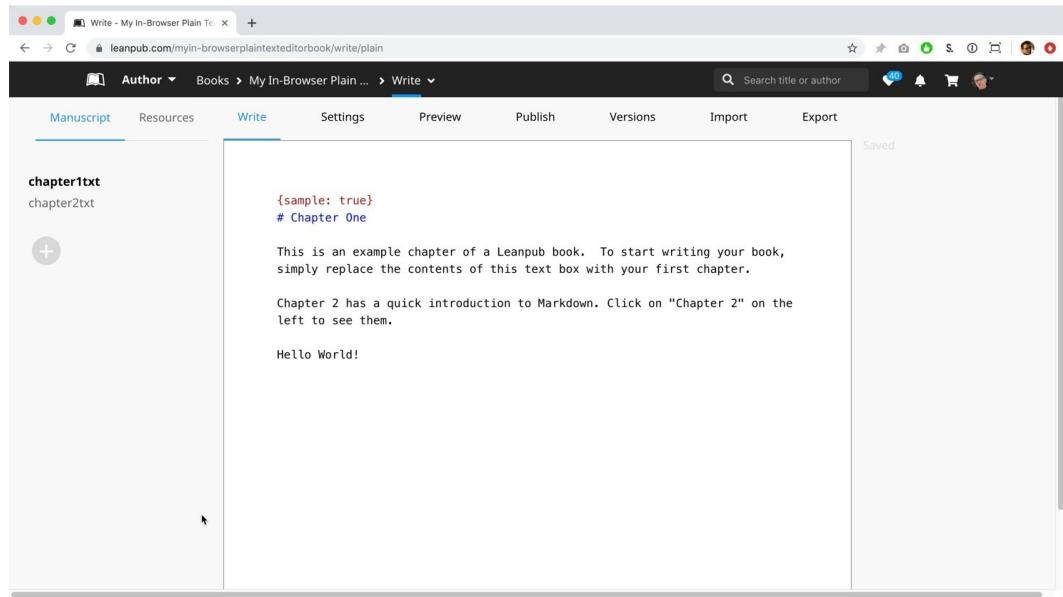


You can do a few things in the `File Settings` box, including rename the file.

We want to delete this chapter, so next, click the red “Delete File” button:

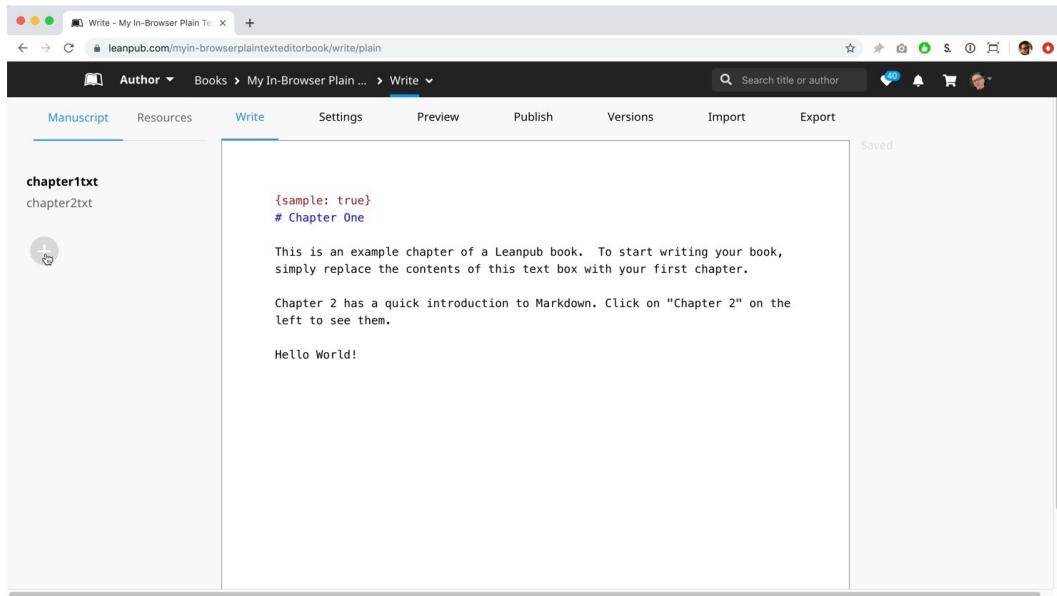


The chapter will now disappear from the menu at the left:

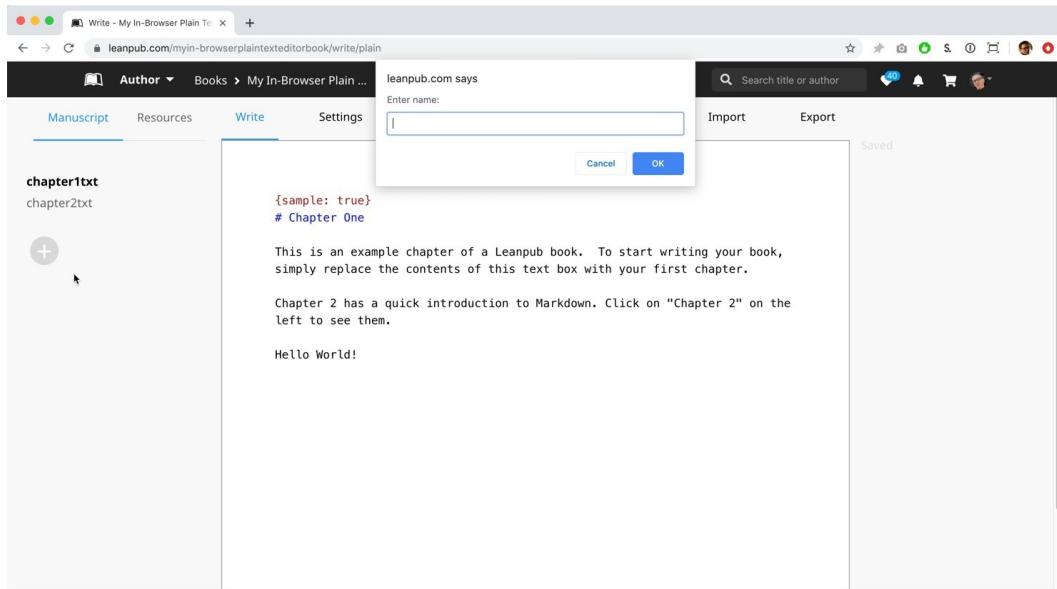


Next, let's create a new chapter.

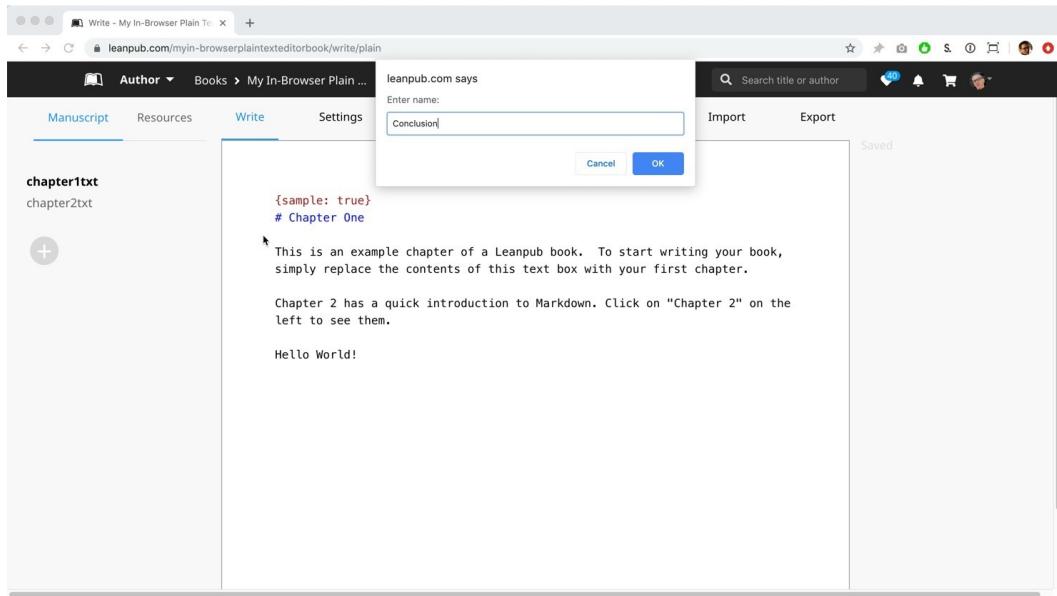
In the menu on the left, click on the + sign in the circle:



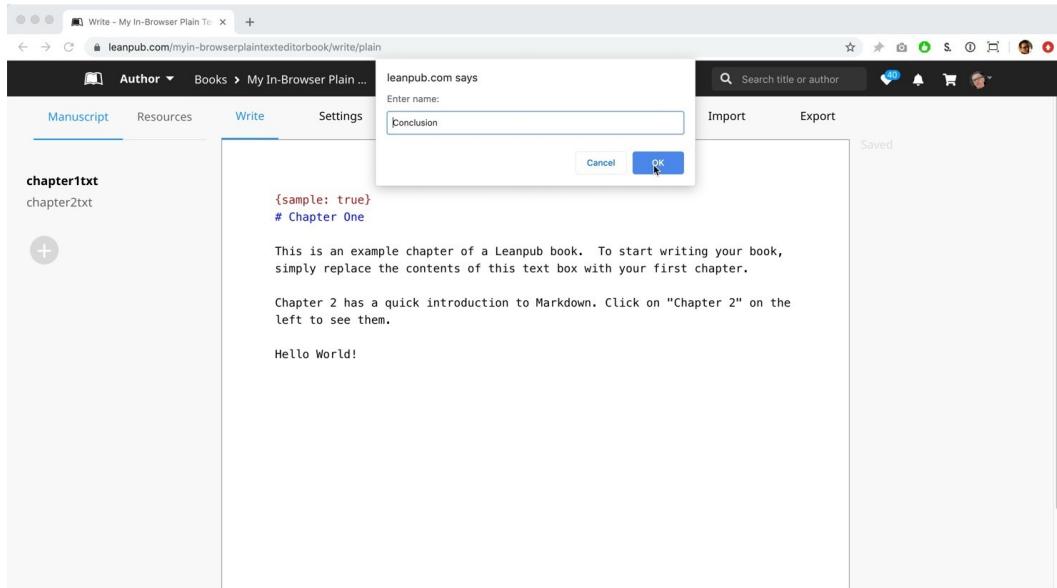
You will now see a box appear, where you can type a name for your new chapter:



Let's name this chapter Conclusion. First, type Conclusion in the box:



Then, click the blue OK button:

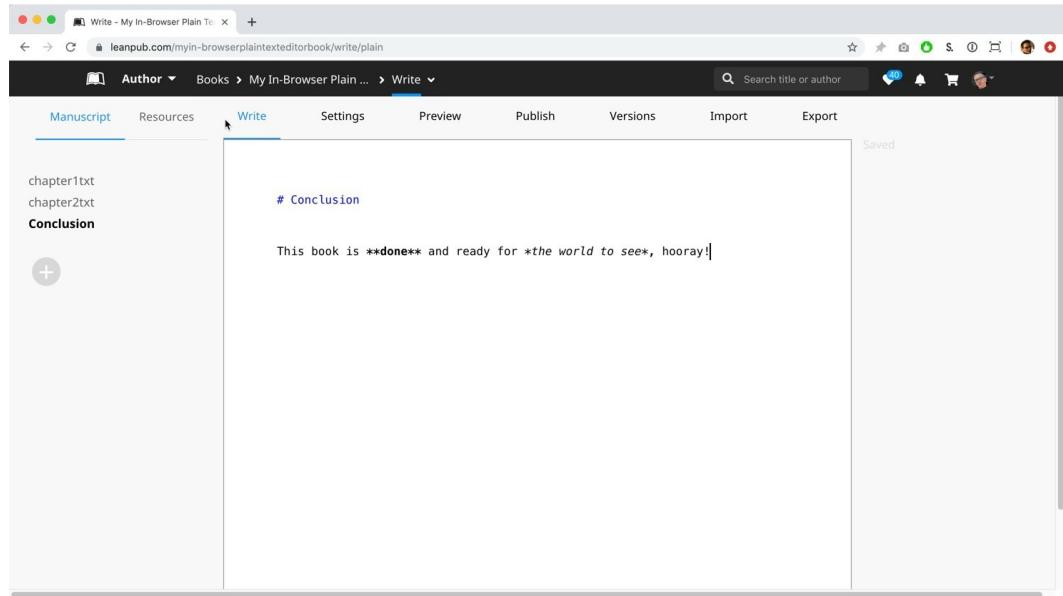


You will now see a chapter file on the left called “Conclusion.”

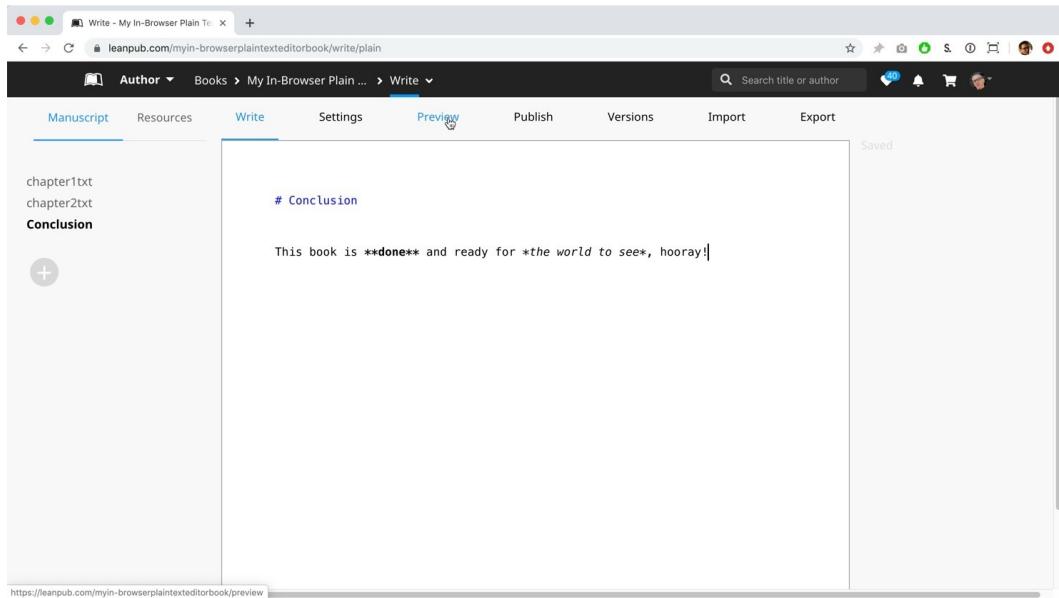
Now, you will see a blinking cursor in the Write tab. Type the following:

```
# Conclusion
```

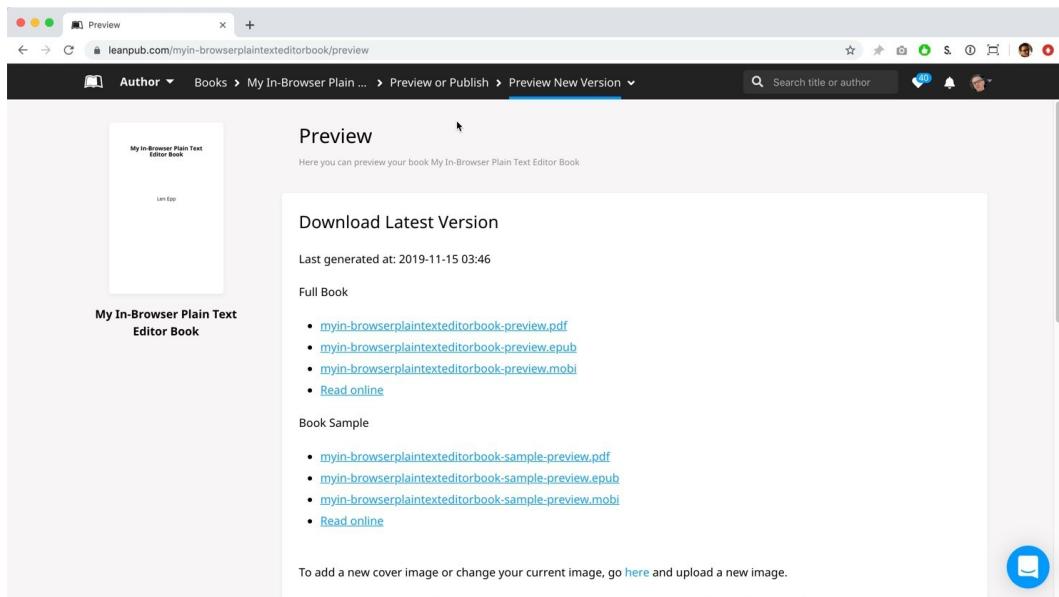
```
This book is **done** and ready for *the world to see*, hooray!
```



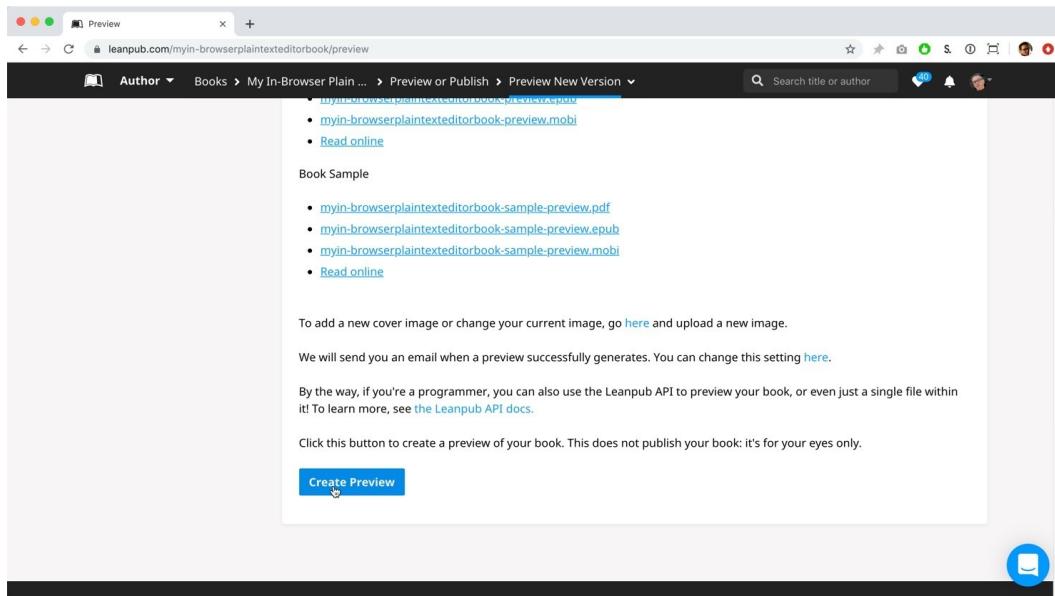
OK, let's make a new Preview, to see what the book looks like now. Click **Preview** at the top of the page:



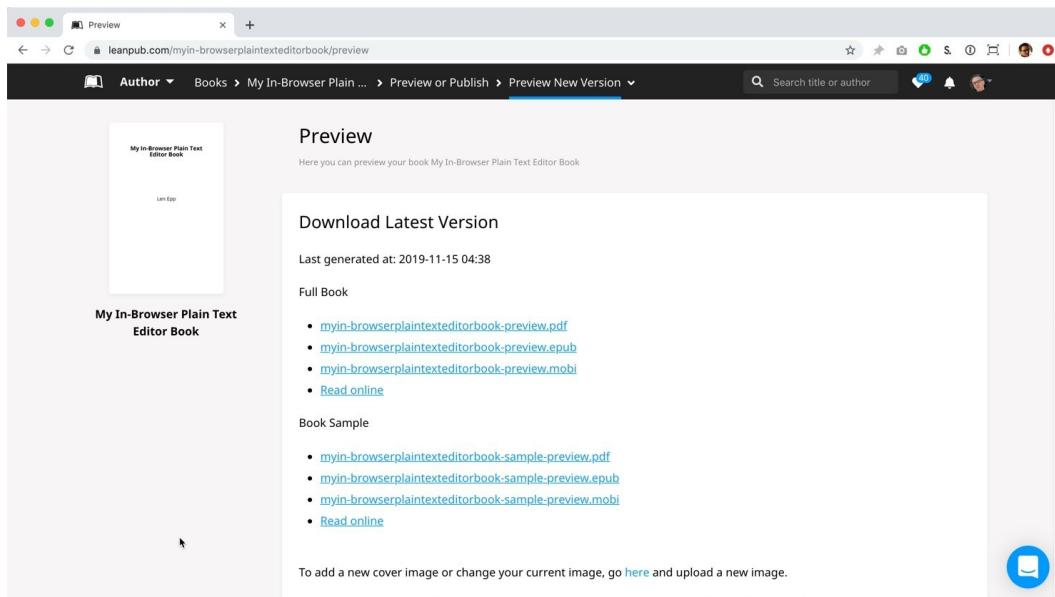
This will take you back to the Preview page for your book:



Scroll down to see the blue Create Preview button, and click on it, to generate a new Preview of your book:

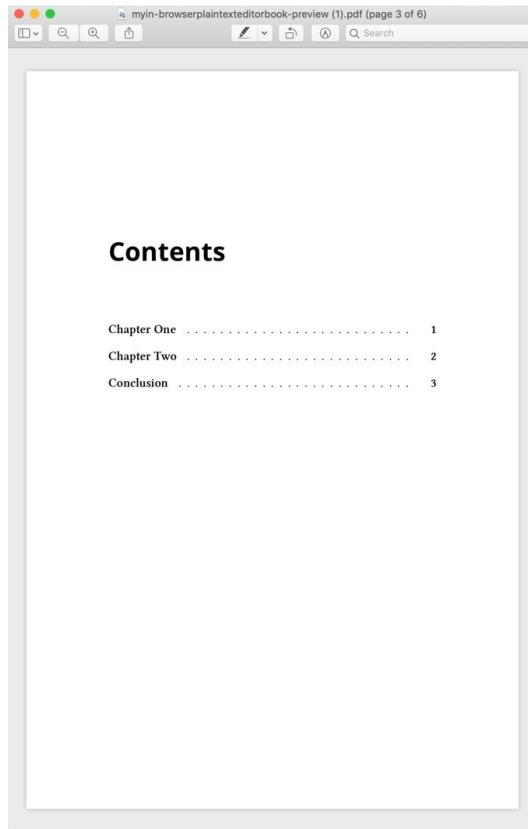


When the process completes, you will see the links, with an updated time stamp (the time is set to Coordinated Universal Time):

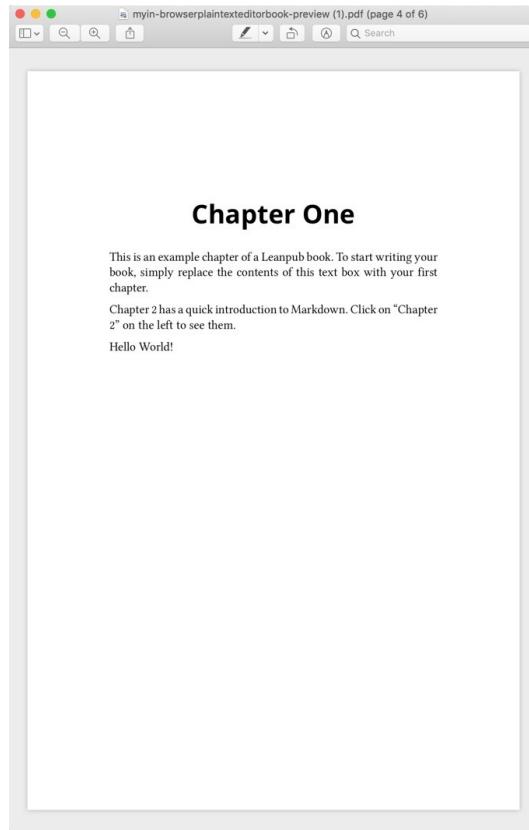


Click on the PDF download link at the top, like you did earlier in this walkthrough.

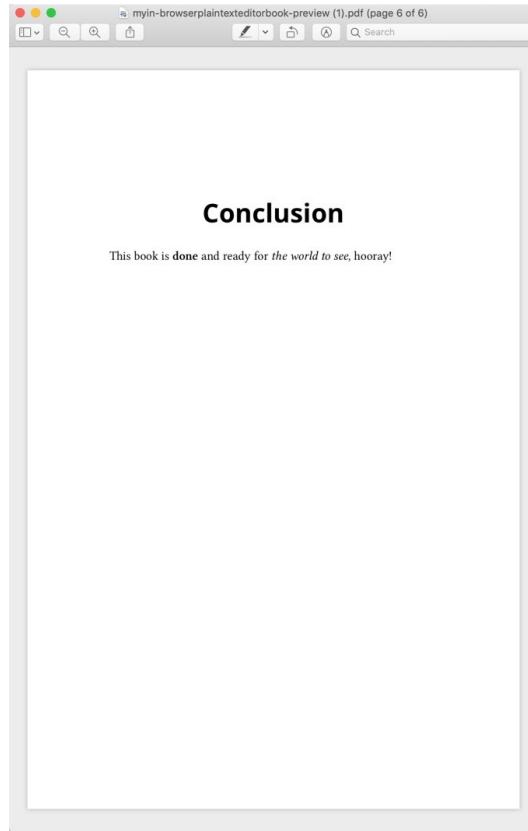
You will now see that there is a chapter called Conclusion in the table of contents:



Next, go to Chapter One, and you'll see Hello World! there now:



Finally, go to the end of the PDF, to see the Conclusion:



Congratulations! You've completed the Getting Started walkthrough for writing a book in Leanpub using our In-Browser Plain Text Editor.

Next Steps

Next, we recommend you explore the Overview page for your book:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Book Info > Overview

The screenshot shows the Leanpub Book Overview page for a book titled "My In-Browser Plain Text Editor Book" by Len Egg. The page is organized into several sections:

- ADMIN**: Delete Book, Embargo Mode, Preview Emails, Retire Book, Stealth Mode, Unpublish Book, Webhooks.
- BOOK INFO**: Authors, Book Details, Categories, Contributors, Get Embed HTML, Media, Preview Embed, Web Page URL.
- BOOK WEB PAGE**: About the Book, Book Status, Website.
- EXPORT**: InDesign, Print-Ready PDF, Unbranded Ebook.
- PREVIEW OR PUBLISH**: Manuscript Versions, Preview New Version, Publish New Version.
- STORE**: Analytics, Coupons, Extras, Individual Purchases.
- SETTINGS**: Book Theme, Generation Settings, Image Sizing Help, Markdown Dialect, Upload Book Cover, Writing Mode.
- IMPORT**: Blogger, HTML, Microsoft Word, Wattpad, WordPress.
- COMMUNITY**: Customers, Forum, Interested Readers, Reader Feedback, Social Media, Testimonials.
- WRITE**: Write Your Book.

Below the main menu, there's a section titled "METRICS FOR My In-Browser Plain Text Editor Book" showing "Total Book Purchases: 0". A timeline at the top right allows filtering by "Last 30 Days", "Last Three Months", or "All Time".

On the Overview page, you can see all the pages you need to get your book set up on Leanpub, like “Upload Book Cover” and the “Book Details” page, where you can explain what your book is about to potential readers.

You might also want to check out the Markua manual [here¹⁴](https://leanpub.com/markua/read):

¹⁴<https://leanpub.com/markua/read>

The screenshot shows a browser window with the URL leanpub.com/markua/read. The page title is "Read The Markua Manual | Leanpub". The main content area features a thumbnail of the book cover titled "The Markua Manual" by Peter Armstrong. Below the thumbnail is a blue button labeled "Buy on Leanpub". To the right of the thumbnail, the title "Introduction" is displayed in a large, bold, black font. Underneath it, the section "The Magical Typewriter" is also bolded. A paragraph of text follows, describing the benefits of using the magical typewriter. On the left side of the main content, there is a sidebar titled "Table of Contents" which lists various sections of the book.

Introduction

The Magical Typewriter

Imagine you owned a magical typewriter. When you used this magical typewriter, you wrote with fewer distractions. You didn't just write faster, you wrote better.

With your magical typewriter, you never worried about layout. The book formatted itself. You could hit a key on your magical typewriter to create an ebook from your manuscript with one click. All ebook formats would be created, and they'd all look good. You'd have PDF for computers, MOBI for Kindle, and EPUB for everywhere else. The book would look great on phones.

With your magical typewriter, you could publish your book before it was even done, and get feedback from readers all over the world. You could automatically share book updates with them. You would press one key on your magical typewriter to publish a new version, and all your readers would have it instantly.

With your magical typewriter, you could easily compare your current manuscript to any other version of your manuscript that had ever existed.

Markua is the name of the manuscript markup system you use to write books in plain text on Leanpub. It's easy to learn the basics you need to write most books. In fact you know some Markua already: in this tutorial, when you created the Conclusion chapter, you learned to type # at the beginning of a line to make a chapter heading!

If you have any questions or can't find anything, please search our Help Center for authors here: <http://help.leanpub.com/author-help¹⁵>.

You can also reach out to our friendly and knowledgeable community of successful Leanpub authors here: <https://community.leanpub.com/c/authors¹⁶>.

Happy writing!

¹⁵<http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>

¹⁶<https://community.leanpub.com/c/authors>

Getting Started with Dropbox Writing Mode

You can write a Leanpub book using Dropbox. In this chapter we'll show you how to create a book and generate your first preview.

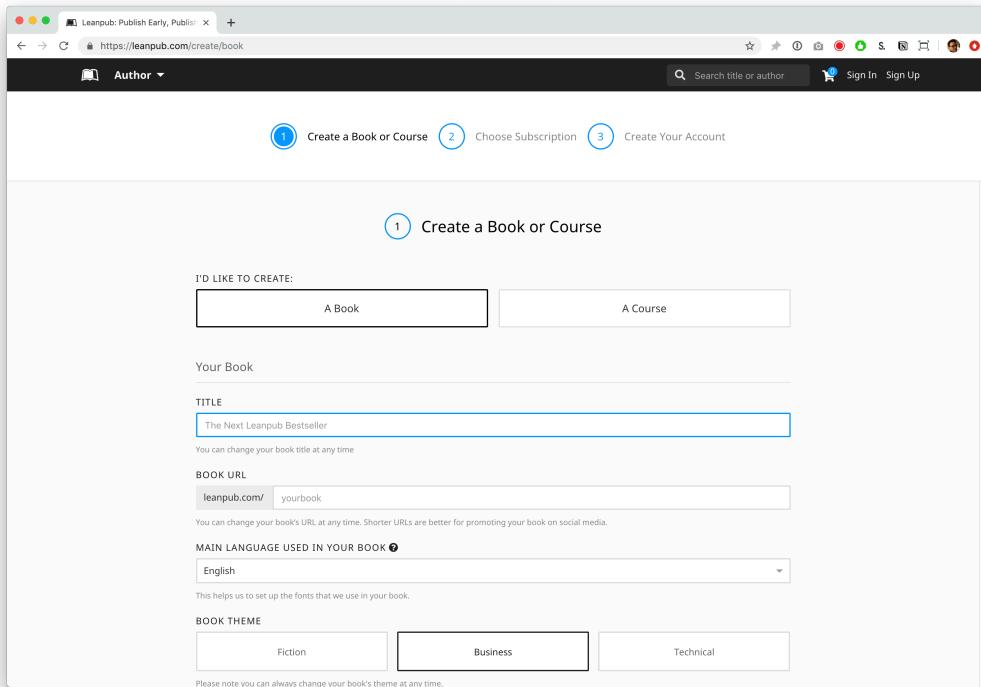
Once you have successfully generated your first preview, you'll know everything you know to get started writing in the Dropbox writing mode.

You'll find more information and detailed instructions on the "Getting Started" page for your book, which you'll go to automatically when you create your book.

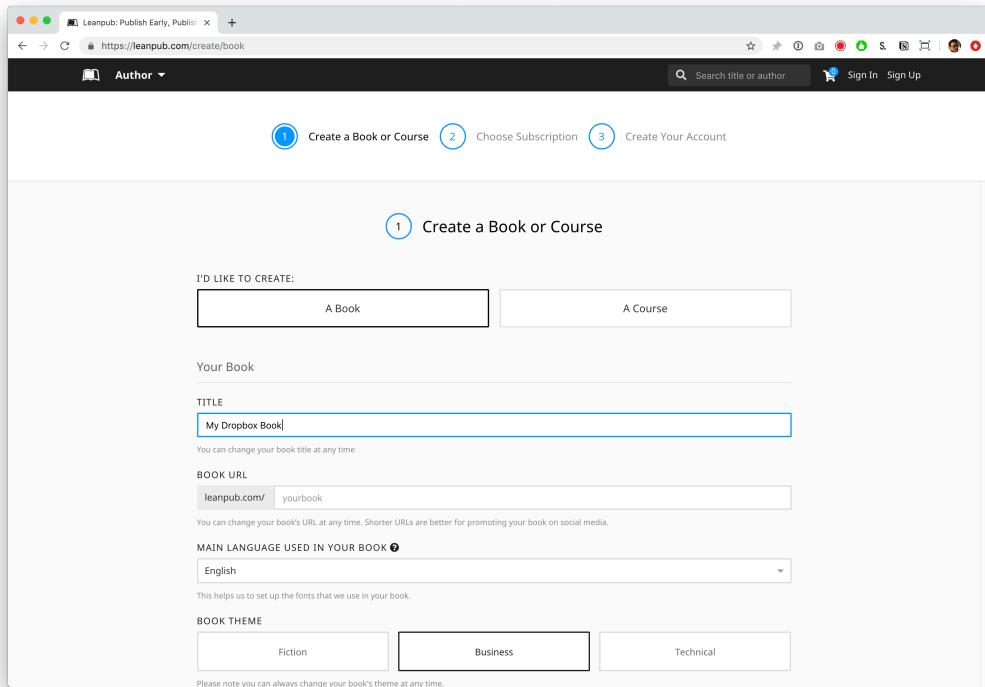
Creating a Book in Dropbox Writing Mode

Go to <https://leanpub.com/create/book>¹⁷ to create a new book in Dropbox.

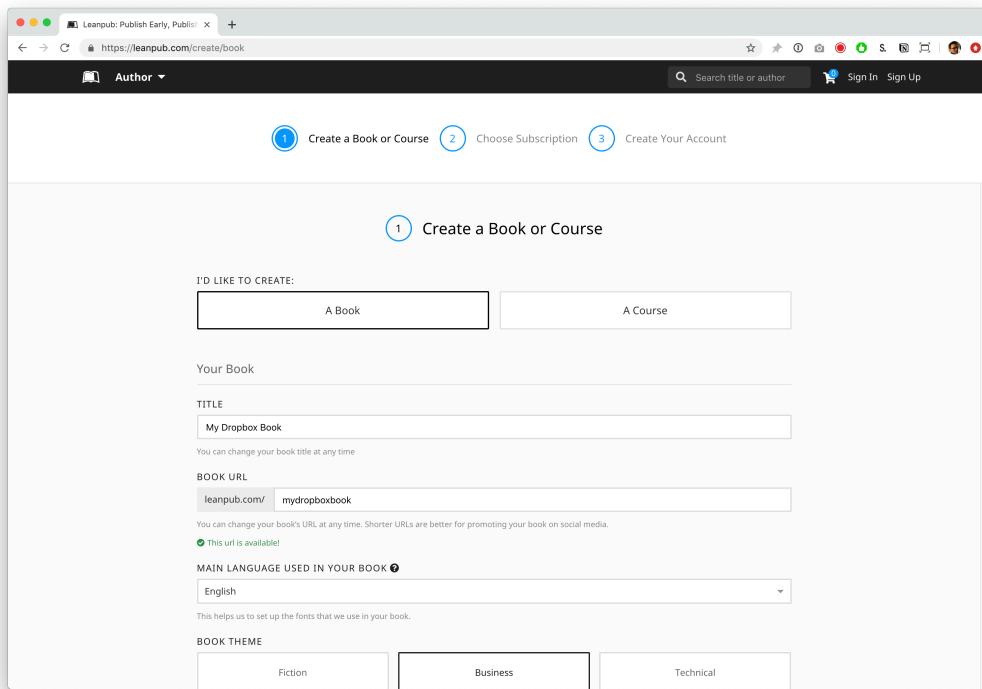
¹⁷<https://leanpub.com/create/book>



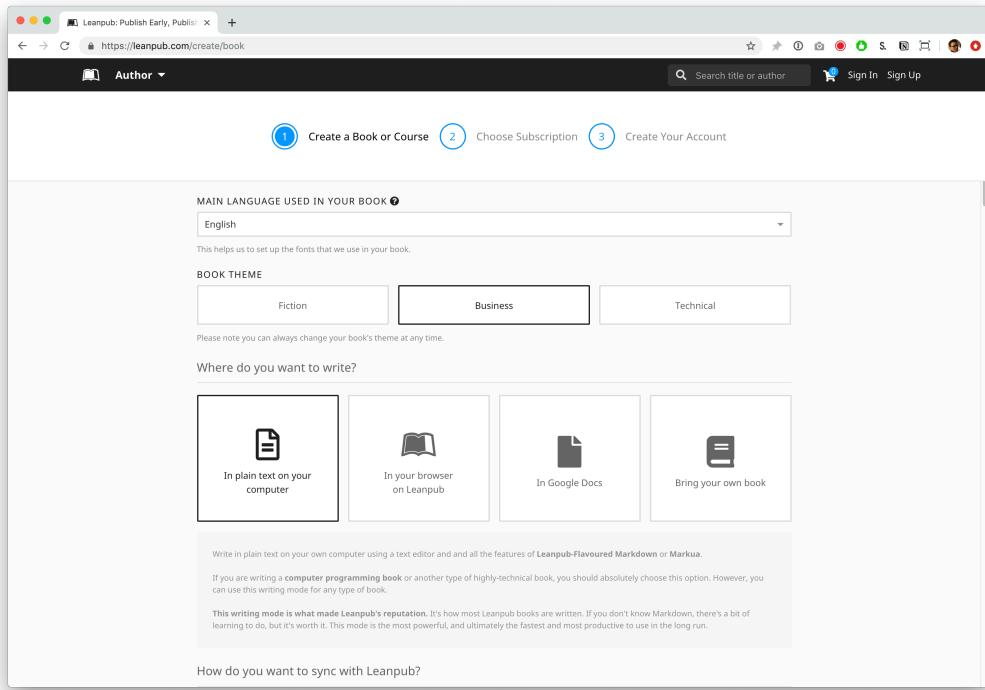
Next, type a title for your book into the “TITLE” box. You can change your title later.



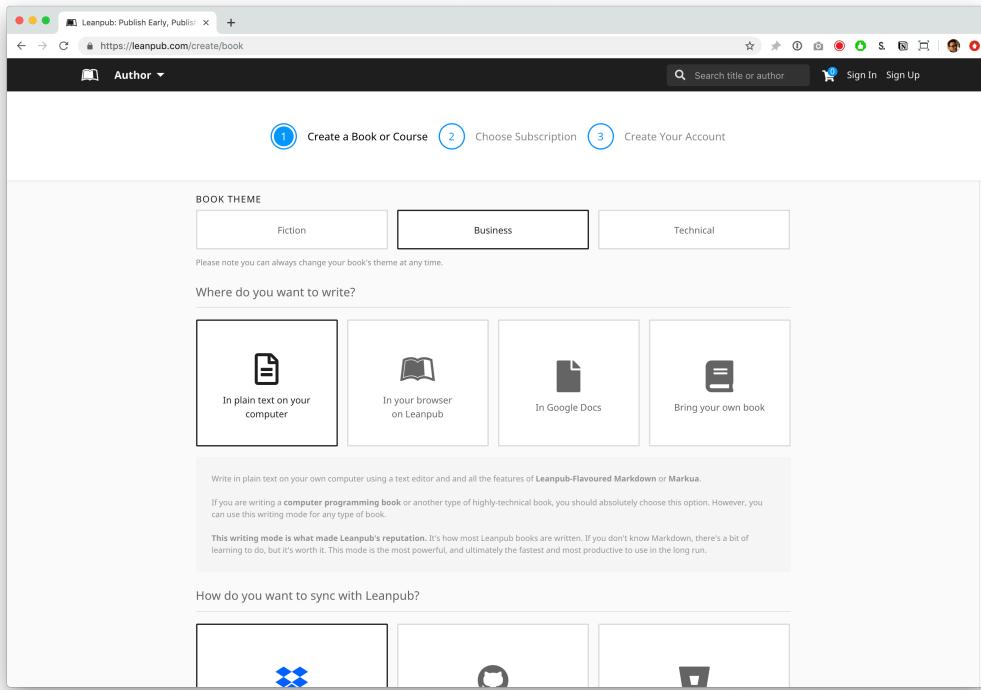
Click in the “BOOK URL” box. Leanpub will automatically suggest a URL for your book’s web page on Leanpub. You can change this URL at any time.



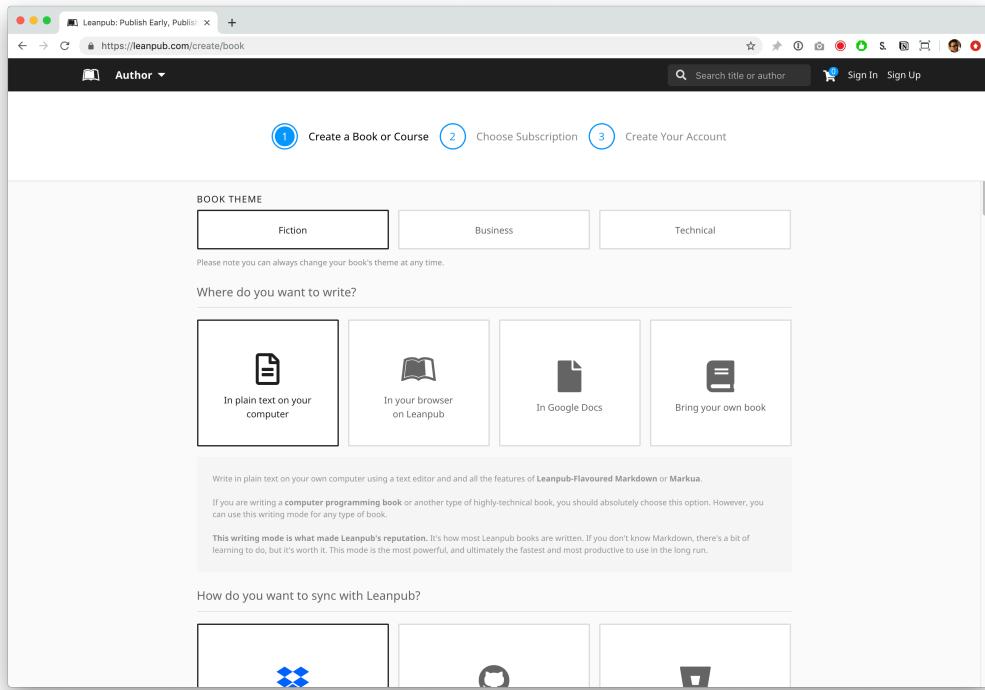
Scroll down and you will see “MAIN LANGUAGE USED IN YOUR BOOK.” You can select a language from the drop-down. Like the other settings, you can change this at any time.



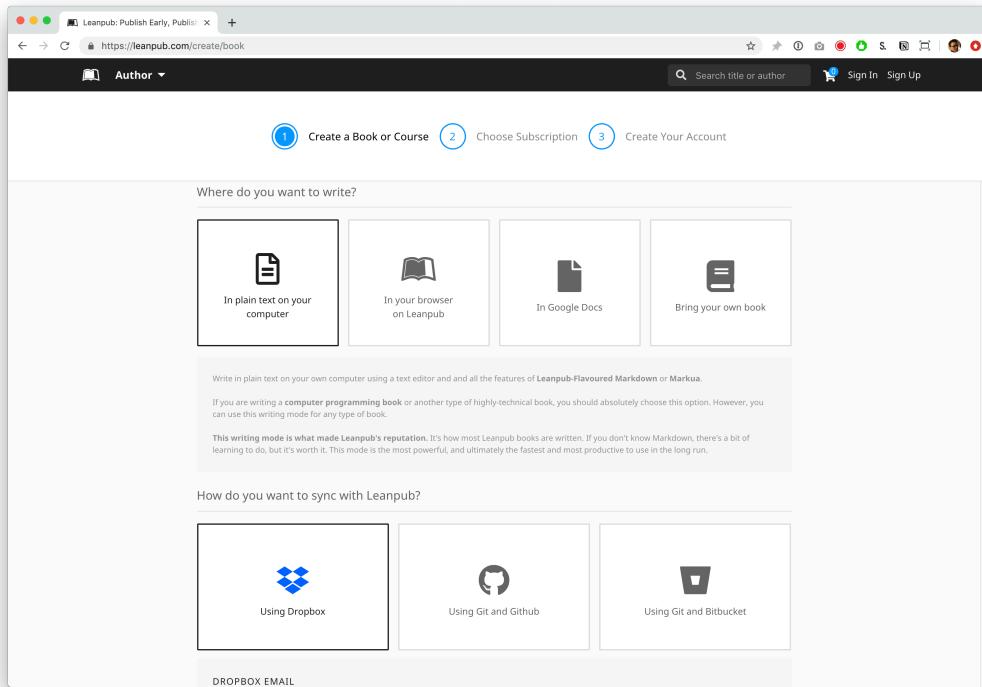
Scroll down and you will see the “BOOK THEME” options. “Business” will be selected by default. The Book Theme is just a set of standard formatting options conventional for books on these subjects. You are not required to choose any particular option. You can change your Book Theme at any time.



For this tutorial, we selected the “Fiction” Book Theme.



In the section below, you will be presented with various Writing Mode options. For this tutorial, you don't need to do anything, because writing on your computer in Dropbox is selected by default.



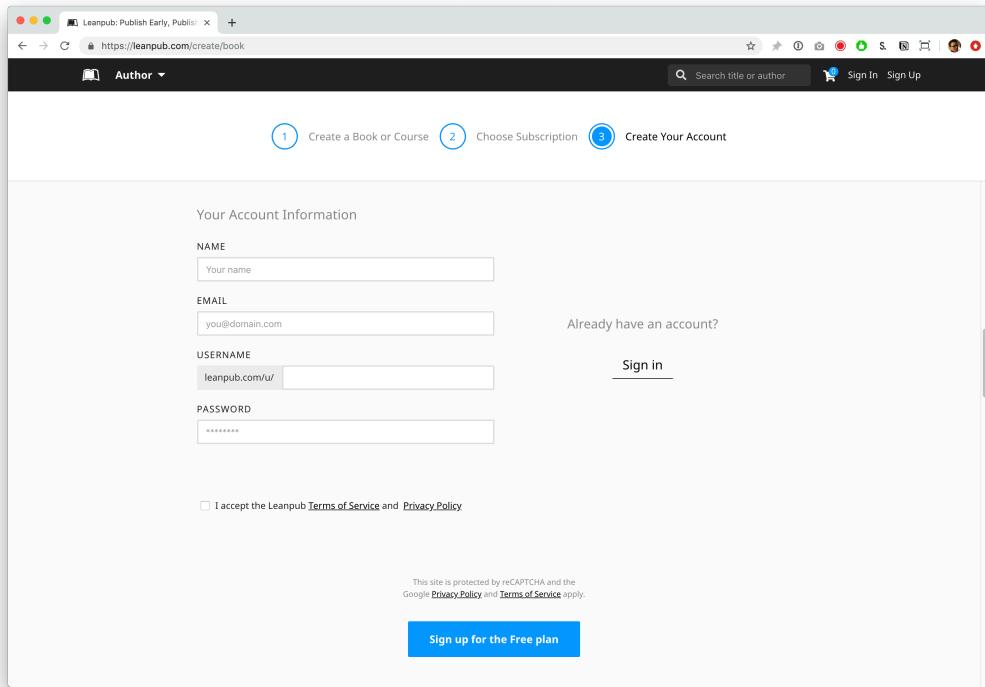
When you scroll down, you will see the subscription plan options. By default, “Free” will be selected. If you have a paid Leanpub account already, you will see that plan selected automatically.

Select a plan.

The screenshot shows the Leanpub website at <https://leanpub.com/create/book>. At the top, there are three numbered steps: 1. Create a Book or Course, 2. Choose Subscription, and 3. Create Your Account. Step 2 is highlighted. Below this, the title "Choose Subscription" is centered. Three subscription plans are listed: FREE, STANDARD, and PRO. Each plan has a table of features and their availability.

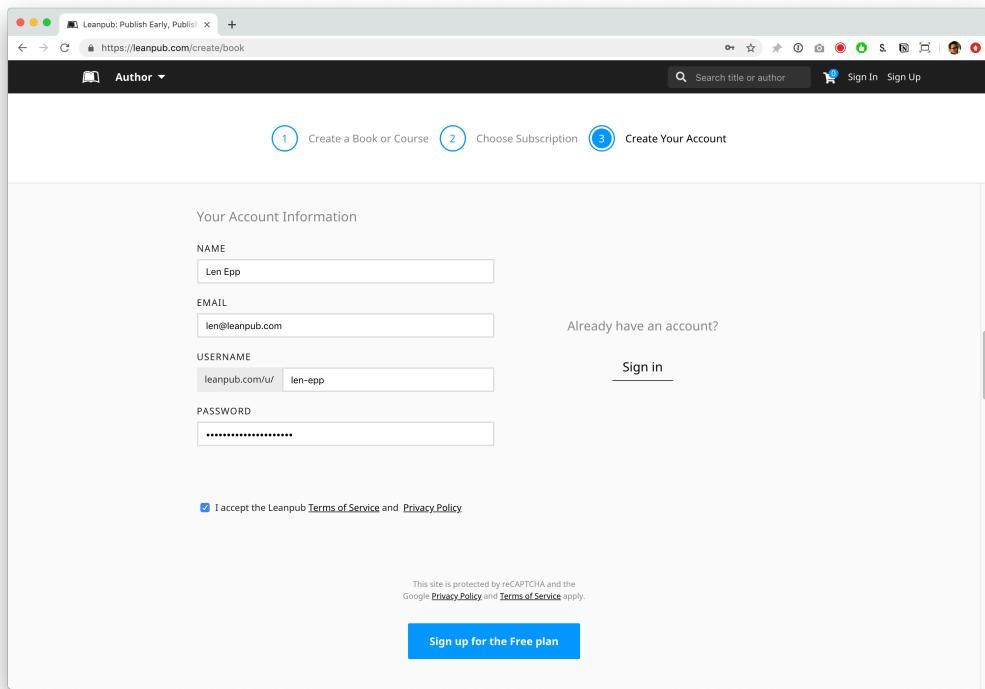
| FREE | STANDARD | PRO |
|---|---|---|
| Number of books or courses you can create 100 | Number of books or courses you can create 100 | Number of books or courses you can create 100 |
| Royalty Rate 80% | Royalty Rate 80% | Royalty Rate 80% |
| Standard Themes ✓ | Standard Themes ✓ | Standard Themes ✓ |
| Custom Themes ✗ | Custom Themes ✓ | Custom Themes ✓ |
| Google Analytics ✗ | Google Analytics ✗ | Google Analytics ✓ |
| InDesign Export ✗ | InDesign Export ✗ | InDesign Export ✓ |
| Preview or publish up to ten times per month 10 | Preview or publish an unlimited number of times ∞ | Preview or publish an unlimited number of times ∞ |
| Free | \$8.99 / month | \$12.99 / month |

Scroll down and, if you are not signed in to a Leanpub account, you will see an option to enter information to create a new account. You will also see an option to sign in, if you already have a Leanpub account.

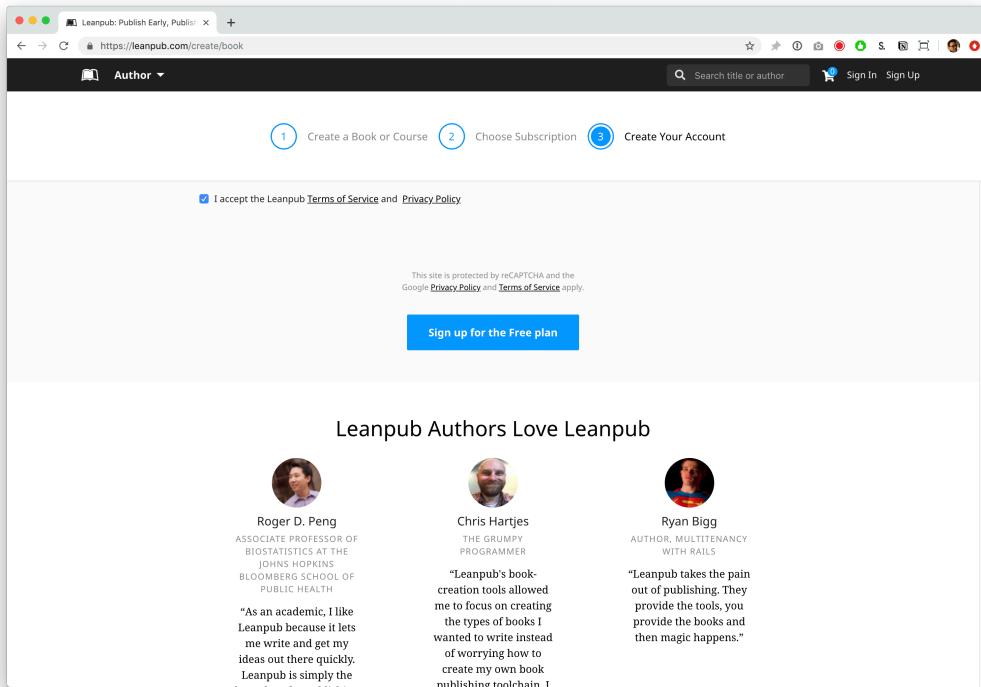


To create a new account, fill in the relevant information.

In Dropbox mode, you should use the same email address for Leanpub as you do for your Dropbox account. If you don't have Dropbox account, you can get one for free here:



Finally, click the blue button to finish creating your new Dropbox book.



You will now see that you are on the Getting Started page for your book. You will see a progress bar at the top of the page, while our book generators are creating your new book.

If you use bookmarks in your web browser, we recommend you bookmark this page in your web browser in a bookmark folder for your book, but this is not required.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mydropboxbook/getting_started. The page title is "Getting Started". It features a large image of an open book icon and the text "My Dropbox Book". The main content area says "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Dropbox Book!". It provides instructions for accepting a Dropbox invitation, creating a first preview, and navigating the Leanpub author interface.

Getting Started

This is a short tutorial on how to get started previewing and editing your book. It should take between 5 and 15 minutes to complete.

Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Dropbox Book!

This is a **short tutorial** to help you get started. It should take around **5 minutes**.

By the end of this tutorial, you'll understand how to edit your book in Leanpub and how to generate previews of your book.

If any part of this tutorial is not clear to you, then we recommend searching our [manual](#), visiting the [Leanpub Author Help Center](#), emailing our friendly team at hello@leanpub.com, or joining the very helpful [Leanpub Google Group](#).

Step 1: Accept Your Dropbox Shared Folder Invitation

In the **next few minutes**, you will receive an email or a notification from Dropbox with a folder sharing request. You need to accept this invitation before proceeding to Step 2 of this tutorial.

If you don't have Dropbox installed already, you will need to install it on your computer. You can do that [here](#) for free.

After you accept the invitation, in the Dropbox folder on your computer you will see that we have shared a folder with you called `mydropboxbook`. This is where you will write your book.

Step 2: Make Your First Preview

This is where the magic begins. When you click the button to create a preview of your book, we create multiple versions of it for you, that only you can see:

Look at the Author “breadcrumb” menu at the top of the screen. This is how you will navigate to the web pages you will be using in Leanpub to work on your book and see all the features we provide, like uploading a book cover, or setting a price for your book.

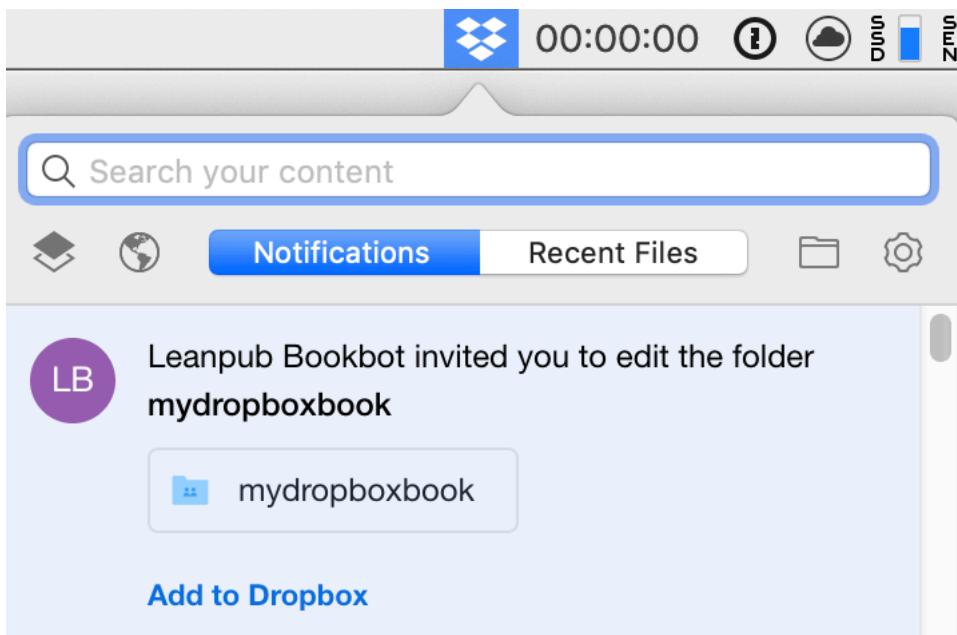
When you are finished this tutorial, we recommend you explore the various Author options.

Setting Up Your Book In Dropbox

When you clicked the button to create your book, Leanpub’s Bookbot created a folder for your book in Dropbox, and sent a Dropbox shared folder invitation to the email address you used when you signed up.

It may take one or two minutes for you to receive the Dropbox shared folder invitation.

To accept the invitation, you can click on the Dropbox icon in the menu bar for your computer (these images are on a Mac; if you are using a PC, it will look different.)



Click “Add to Dropbox.”

Alternatively, you can accept the invitation by logging in to Dropbox. You should see the book invitation near the top of the “Home” screen:

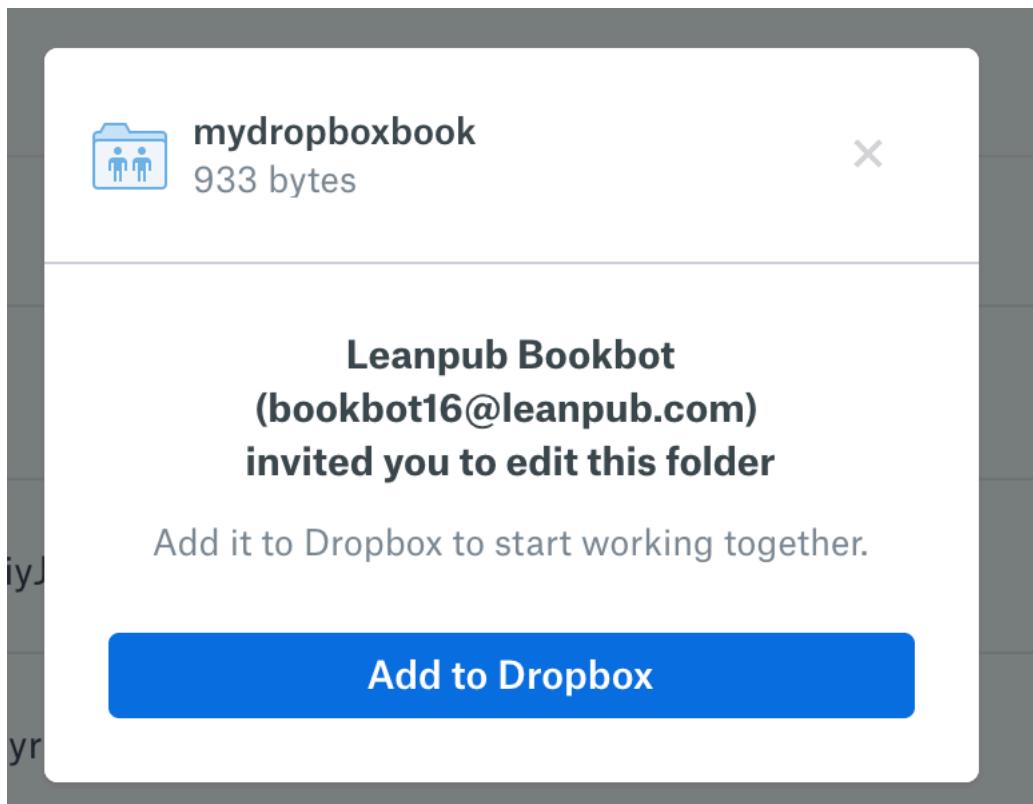
Home

Unread

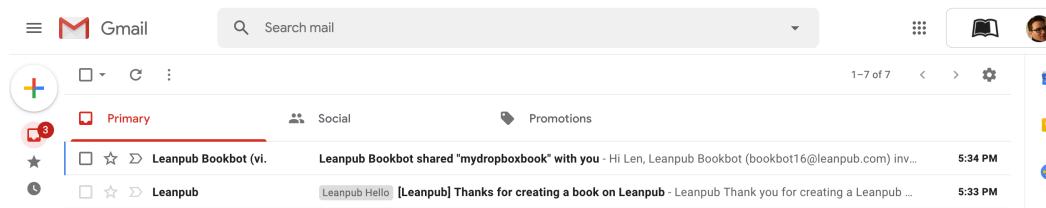
-
-  mydropboxbook
 - Leanpub Bookbot invited you 4 mins ago

You've just created a new Leanpub book titled My Dropbox Book at https://leanpub.com/mydropboxbook/getting_started. Click on the "Go to folder" button at the bottom of this email to accept this sharing request. Once you accept this sharing request,
-

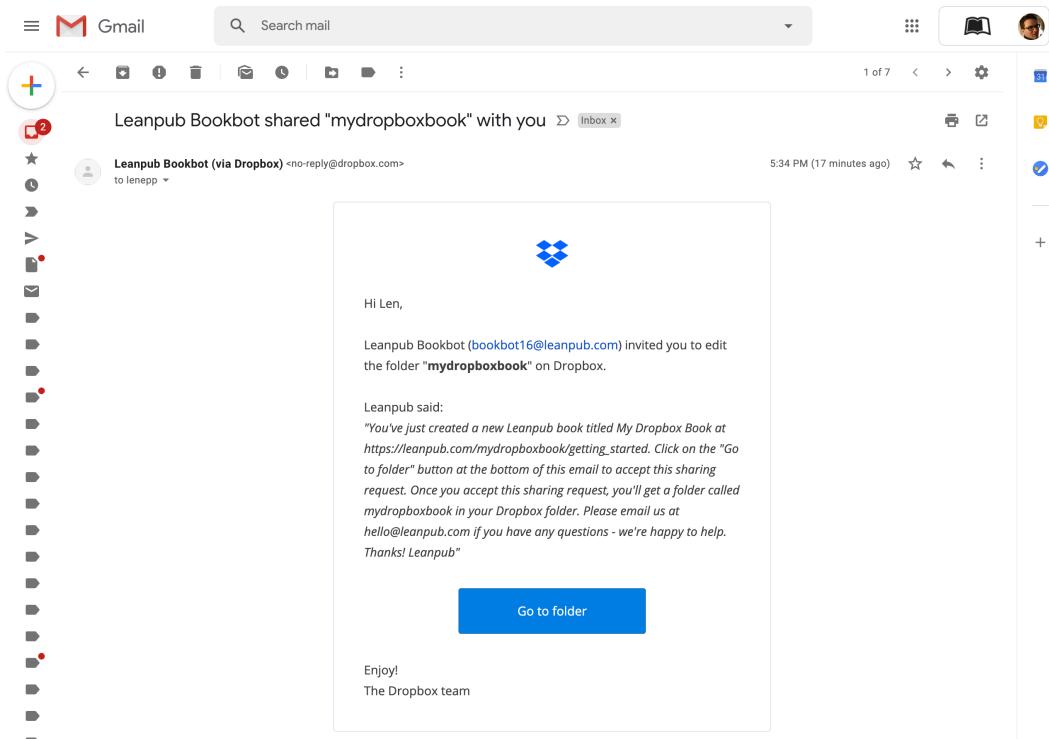
If you click on the invitation, you will be able to click “Add to Dropbox:”



Another way to accept the Dropbox invitation is in your email. Here is what it looks like in Gmail:



If you open the email, you should see a button that takes you to your Dropbox account in your browser, and then lets you accept the invitation:



Within a minute or two, in your Dropbox folder on your computer, you should see the folder for your new book:



Creating a Preview

To create your first preview, using the default content we included in your new book, go back the Getting Started page for your book:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mydropboxbook/getting_started. The page title is "Getting Started". A sidebar on the left features a thumbnail image of an open book with the text "My Dropbox Book" below it. The main content area starts with a heading "Getting Started" and a sub-section "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Dropbox Book!". Below this, there is a short tutorial with instructions and links to help and support. The page is divided into two main steps: "Step 1: Accept Your Dropbox Shared Folder Invitation" and "Step 2: Make Your First Preview". Each step contains descriptive text and links. A blue speech bubble icon is located in the bottom right corner of the main content area.

Click on “Getting Started” at the top, and you will see the Author menu. It will look something like this:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mydropboxbook/getting_started. The page is titled 'Getting Started | My Dropbox'. The main content area displays a navigation menu with sections like 'Author', 'Books', 'My Dropbox Book', 'Book Info', and 'Getting Started'. Under 'My Dropbox Book', there's a 'Your Books' section listing various book templates and files. The 'Book Info' section on the right includes tabs for 'Admin', 'Book Info', and 'Getting Started'. The 'Getting Started' tab is currently active, showing sub-options like 'Authors', 'Book Details', 'Categories', etc. A large text block provides instructions for Step 2 of the tutorial, mentioning email notifications and folder sharing requests. Below this, there are links for installing Dropbox and accepting invitations. A blue speech bubble icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

In the next few minutes, you will receive an email or a notification from Dropbox with a folder sharing request. You need to accept this invitation before proceeding to Step 2 of this tutorial.

If you don't have Dropbox installed already, you will need to install it on your computer. You can do that [here](#) for free.

After you accept the invitation, in the Dropbox folder on your computer you will see that we have shared a folder with you called `mydropboxbook`. This is where you will write your book.

Step 2: Make Your First Preview

This is where the magic begins. When you click the button to create a preview of your book, we create multiple versions of it for you, that only you can see:

Click on “Preview or Publish” under the “Book Info” column, and you will see something like this:

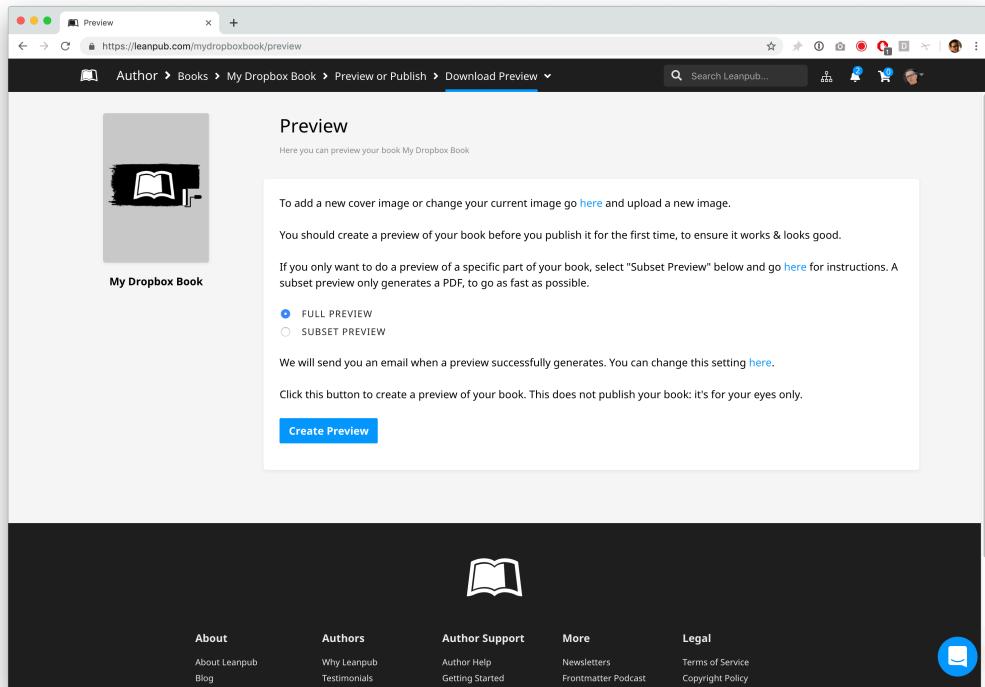
The screenshot shows the 'My Dropbox Book' interface. On the left, there's a sidebar with navigation links like 'Account', 'Author', 'Books', 'Courses', 'Metrics', 'Royalties', and 'University'. The main area shows a list of books under 'Your Books': '1GD Testing Book', '2018 Business Book Template', '2018 Fiction Book Template', '2018 Technical Book Template', 'A Million Lessons', 'A4 Paper Image Test', 'A5 Paper Image Test', 'Actual Google Docs Book To Check D...', 'AML Policy', 'Another Test Dropbox Book', 'asdfasdfasdf', 'Blurg', 'Changelog Example Book', and 'Coar Manual'. A dropdown menu titled 'Preview or Publish' is open over the first book, listing options: 'Admin', 'Book Info', 'Book Web Page', 'Community', 'Export', 'Import', 'Preview or Publish' (which is selected), 'Settings', and 'Store'. Below the list of books, there's a note: 'IN THE NEXT FEW MINUTES, YOU WILL RECEIVE AN EMAIL OR A NOTIFICATION FROM DROPBOX WITH A FOLDER SHARING REQUEST. YOU NEED TO ACCEPT THIS INVITATION BEFORE PROCEEDING TO STEP 2 OF THIS TUTORIAL.' It also says 'If you don't have Dropbox installed already, you will need to install it on your computer. You can do that [here](#) for free.' and 'After you accept the invitation, in the Dropbox folder on your computer you will see that we have shared a folder with you called `mydropboxbook`. This is where you will write your book.'

Step 2: Make Your First Preview

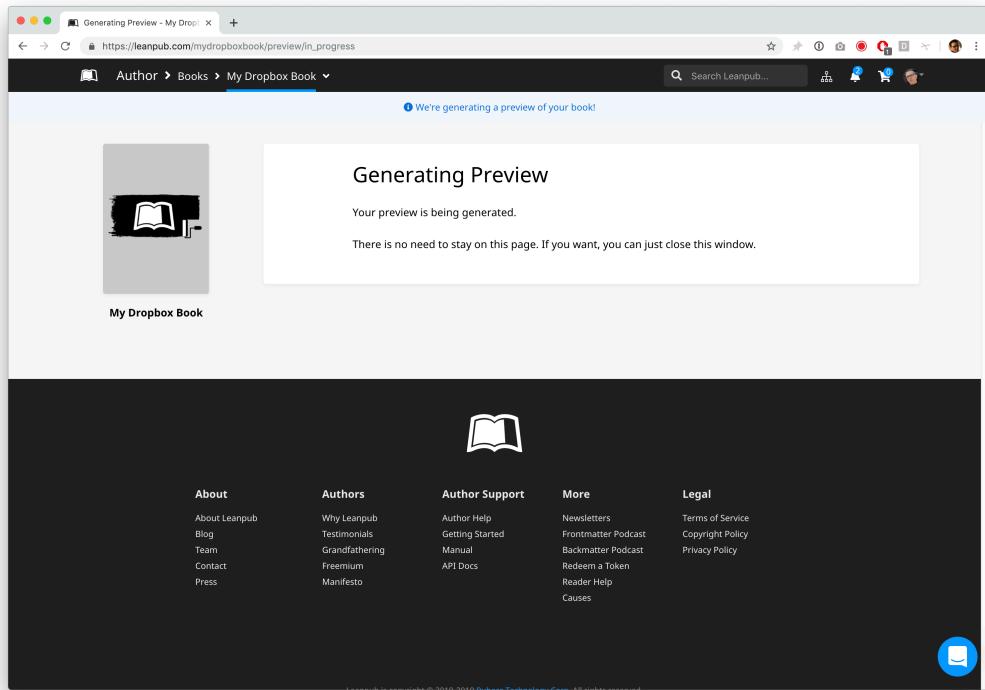
This is where the magic begins. When you click the button to create a preview of your book, we create multiple versions of it for you, that only you can see:



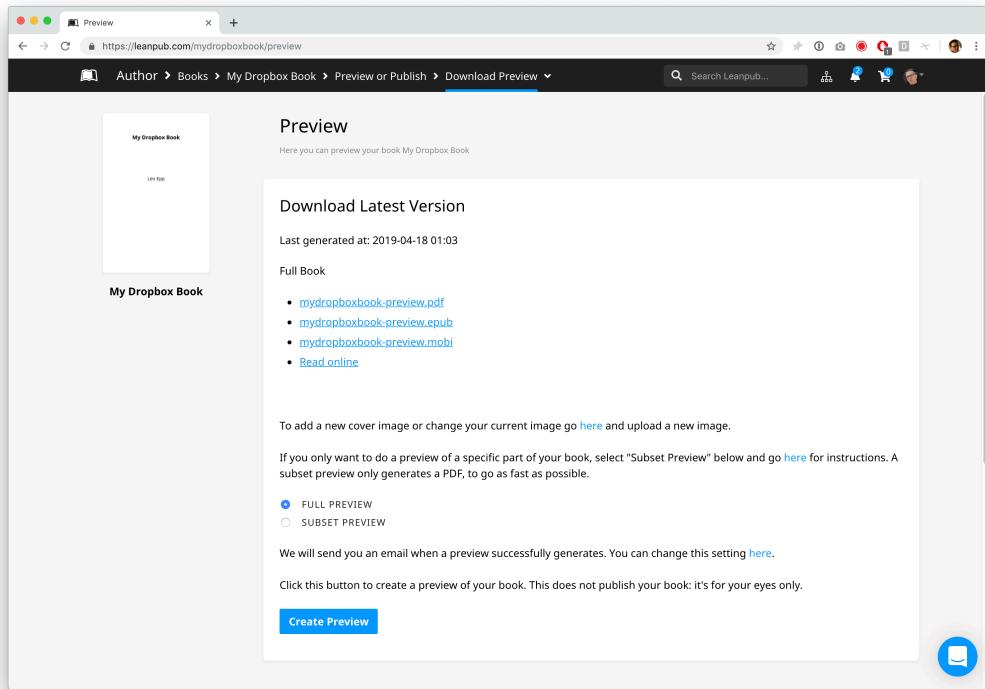
Select “Preview” in the column to the right, and you will go to the “Preview” page for your book:



Click the “Create Preview” button. You will go to a page like this, where you will see a progress bar at the top:



When the preview process is complete, you will see download links for the preview, in a variety of formats:



Click on the links to see what your book looks like in the various formats.

Writing in Your Book

Open your book folder in Dropbox. You'll see a folder named `manuscript` inside it. This is where you write your book.

If you have just created a new book, the `manuscript` folder will contain four files with the file name extension `.txt`. There will also be a folder called `resources`:

```
Book.txt
chapter1.txt
chapter2.txt
chapter3.txt
resources
```

Open the file called `chapter1.txt` by double-clicking on it. You can also open the file in any specific text editing software you prefer.

Next, delete the contents of the file and type:

```
# Chapter 1

Hello, world!
```

In your text editor, save this change.

Make a New Preview of Your Book

The next time you create a preview of your book, you will see that Chapter One has changed, and it now says “Hello, world!”

To create a new preview, repeat what you did when you made your first preview, by using the Author menu in Leanpub to go to:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Preview or Publish > Preview

How the List of Files in Book.txt Works

When you create a preview, you may not want our book generators to use all of the files in your `manuscript` folder. Also, you may want the contents of your book to reflect a different order than the order they are presented in, in your `manuscript` folder.

So, whenever you create a preview, our friendly bookbots generate your book using only the files that you have listed in the `Book.txt` file that is in your book’s `manuscript` folder, and they use those files in the order that you have listed them.

Let’s see how this works.

First, delete a file. In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file named `chapter3.txt` and delete it.

Now, let's rename a file. The files listed in `Book.txt` can have any name you want to give them. (To be clear, the files do not have to include the word "chatper" in the file name.)

In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file `chapter2.txt`.

Now, change the file name to `conclusion.txt` by right-clicking on the file and selecting "Rename." **(Your computer might show a different word than "Rename," but there should be an option to change any file's name if you right-click on the file.)

Now that we have changed the files in the `manuscript` folder, we need to update the list of files in the `Book.txt` file.

Using your text editor, open the `Book.txt` file.

In the `Book.txt` file, you will see this list of files, like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
chapter2.txt  
chapter3.txt
```

First, delete `chapter2.txt`. Then, delete `chapter3.txt`.

Next, on the second line, type `conclusion.txt`.

Now, your list of files in `Book.txt` will look like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
conclusion.txt
```

Next, open the file `conclusion.txt`.

Now, delete everthing in the file, and type this:

```
# Conclusion
```

```
This book is **done** and ready for *the world to see*, hooray!
```

Finally, save this change your text editor.

Go back to the preview page for your book at:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Preview or Publish > Preview

The next time you create a preview, it will reflect the changes you have made.

Congratulations! You've completed the Getting Started tutorial for writing a book in Leanpub using Dropbox.

Next Steps

Next, we recommend you explore the Overview page for your book:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Book Info > Overview

On the Overview page, you can see all the pages you need to get your book set up on Leanpub, like "Upload Book Cover" and the "Book Details" page, where you can explain what your book is about to potential readers.

If you have any questions or can't find anything, please search our Help Center for authors here: <http://help.leanpub.com/author-help¹⁸>.

Happy writing!

¹⁸<http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>

Getting Started with Git and GitHub Writing Mode

You can write a Leanpub book using Git and GitHub. In this chapter we'll show you how to create a book and generate your first preview.

Once you have successfully generated your first preview, you'll know everything you know to get started writing in the GitHub writing mode.

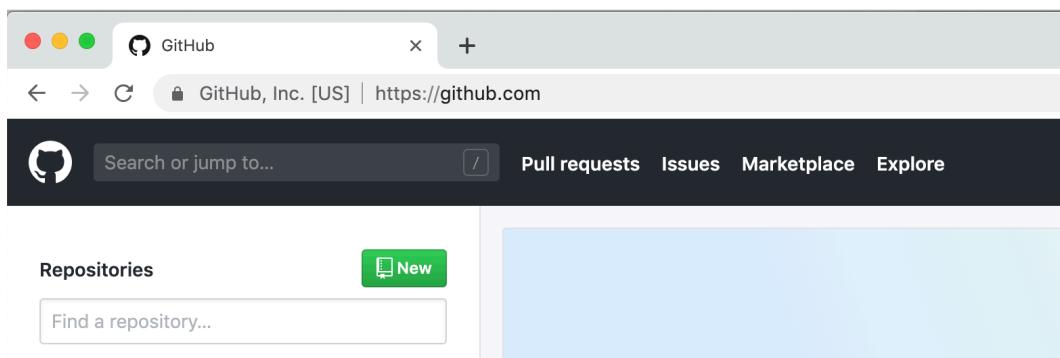
You'll find more information and detailed instructions on the "Getting Started" page for your book, which you'll go to automatically when you create your book.

Creating Your Book's GitHub Repository

The first thing you need to do is create a repository for your book on GitHub.

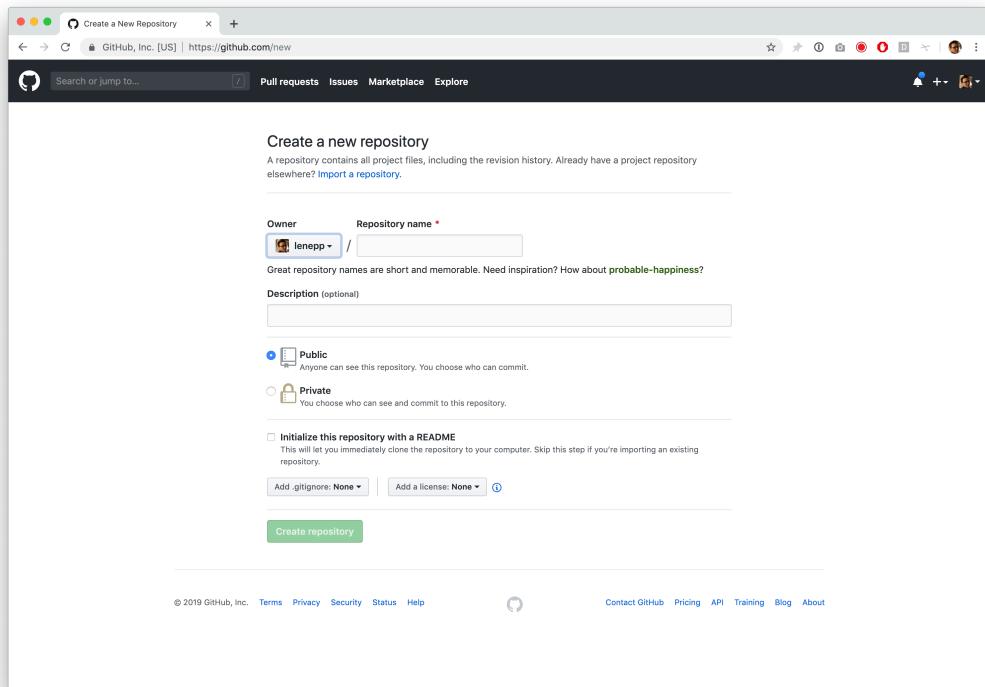
To do this, go to <https://github.com>¹⁹ and sign in.

Click the green "New" button to the right of the list of Repositories.

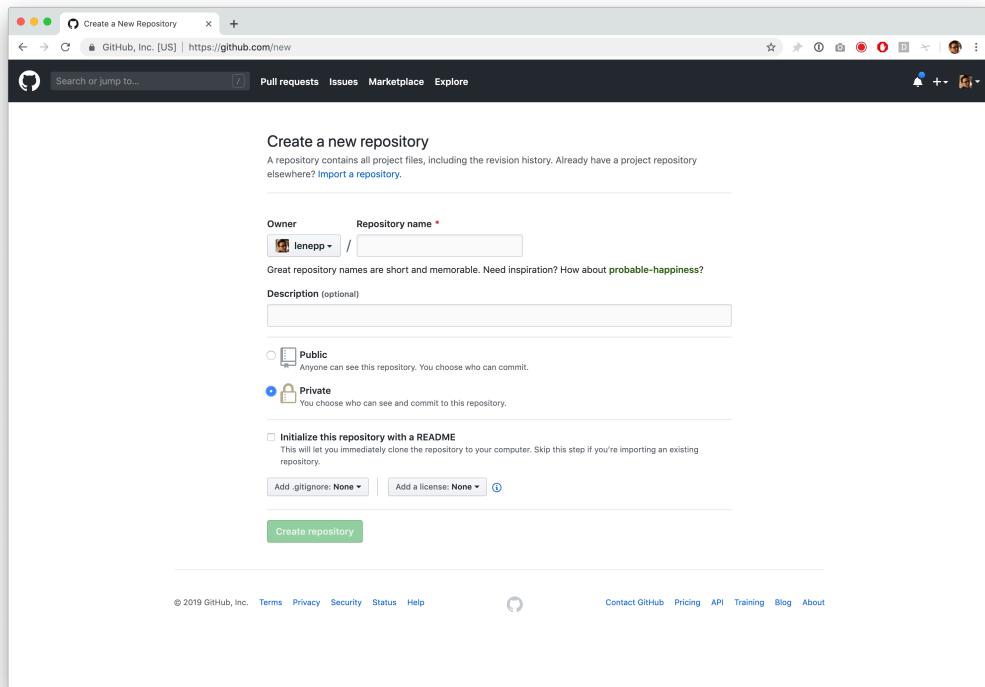


This will take you to a page where you can set up a new repository for your Leanpub book.

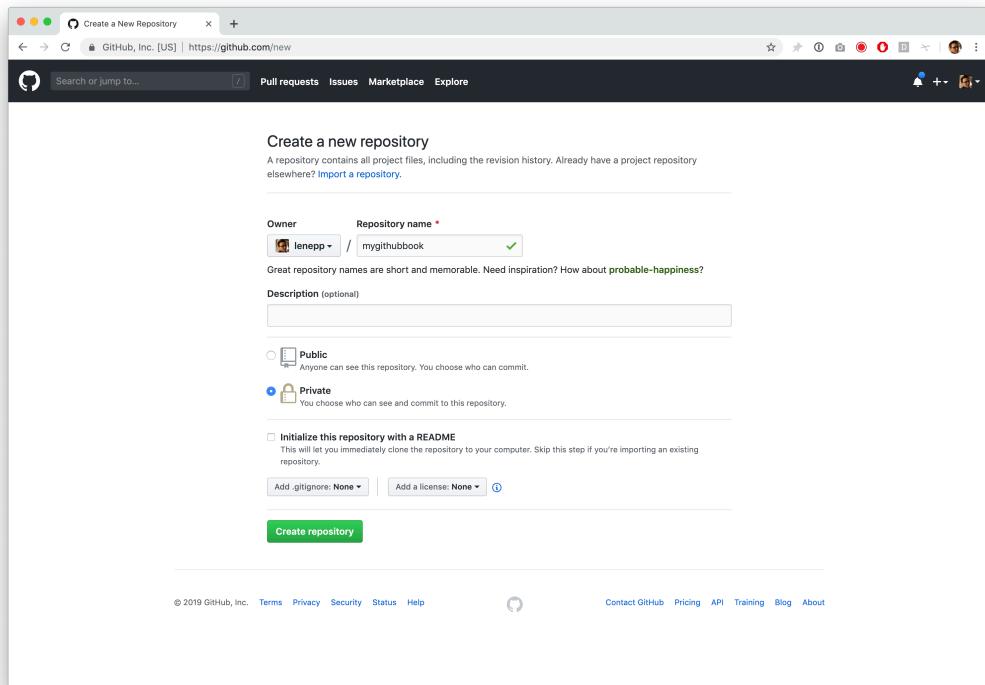
¹⁹<https://github.com>



By default, “Public” will be selected. This means anyone can see your repository. Select “Private” if you don’t want anyone to be able to see your repository.

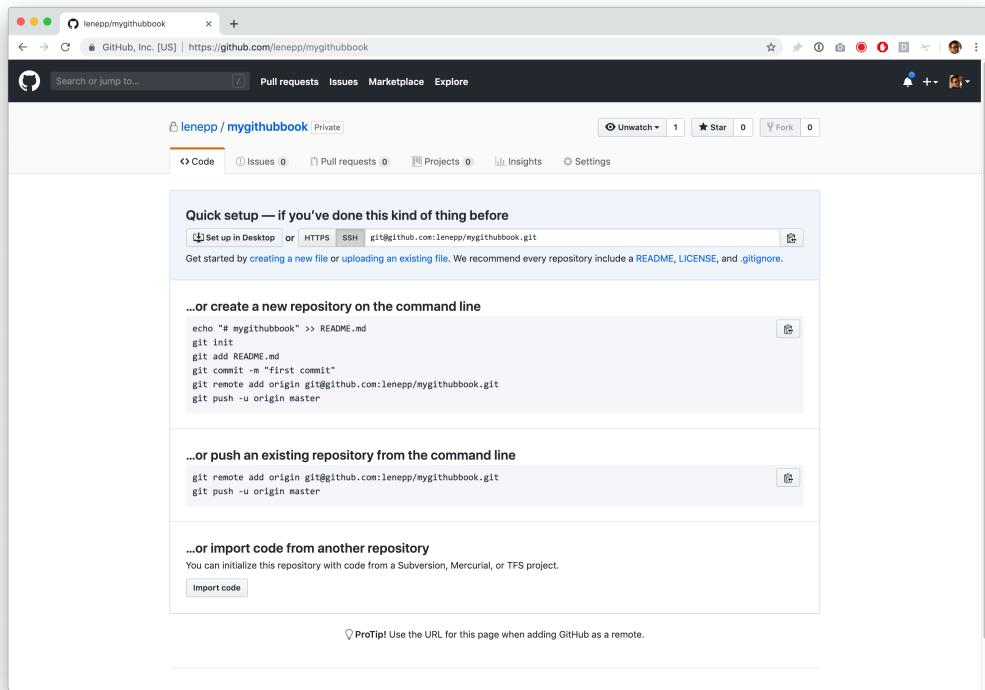


Next, type a name for your repository.

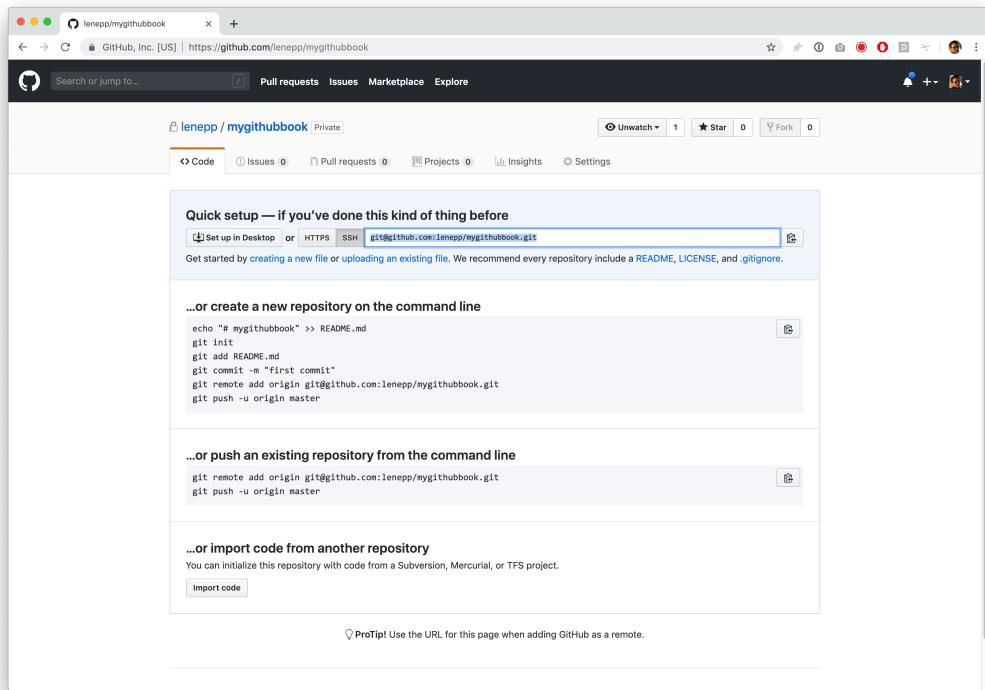


Click the green “Create repository” button. If you want, you can click the checkbox to initialize the repository with a README. It doesn’t matter, but this will get rid of the warning message later.

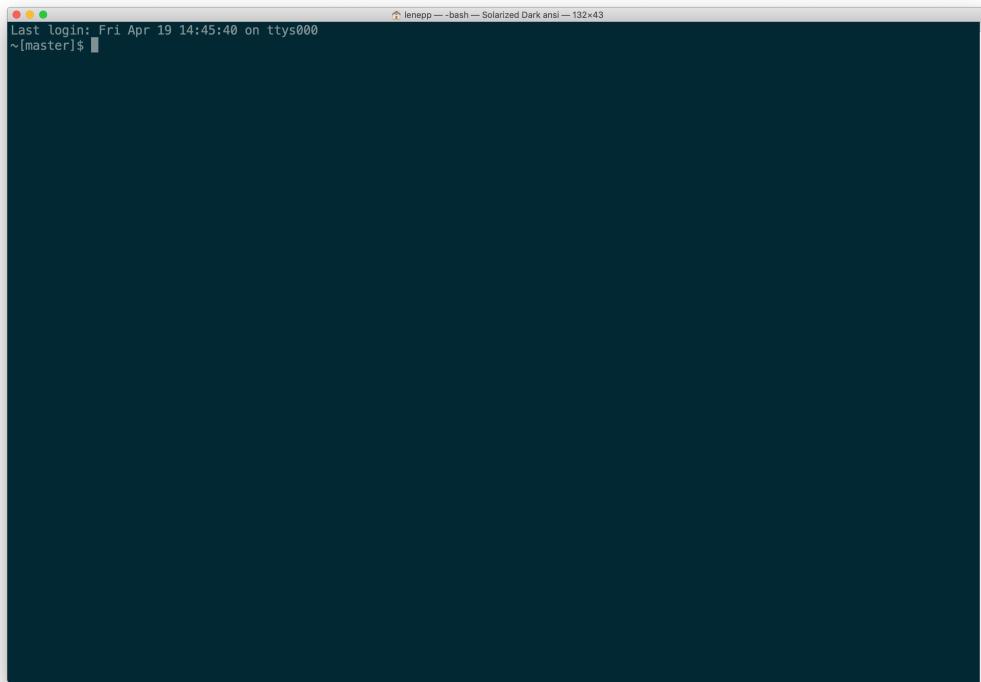
This will take you to a “Quick setup” page:



Select the repository information and copy it, or click the little copy-to-clipboard icon button.

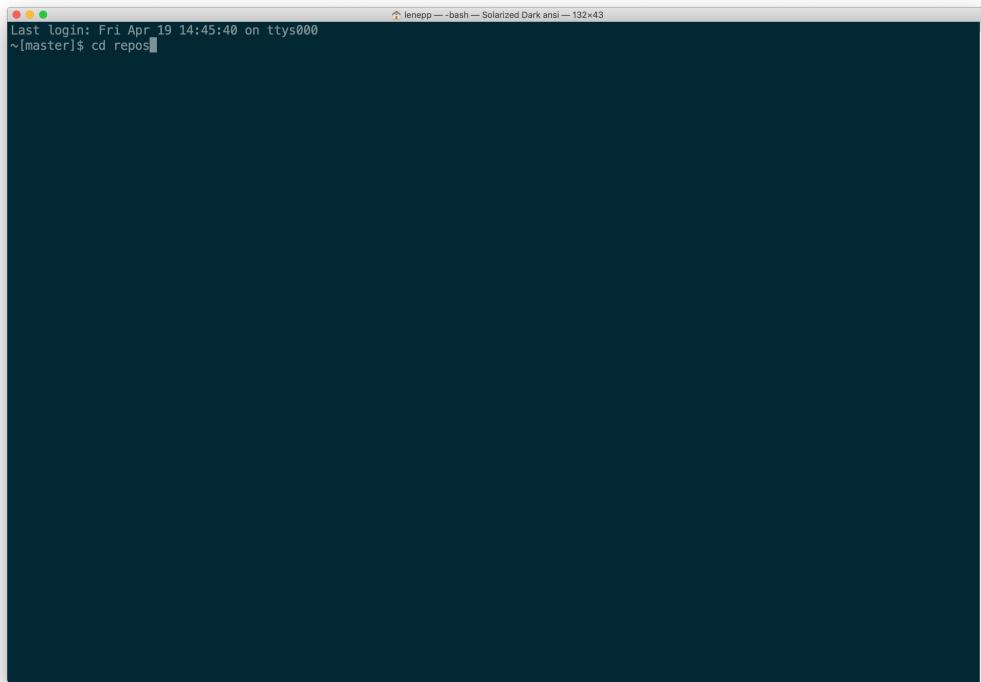


Go to the command line on your computer. In this tutorial we're using a Mac, so we use Terminal.



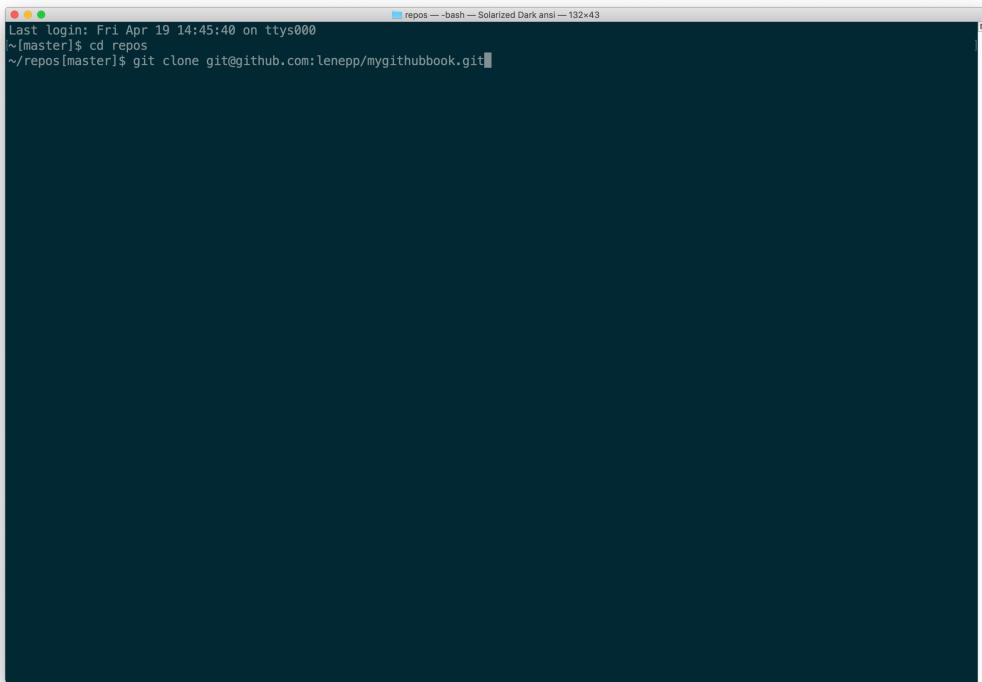
```
lenepp — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 132x43
Last login: Fri Apr 19 14:45:40 on ttys000
～[master]$
```

Go to the folder on your computer where you want to clone your GitHub repository. In this tutorial, that is a folder called `repos`.



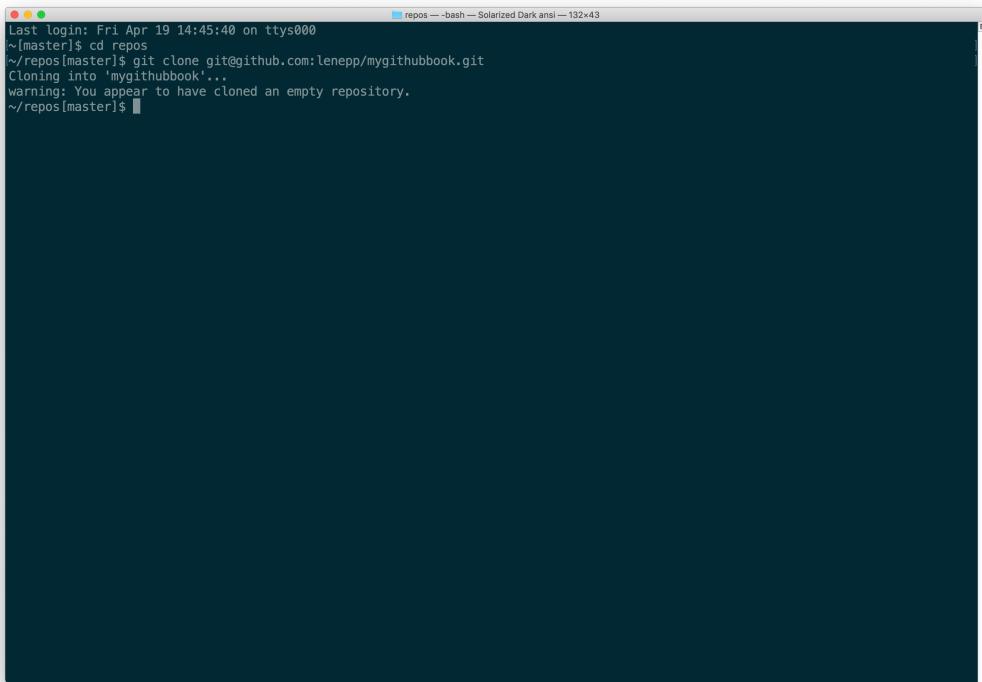
```
Last login: Fri Apr 19 14:45:40 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
```

Type `git clone` and paste in the repository information you copied on GitHub, and hit Enter.



```
Last login: Fri Apr 19 14:45:40 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ git clone git@github.com:lenepp/mygithubbook.git
```

After a moment, you will see a message saying that the repository has been cloned.



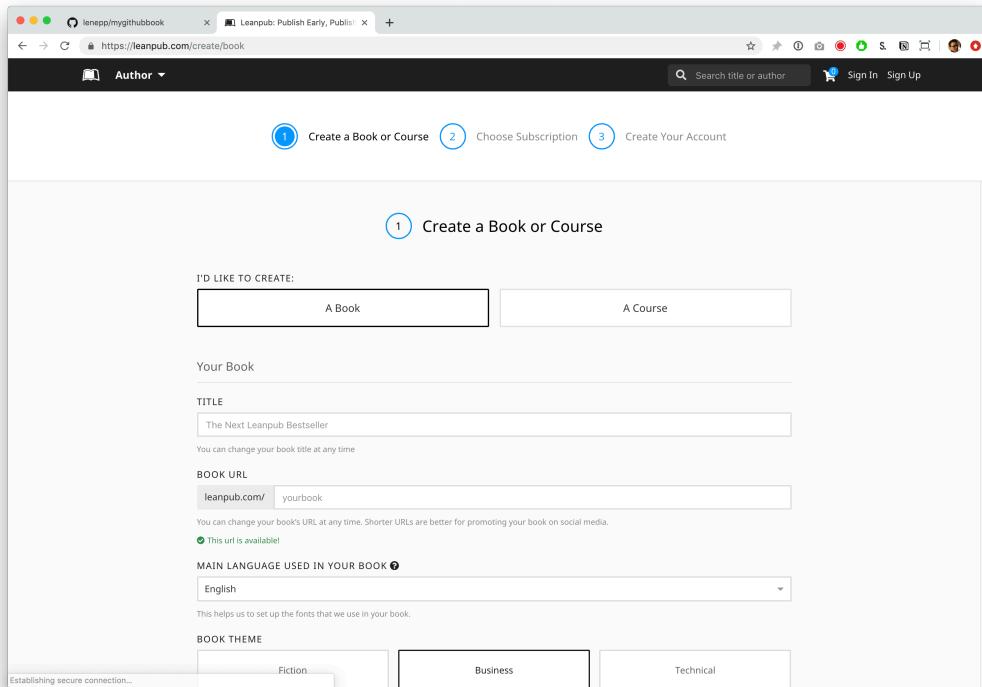
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "repos — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 132x43". The terminal output is as follows:

```
Last login: Fri Apr 19 14:45:40 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ git clone git@github.com:lenepp/mygithubbook.git
Cloning into 'mygithubbook'...
warning: You appear to have cloned an empty repository.
~/repos[master]$
```

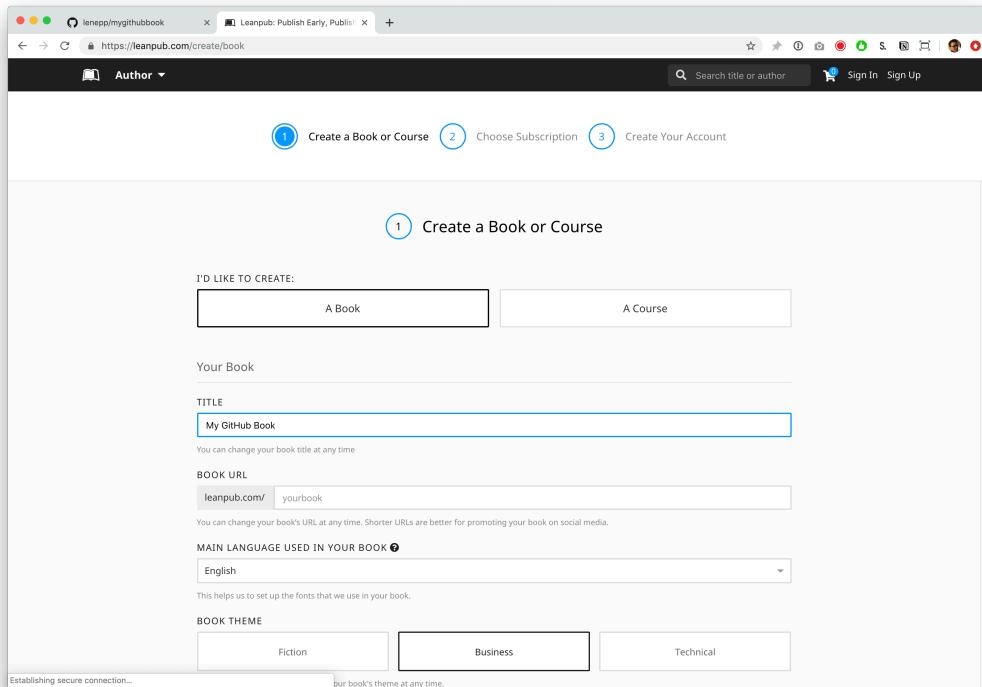
Creating a Book in GitHub Writing Mode

Go to <https://leanpub.com/create/book>²⁰ to create a book in GitHub writing mode.

²⁰<https://leanpub.com/create/book>

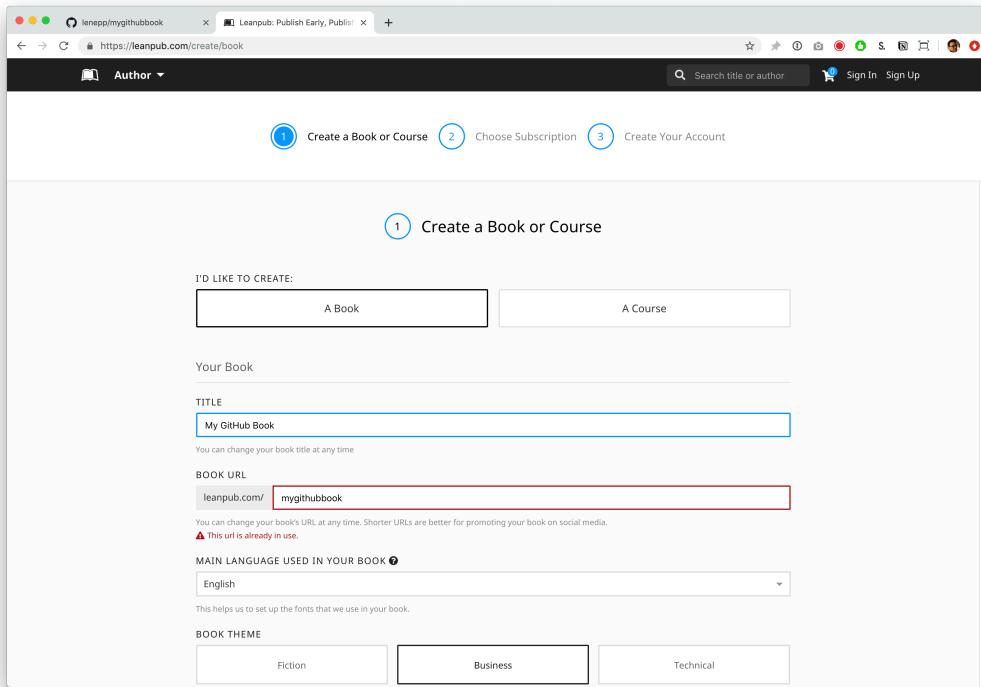


First, type a title for your book into the “TITLE” box. You can change your title later.

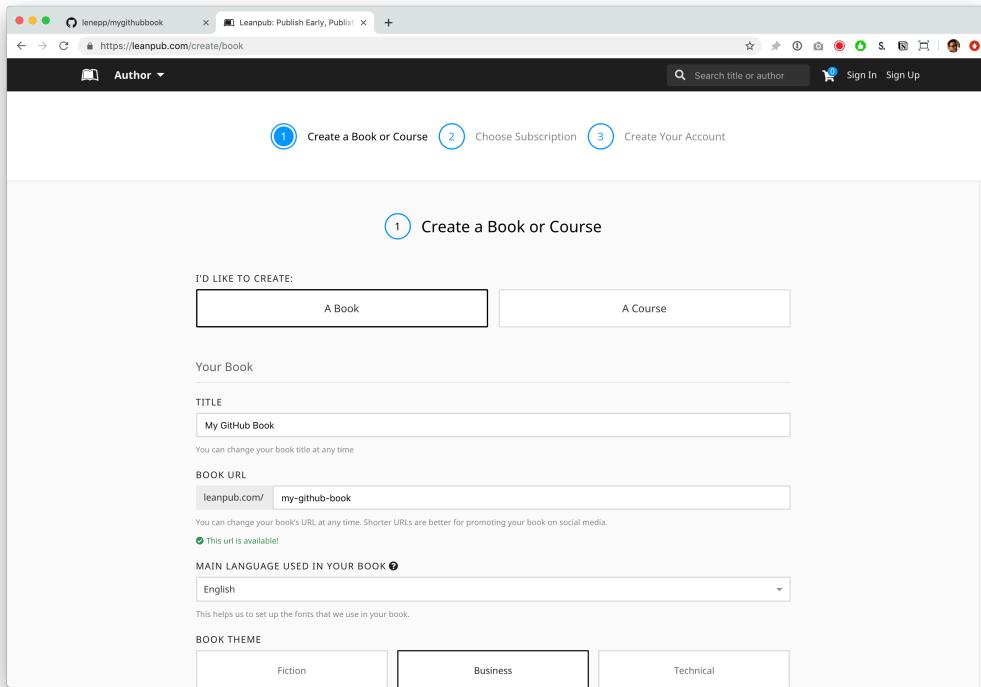


Click in the “BOOK URL” box. Leanpub will automatically suggest a URL for your book’s web page on Leanpub. You can change this URL at any time.

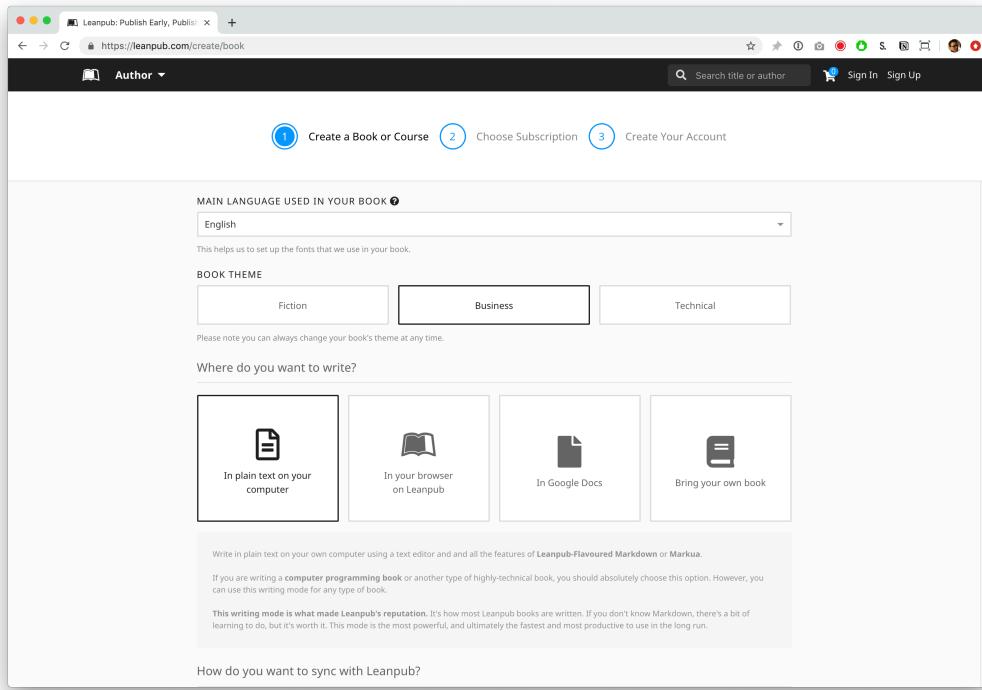
In this case, the URL that was automatically generated was already taken. This will be rare for you, but is a lot more common for us when making tutorials!



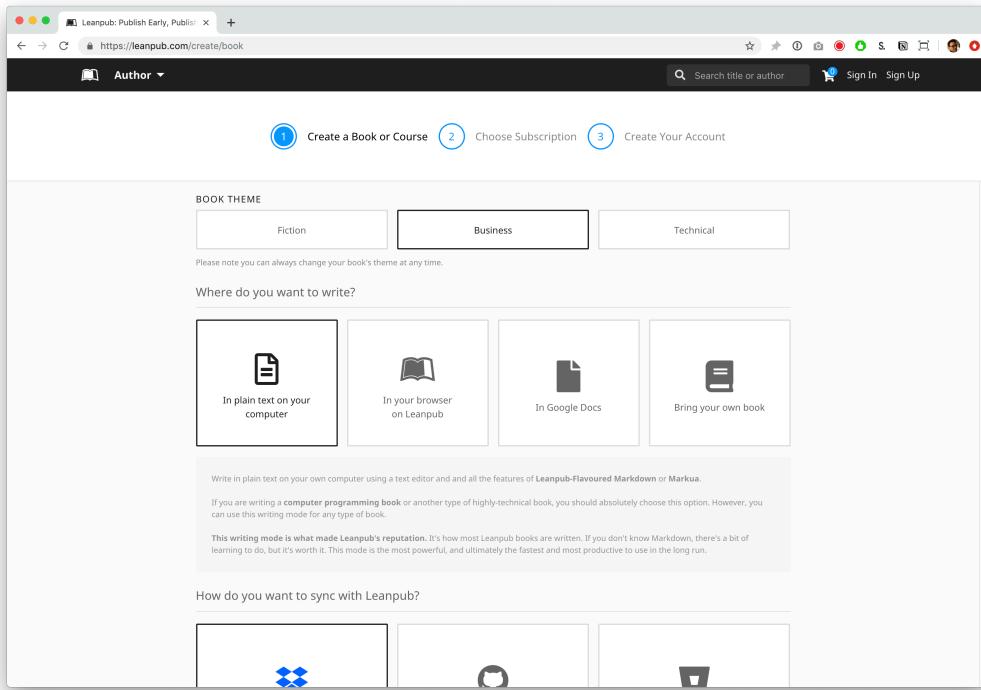
If a URL you want is already taken, you can add hyphens or numbers to create a URL that is close to it, but it's better to use other words so people don't get confused between your book and someone else's!



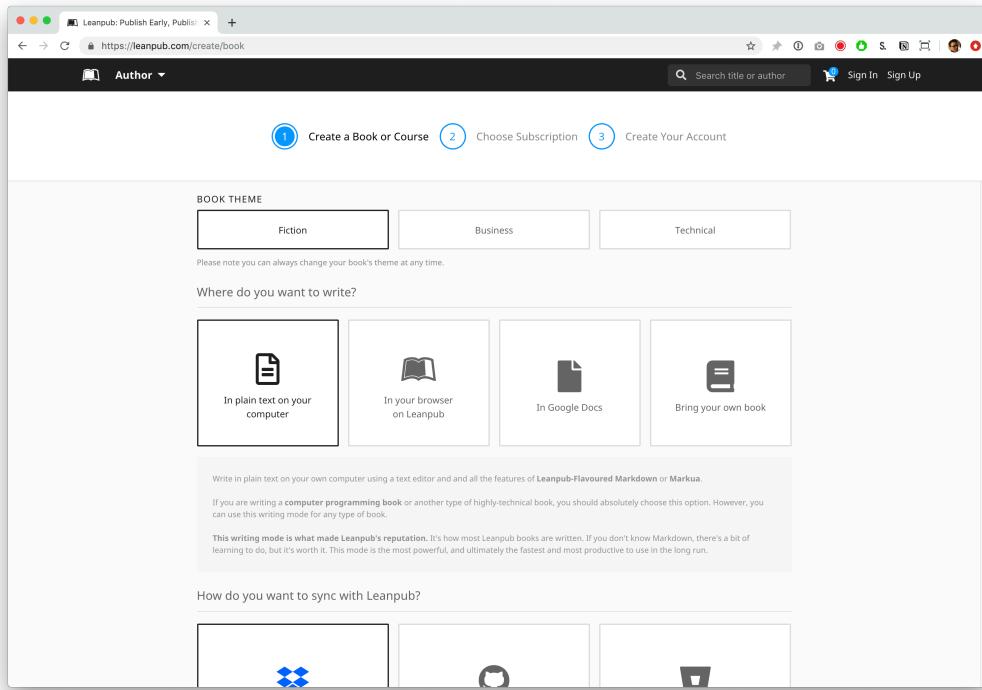
Scroll down and you will see “MAIN LANGUAGE USED IN YOUR BOOK.” You can select a language from the drop-down. Like the other settings, you can change this at any time.



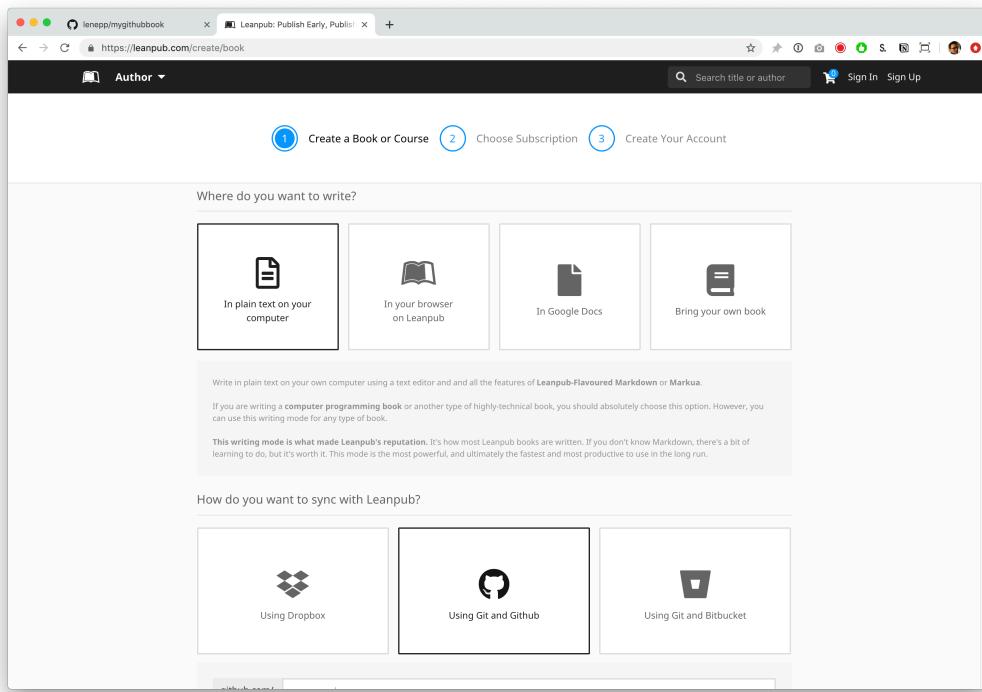
Scroll down and you will see the “BOOK THEME” options. “Business” will be selected by default. The Book Theme is just a set of standard formatting options conventional for books on these subjects. You are not required to choose any particular option. You can change your Book Theme at any time.



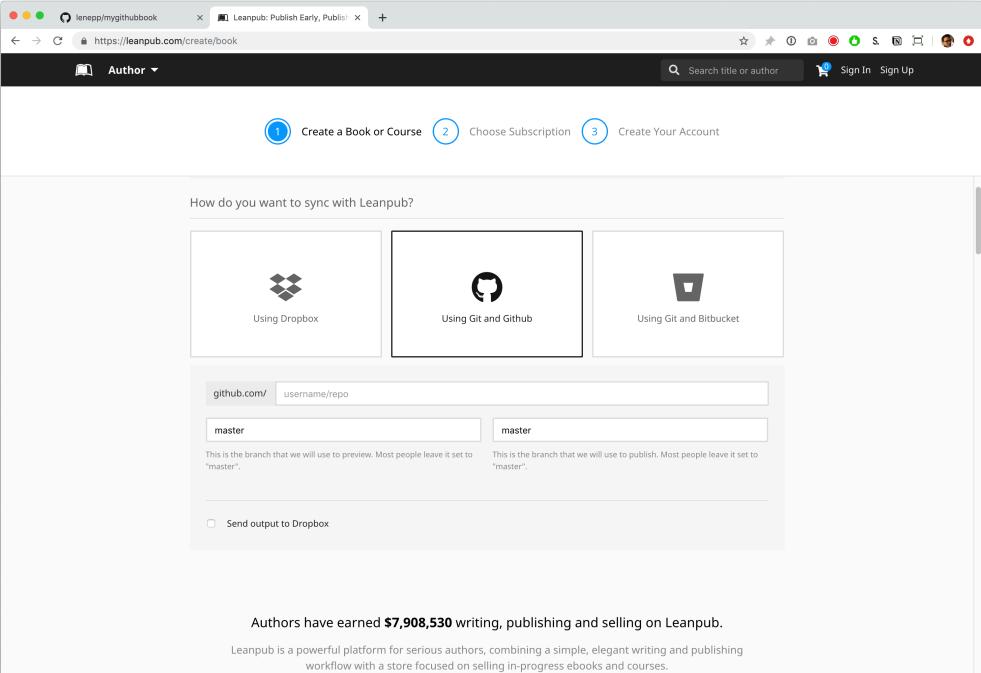
For this tutorial, we selected the “Fiction” Book Theme.



In the section below, you will be presented with various Writing Mode options. For this tutorial, select “Using Git and GitHub.”

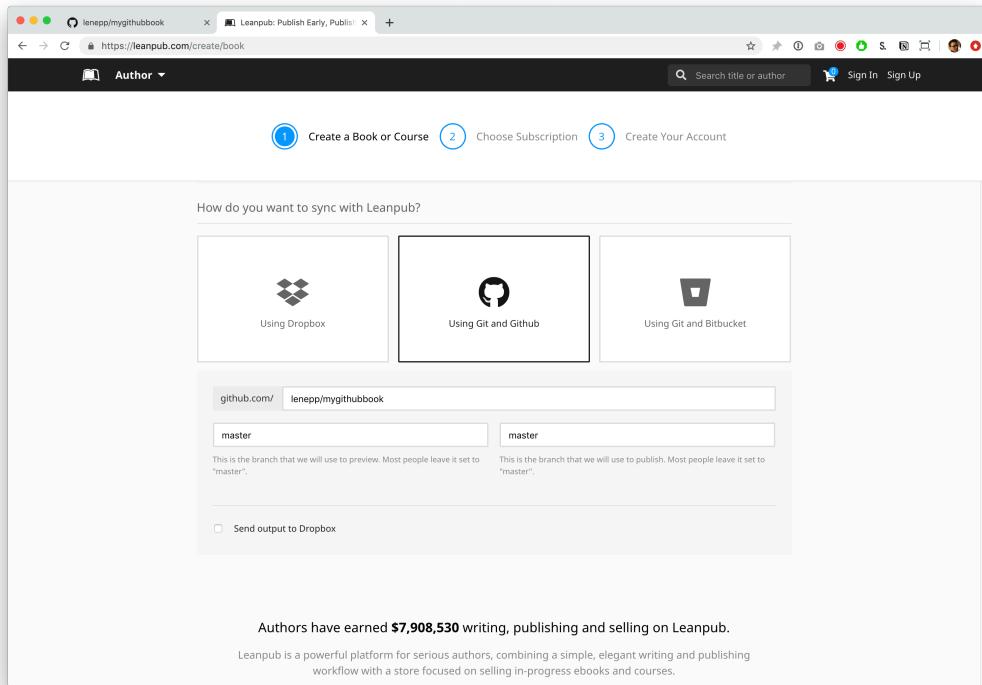


Scroll down and you will see a box to enter your GitHub username, followed by a forward slash / and your GitHub repo name.



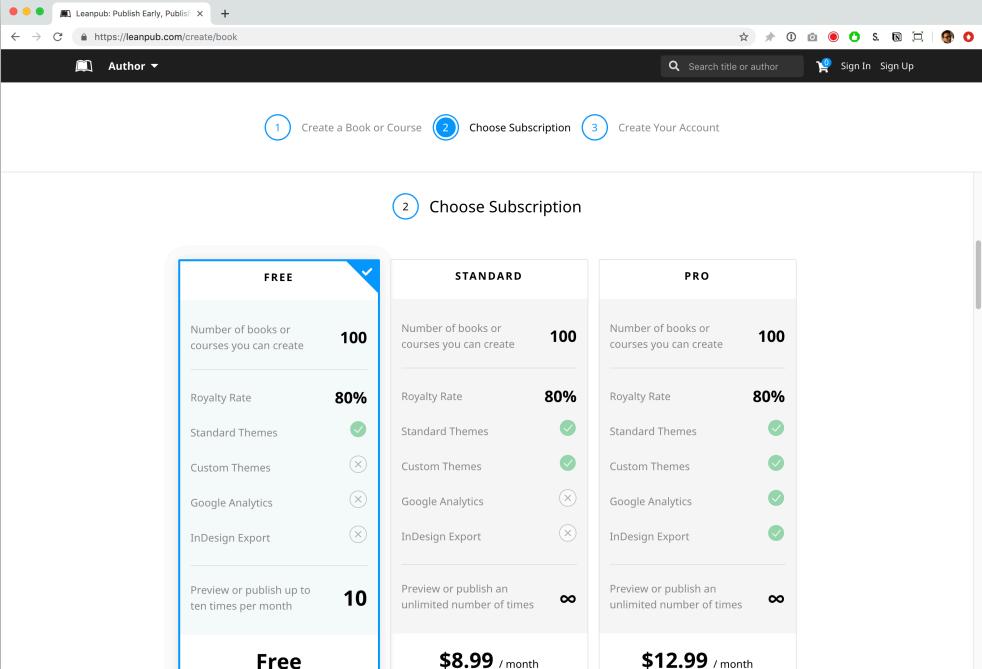
The screenshot shows the Leanpub website interface for creating a book or course. At the top, there are three main steps: 'Create a Book or Course', 'Choose Subscription', and 'Create Your Account'. Below this, a section titled 'How do you want to sync with Leanpub?' offers three options: 'Using Dropbox', 'Using Git and GitHub' (which is highlighted with a blue border), and 'Using Git and Bitbucket'. Under 'Using Git and GitHub', there are input fields for 'github.com/' (containing 'username/repo'), 'master' (under 'branch for preview'), and another 'master' (under 'branch for publish'). A checkbox labeled 'Send output to Dropbox' is also present. At the bottom of the sync section, a callout states: 'Authors have earned \$7,908,530 writing, publishing and selling on Leanpub.' and describes Leanpub as a platform for serious authors.

Enter your GitHub username, followed by a forward slash / and your GitHub repo name.



When you scroll down further, you will see the subscription plan options. By default, “Free” will be selected. If you have a paid Leanpub account already, you will see that plan selected automatically.

Select a plan.

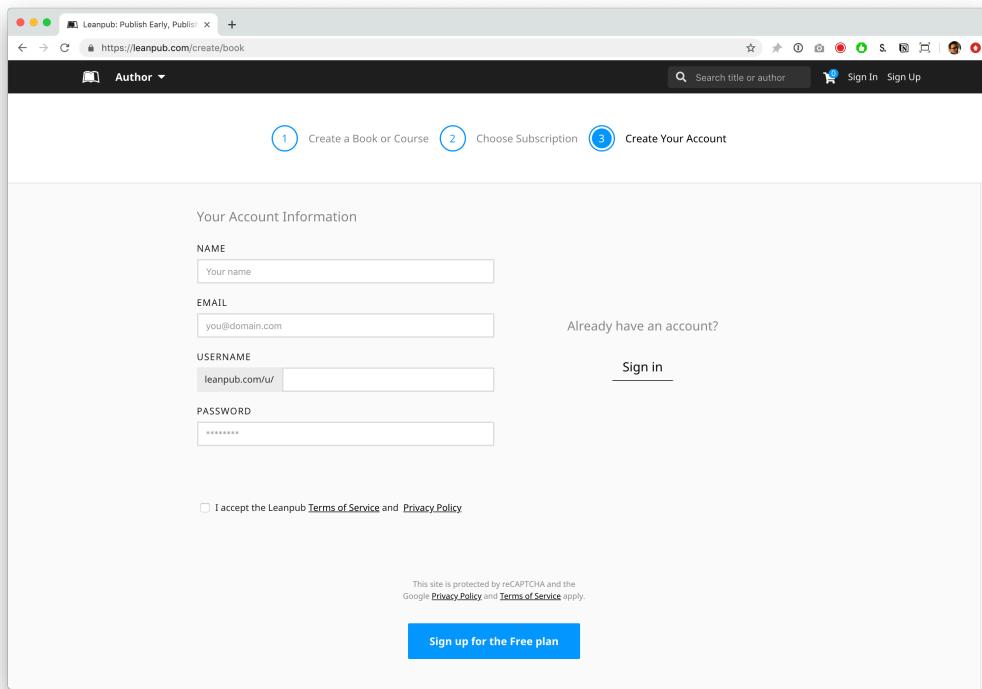


The screenshot shows the Leanpub website at <https://leanpub.com/create/book>. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Author', 'Search title or author', 'Sign In', and 'Sign Up'. Below the navigation, three numbered steps are listed: 1. Create a Book or Course, 2. Choose Subscription (which is currently selected), and 3. Create Your Account.

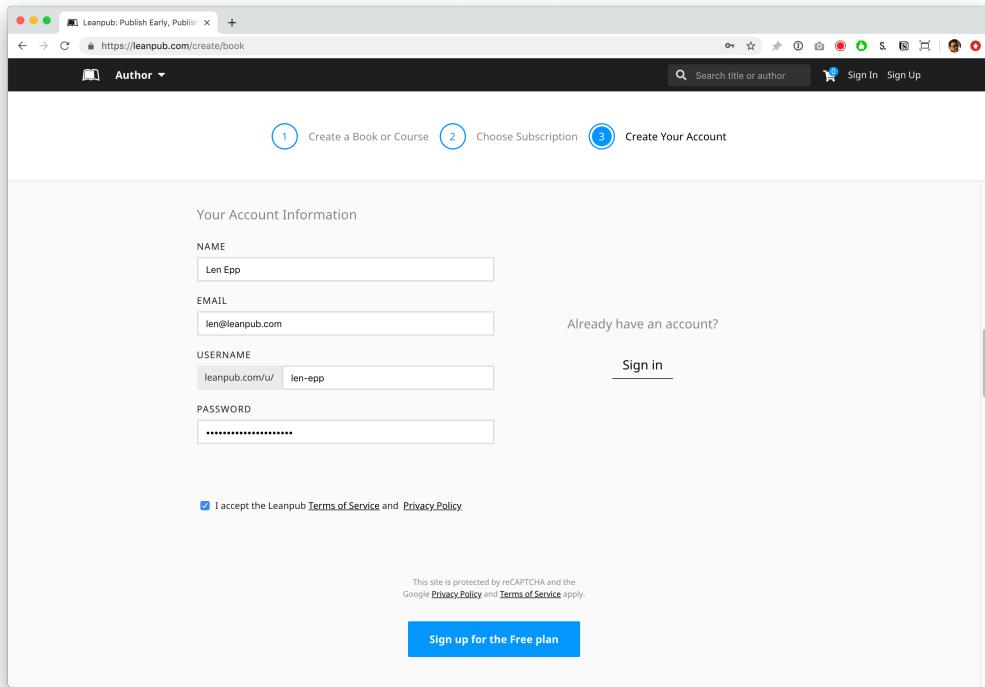
The main content area is titled 'Choose Subscription' and displays three subscription plans: FREE, STANDARD, and PRO. Each plan is represented by a card with its name at the top, followed by a list of features and their availability.

| Subscription Plan | Number of books or courses you can create | Royalty Rate | Standard Themes | Custom Themes | Google Analytics | InDesign Export | Preview or publish up to ten times per month | Preview or publish an unlimited number of times | Price |
|-------------------|---|--------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|-----------------|--|---|-----------------|
| FREE | 100 | 80% | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ✗ | 10 | ∞ | Free |
| STANDARD | 100 | 80% | ✓ | ✓ | ✗ | ✗ | ∞ | ∞ | \$8.99 / month |
| PRO | 100 | 80% | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ∞ | ∞ | \$12.99 / month |

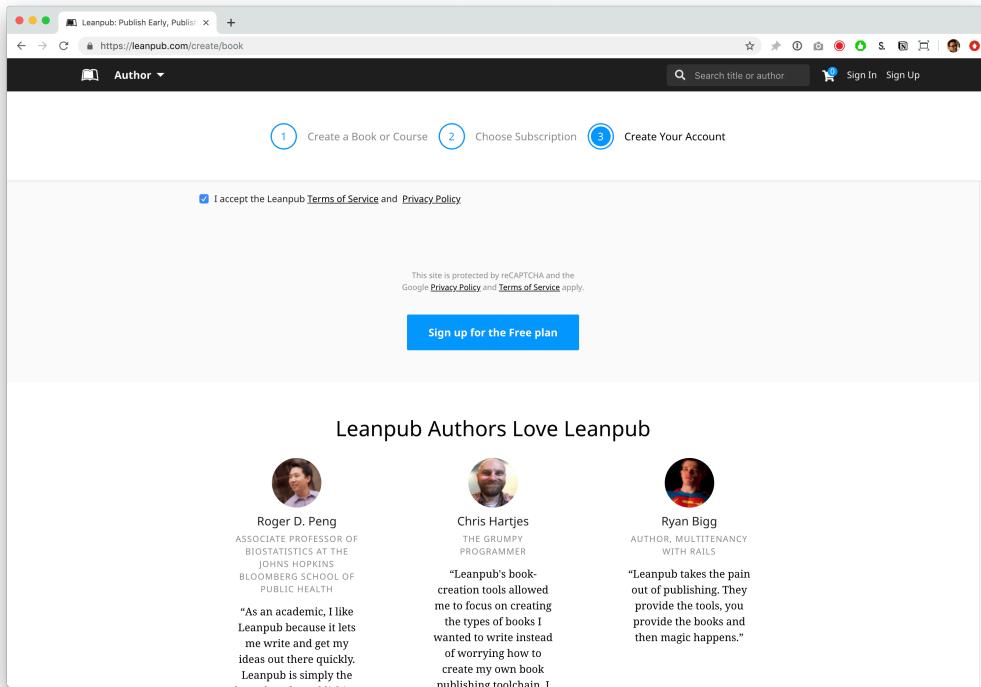
Scroll down and, if you are not signed in to a Leanpub account, you will see an option to enter information to create a new account. You will also see an option to sign in, if you already have a Leanpub account.



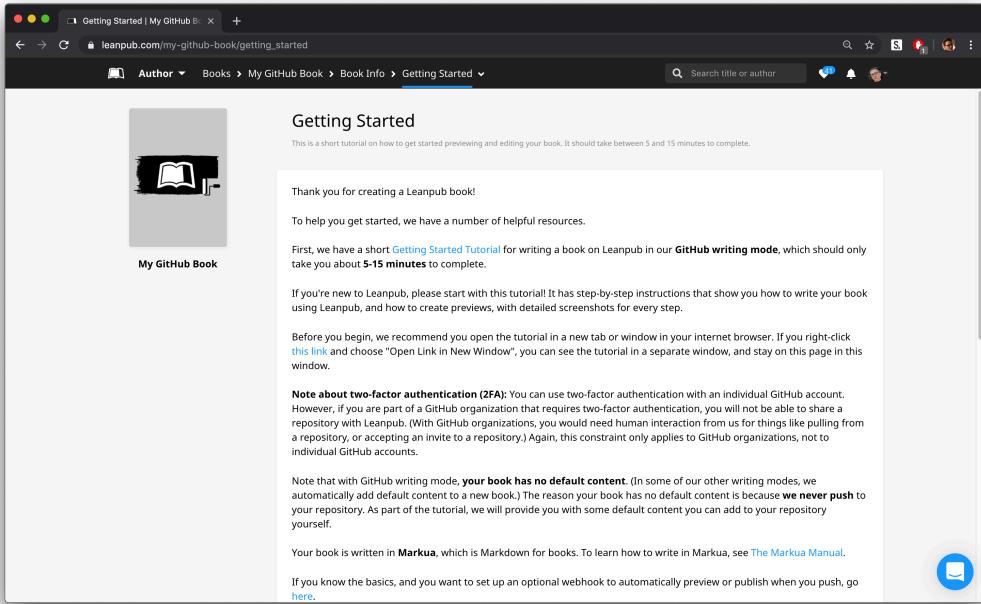
To create a new account, fill in the relevant information.



Finally, click the blue button to finish creating your new GitHub book.



You will now see that you are on the Getting Started page for your book:



[Please note this screenshot has been updated, so it doesn't exactly match the rest of the screenshots in this tutorial.]

If you use bookmarks in your web browser, we recommend you bookmark this page in your web browser in a bookmark folder for your book, but this is not required.

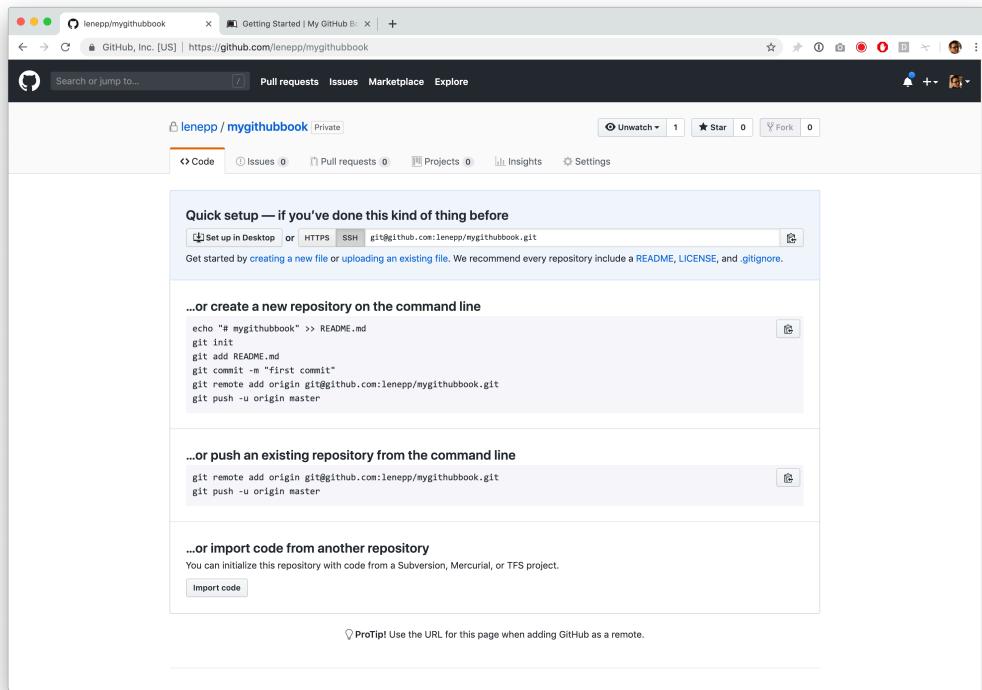
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/my-github-book/getting_started. The page is titled "Getting Started" and features a large image of an open book. Below the image, the text "My GitHub Book" is visible. The main content area starts with "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My GitHub Book!". It provides a short tutorial for getting started, mentioning it should take around 5 minutes. It advises users to understand how to edit their book in Leanpub and generate previews. The page then splits into two sections: "Step 1: Add Leanpub as a Collaborator on Your Book's GitHub Repo" and "Step 2: Add Content to Your Book's Repo". Each section contains detailed instructions and links to further resources.

Look at the Book Tools “breadcrumb” menu at the top of the screen. This is how you will navigate to the web pages you will be using in Leanpub to work on your book and see all the features we provide, like uploading a book cover, or setting a price for your book.

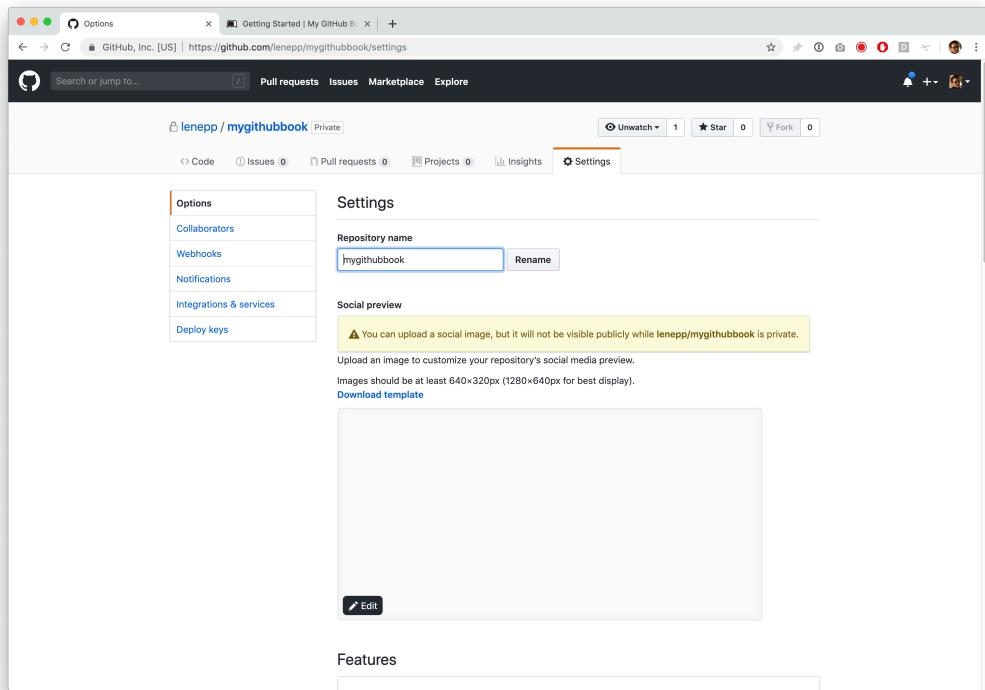
When you are finished this tutorial, we recommend you explore the various Book Tools options.

Adding Leanpub As A Collaborator on Your Book's GitHub Repository

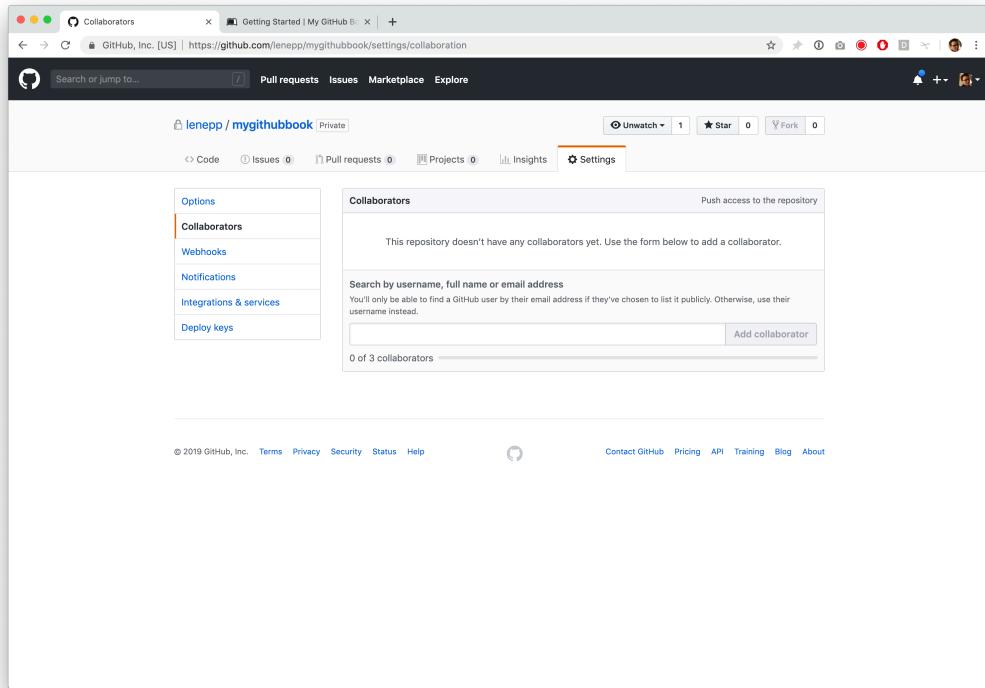
Go back to the GitHub page for your book's GitHub repository.



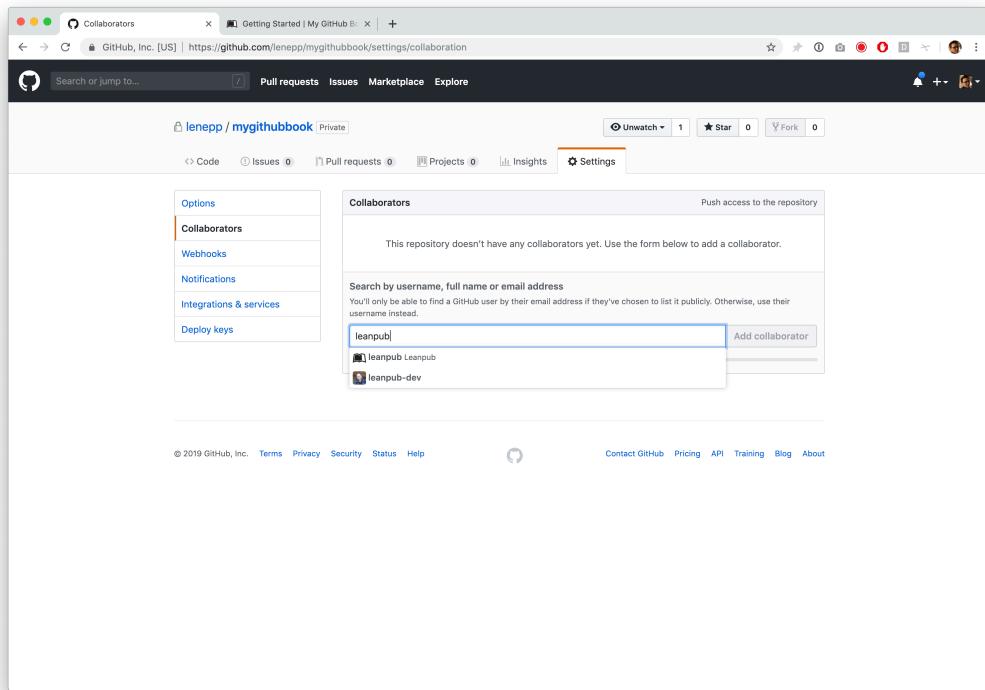
Click on “Settings” near the top right, to go to the “Settings” page for the repository.



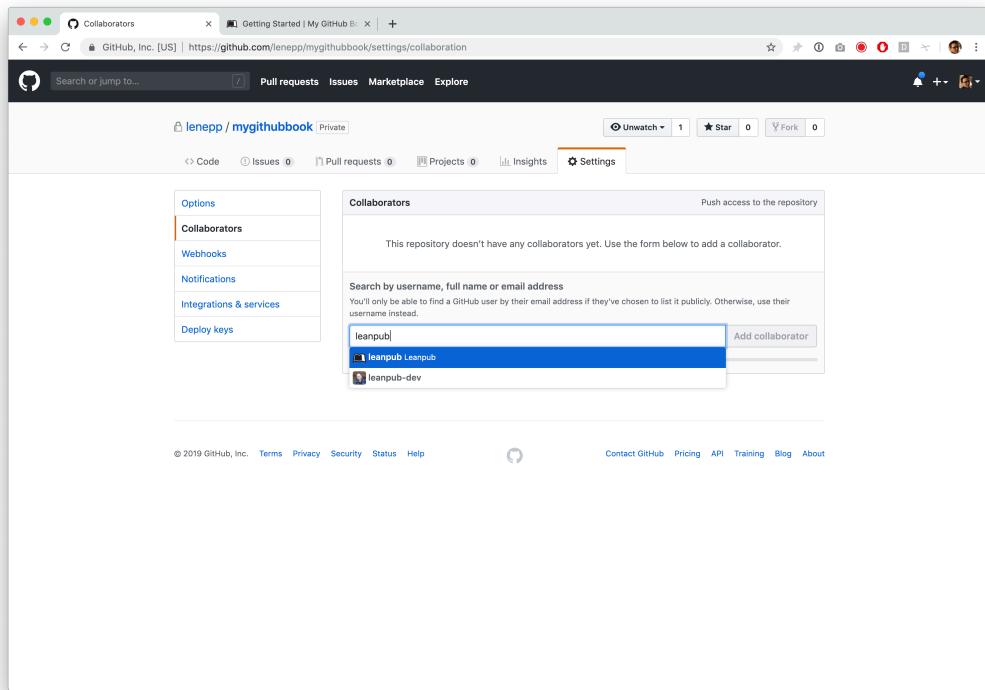
Click on “Collaborators” in the menu on the left, to go to the “Collaborators” page for the repository.



Type “leanpub” in the search box to find the leanpub GitHub user.



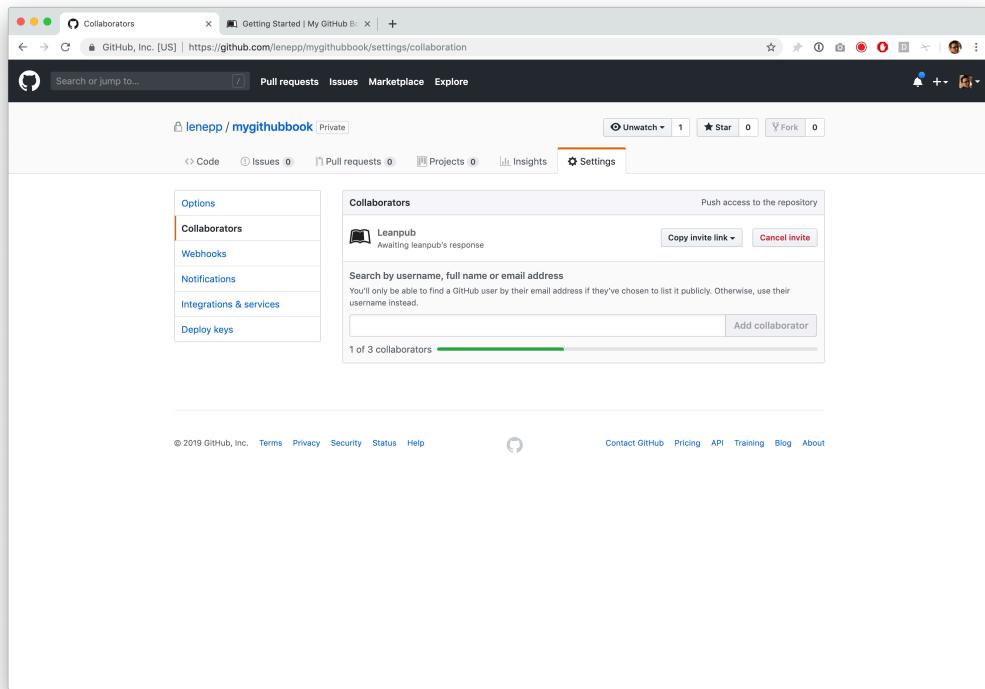
Select the “leanpub” user and click the “Add collaborator” button.



Until Leanpub has automatically accepted the invite, previewing or publishing your book will not work. If this has not happened in 15 minutes, please email hello@leanpub.com and let us know!

A screenshot of the GitHub 'Collaborators' settings page. The title is 'Collaborators' and the subtitle is 'Push access to the repository'. It shows a status message 'Awaiting leanpub's response' next to a book icon. To the right are buttons for 'Copy invite link' and 'Cancel invite'. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder 'Search by username, full name or email address'. A note says, 'You'll only be able to find a GitHub user by their email address if they've chosen to list it publicly. Otherwise, use their username instead.' At the bottom right is a button labeled 'Add collaborator'.

You will see that Leanpub has been added as a collaborator on the repository.



Adding Default Content to Your GitHub Repository

Next, you need to add some content to your GitHub repository. (Leanpub NEVER commits to your GitHub repository, since we do not want to cause merge conflicts.)

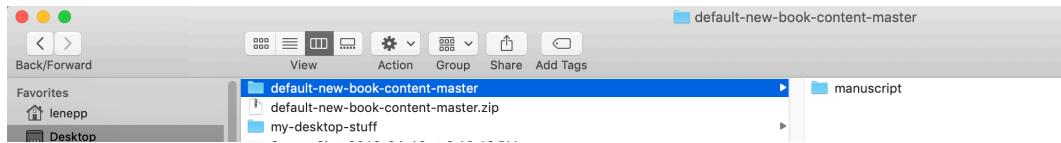
To download our default book content, [click this link to download the zip file²¹](#). This will download the default content to your computer.

You will now find the file wherever you store downloads on your computer.

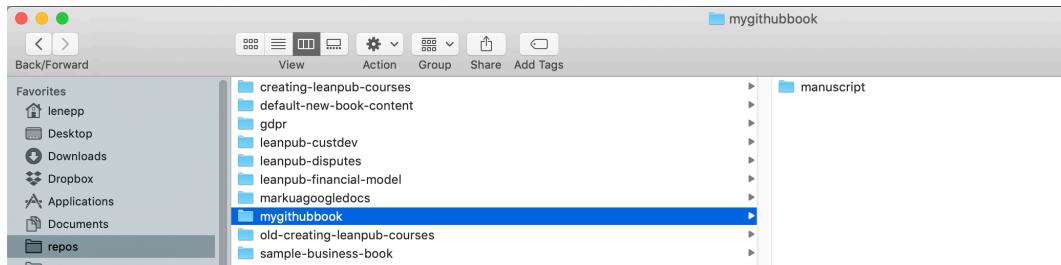


²¹<https://github.com/leanpub/default-new-book-content/archive/master.zip>

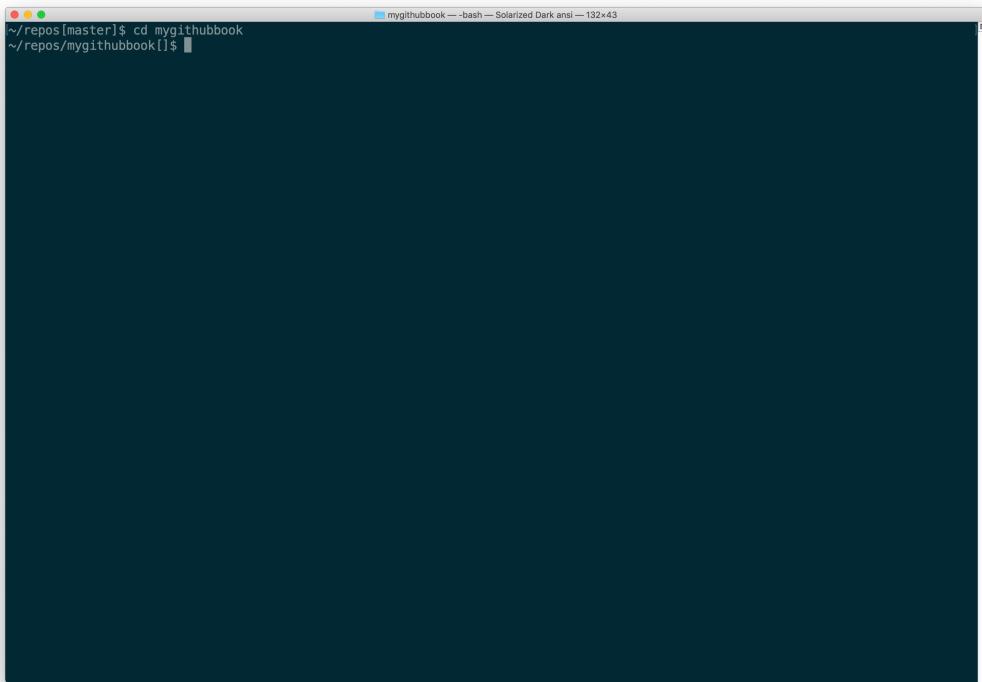
Double-click the folder to unzip it.



Copy the “manuscript” folder. Then, go to the cloned GitHub repository on your computer, and paste the “manuscript” folder into the repository.

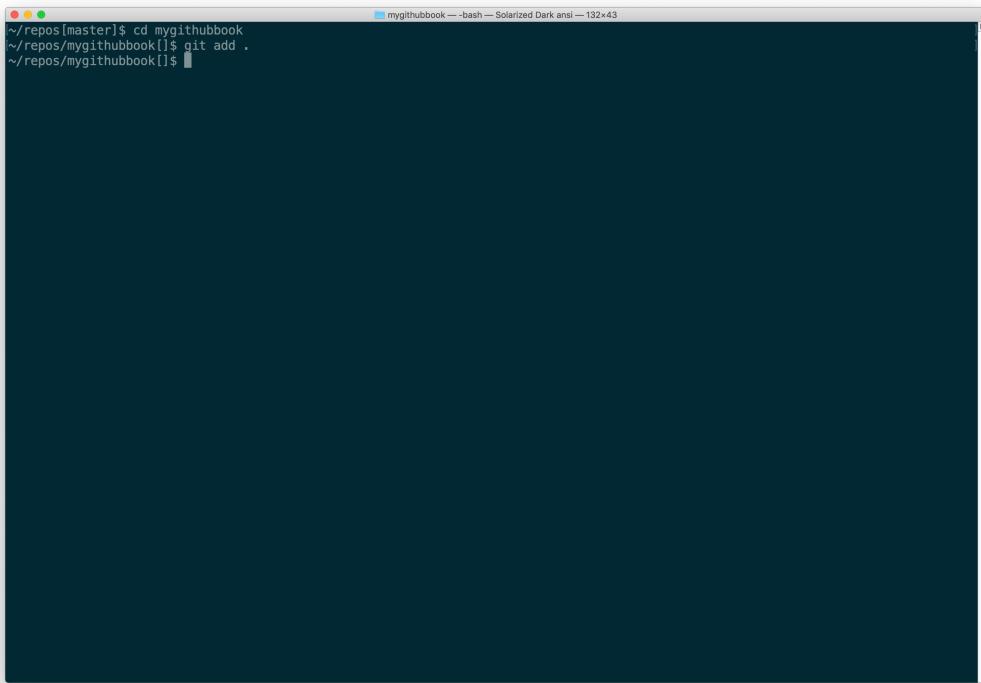


Go back to the command line on your computer and change to the GitHub repository for your book.



```
~/repos[master]$ cd mygithubbook  
~/repos/mygithubbook[]$
```

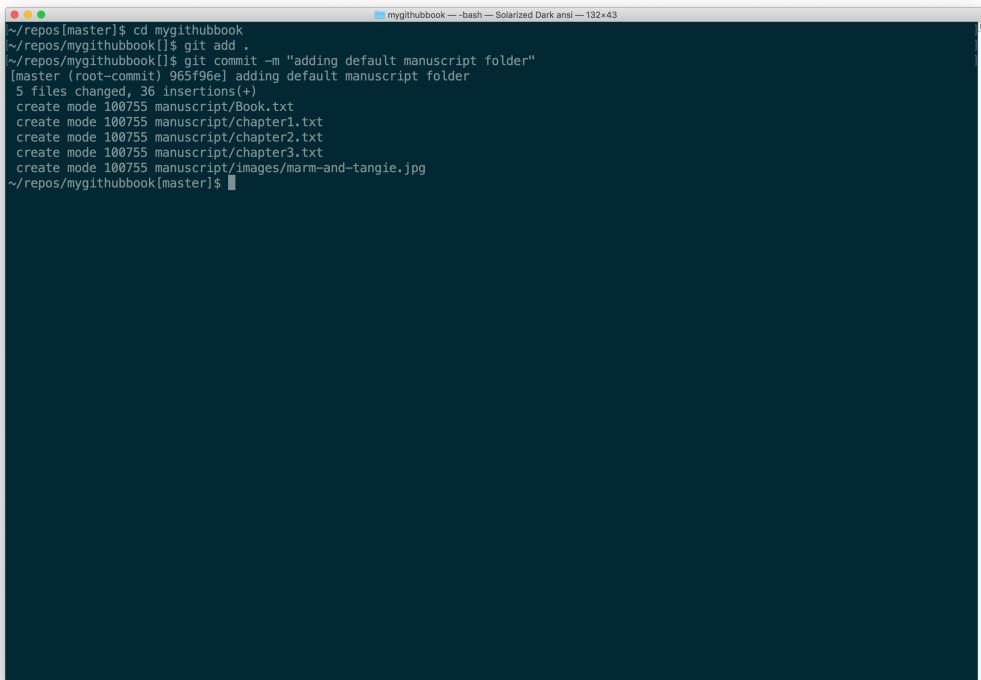
Type `git add .` to the content using Git.



A screenshot of a terminal window titled "mygithubbook — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 132x43". The terminal shows the following command being run:

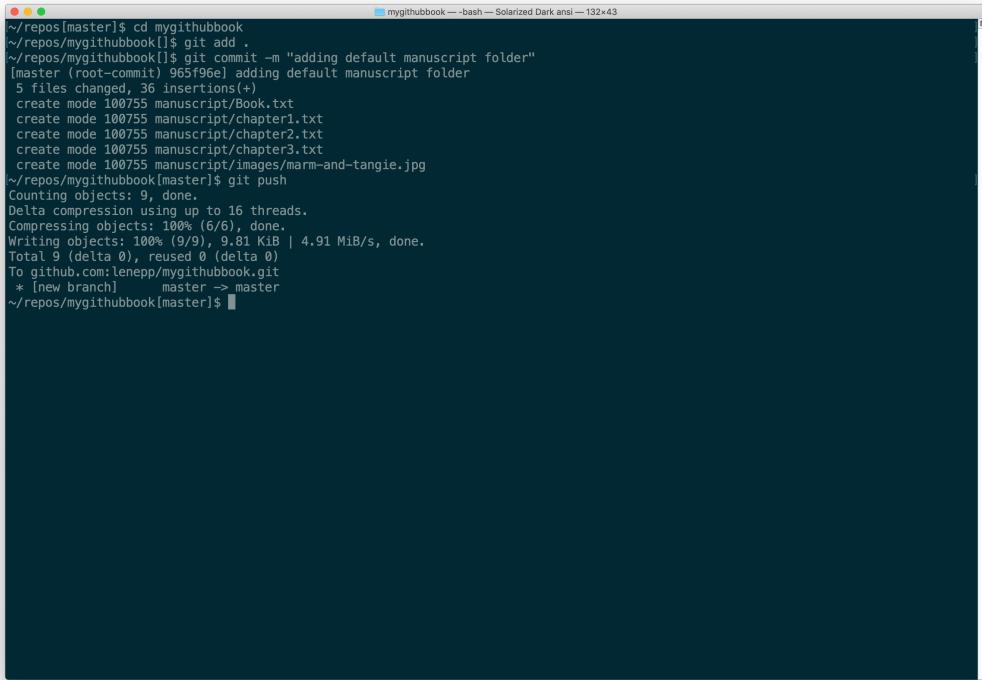
```
~/repos[master]$ cd mygithubbook  
~/repos/mygithubbook[]$ git add .  
~/repos/mygithubbook[]$
```

Type `git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"`. You will see messages indicating that the content has been committed.

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "mygithubbook -- bash -- Solarized Dark ansi -- 132x43". The terminal shows a sequence of git commands being run in a directory named "mygithubbook":

```
~/repos[master]$ cd mygithubbook
~/repos/mygithubbook|$ git add .
~/repos/mygithubbook|$ git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"
[master (root-commit) 965f96e] adding default manuscript folder
 5 files changed, 36 insertions(+)
 create mode 100755 manuscript/Book.txt
 create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter1.txt
 create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter2.txt
 create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter3.txt
 create mode 100755 manuscript/images/marm-and-tangie.jpg
~/repos/mygithubbook[master]$
```

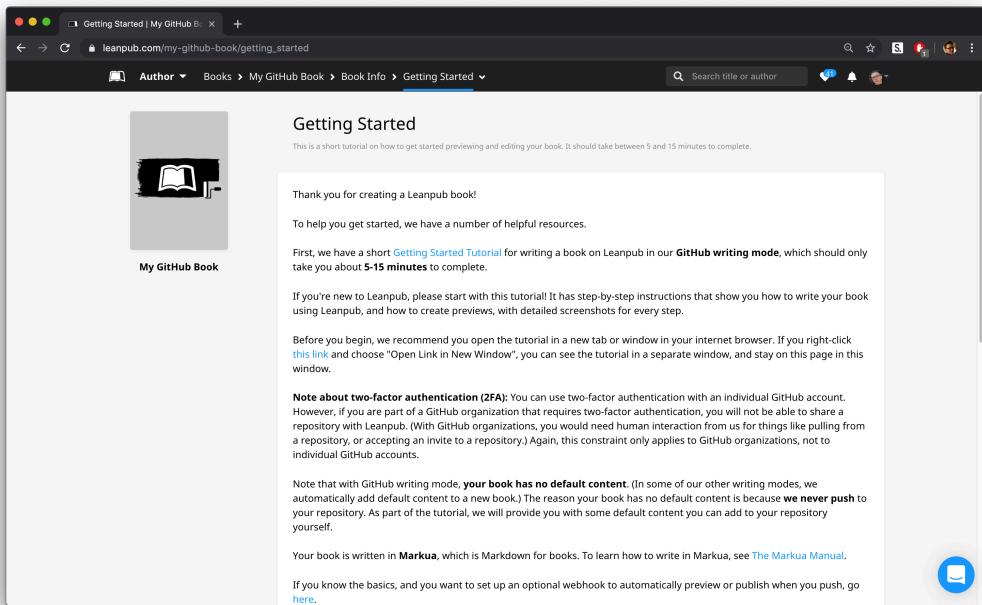
Type `git push` to push the commit to the repository on GitHub.

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "mygithubbook -- bash -- Solarized Dark ansi -- 132x43". The terminal shows a series of git commands being run in a directory named "mygithubbook". The user first changes to the directory, adds files to the index, commits them with a message "adding default manuscript folder", and then pushes the changes to a branch on GitHub. The output includes details about file creation, commit statistics, and the push process.

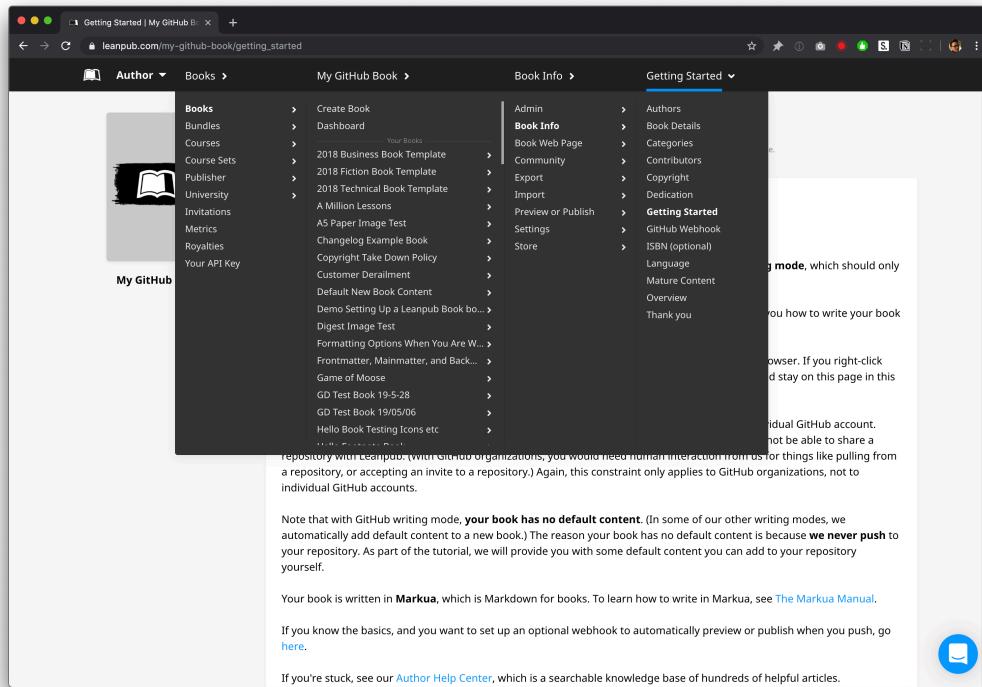
```
~/repos[master]$ cd mygithubbook
~/repos/mygithubbook]$ git add .
~/repos/mygithubbook]$ git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"
[master (root-commit) 965f96e] adding default manuscript folder
 5 files changed, 36 insertions(+)
    create mode 100755 manuscript/Book.txt
    create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter1.txt
    create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter2.txt
    create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter3.txt
    create mode 100755 manuscript/images/marm-and-tangie.jpg
~/repos/mygithubbook[master]$ git push
Counting objects: 9, done.
Delta compression using up to 16 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (6/6), done.
Writing objects: 100% (9/9), 9.81 KiB | 4.91 MiB/s, done.
Total 9 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
To github.com:lenapp/mygithubbook.git
 * [new branch]      master -> master
~/repos/mygithubbook[master]$
```

Creating a Preview

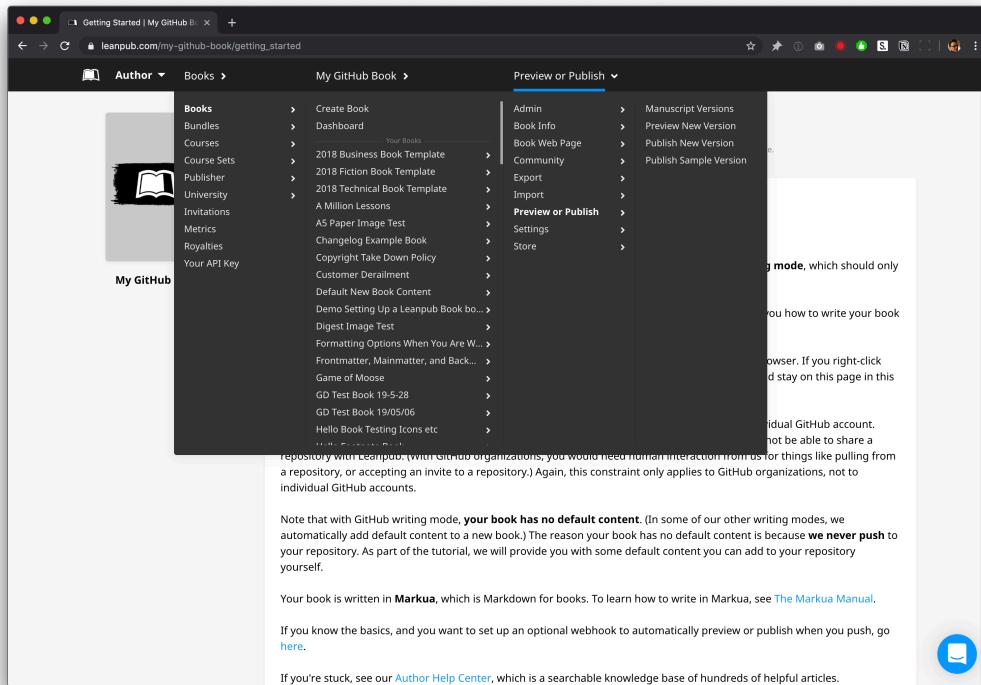
To create your first preview, using the default content we included in your new book, go back to the Getting Started page for your book:



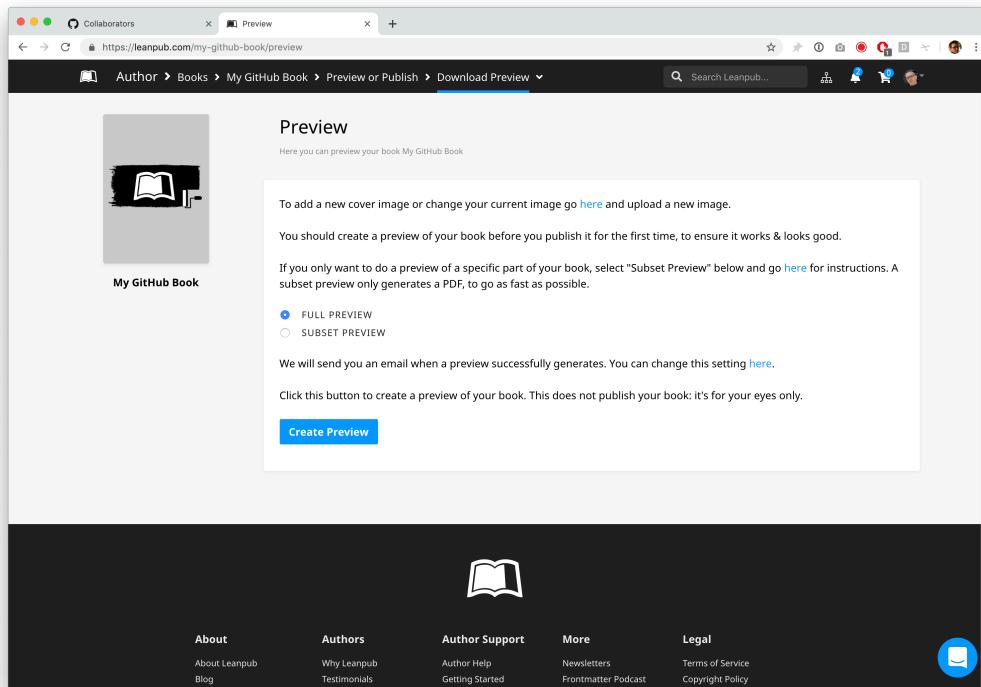
Click on “Getting Started” at the top, and you will see your the Book Tools menu. It will look something like this:



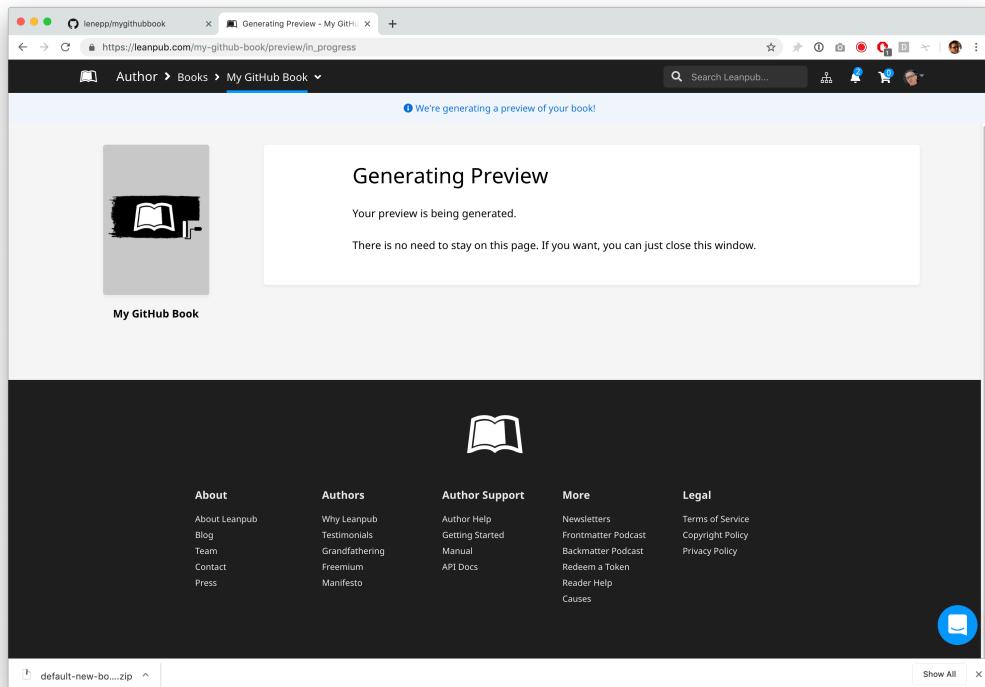
Click on “Preview or Publish” under the “Book Info” column, and you will see something like this:



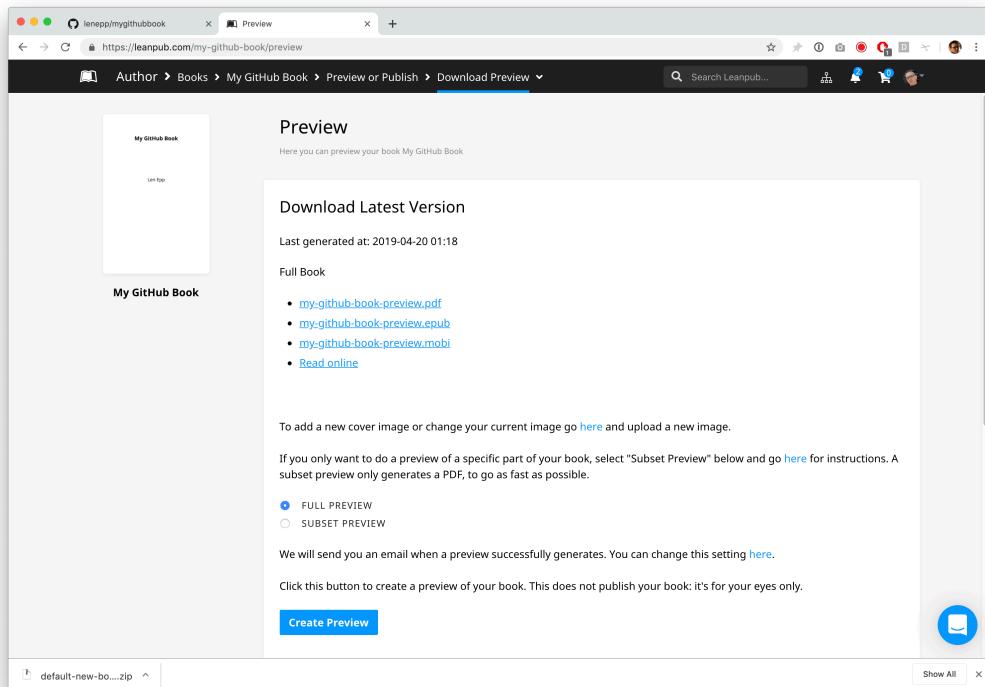
Select “Preview” in the column to the right, and you will go to the “Preview” page for your book:



Click the “Create Preview” button. You will go to a page like this, where you will see a progress bar at the top:



When the preview process is complete, you will see download links for the preview, in a variety of formats:



Click on the links to see what your book looks like in the various formats.

Writing in Your Book

Open your book folder in Github. You'll see a folder named `manuscript` inside it. This is where you write your book.

If you have just created a new book, the `manuscript` folder will contain four files with the file name extension `.txt`. There will also be a folder called `resources`:

```
Book.txt
chapter1.txt
chapter2.txt
chapter3.txt
resources
```

Open the file called `chapter1.txt` by double-clicking on it. You can also open the file in any specific text editing software you prefer.

Next, delete the contents of the file and type:

```
# Chapter 1

Hello, world!
```

In your text editor, save this change.

Make a New Preview of Your Book

Next, you need to commit your changes and push them to GitHub.

On the command line, type `git commit -m "first tutorial steps"` and hit the return key.

Next, type ‘`git push`’ and hit the return key.

The next time you create a preview of your book, you will see that Chapter One has changed, and it now says “Hello, world!”

To create a new preview, repeat what you did when you made your first preview, by using the Author menu in Leanpub to go to:

[Author > Books > \[Your Book Title\] > Preview or Publish > Preview](#)

How the List of Files in Book.txt Works

When you create a preview, you may not want our book generators to use all of the files in your `manuscript` folder. Also, you may want the contents of your book to reflect a different order than the order they are presented in, in your `manuscript` folder.

So, whenever you create a preview, our friendly bookbots generate your book using only the files that you have listed in the `Book.txt` file that is in your book's `manuscript` folder, and they use those files in the order that you have listed them.

Let's see how this works.

First, delete a file. In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file named `chapter3.txt` and delete it.

Now, let's rename a file. The files listed in `Book.txt` can have any name you want to give them. (To be clear, the files do not have to include the word "chatper" in the file name.)

In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file `chapter2.txt`.

Now, change the file name to `conclusion.txt` by right-clicking on the file and selecting "Rename." *(Your computer might show a different word than "Rename," but there should be an option to change any file's name if you right-click on the file.)

Now that we have changed the files in the `manuscript` folder, we need to update the list of files in the `Book.txt` file.

Using your text editor, open the `Book.txt` file.

In the `Book.txt` file, you will see this list of files, like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
chapter2.txt  
chapter3.txt
```

First, delete `chapter2.txt`. Then, delete `chapter3.txt`.

Next, on the second line, type `conclusion.txt`.

Now, your list of files in `Book.txt` will look like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
conclusion.txt
```

Next, open the file `conclusion.txt`.

Now, delete everthing in the file, and type this:

Conclusion

This book is **done** and ready for *the world to see*, hooray!

Finally, save this change your text editor.

Next, you need to commit your changes and push them to GitHub.

On the command line, type `git commit -m "finishing tutorial"` and hit the return key.

Next, type ‘`git push`’ and hit the return key.

Now, go back to the preview page for your book at:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Preview or Publish > Preview

The next time you create a preview, it will reflect the changes you have made.

Congratulations! You’ve completed the Getting Started tutorial for writing a book in Leanpub using GitHub.

Next Steps

Next, we recommend you explore the Overview page for your book:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Book Info > Overview

On the Overview page, you can see all the pages you need to get your book set up on Leanpub, like “Upload Book Cover” and the “Book Details” page, where you can explain what your book is about to potential readers.

If you have any questions or can’t find anything, please search our Help Center for authors here: <http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>²².

Happy writing!

²²<http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>

Getting Started with Git and Bitbucket Writing Mode

You can write a Leanpub book using Git and Bitbucket. In this chapter we'll show you how to create a book and generate your first preview.

Once you have successfully generated your first preview, you'll know everything you know to get started writing in the Bitbucket writing mode.

You'll find more information and detailed instructions on the "Getting Started" page for your book, which you'll go to automatically when you create your book.

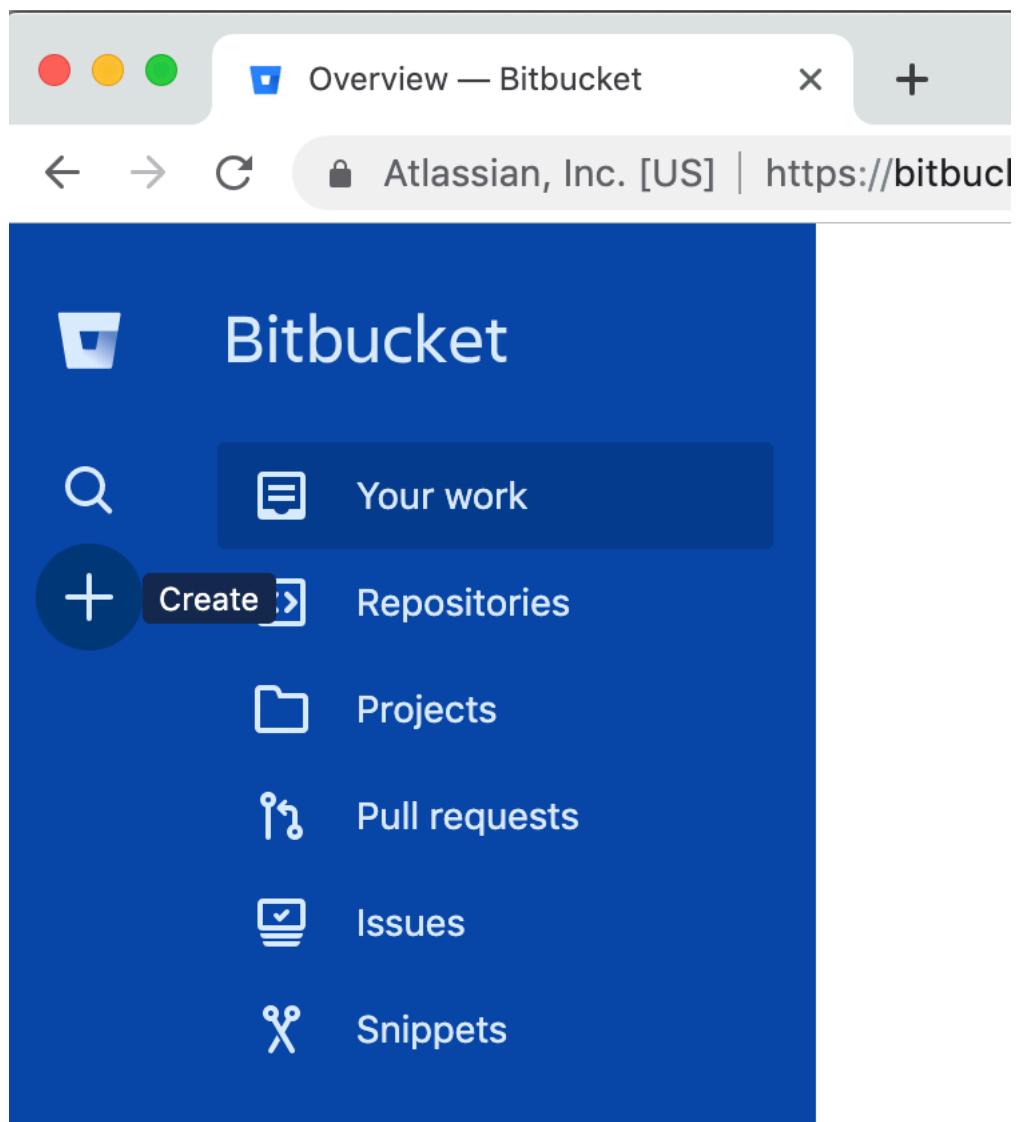
Creating Your Book's Bitbucket Repository

The first thing you need to do is create a repository for your book on Bitbucket.

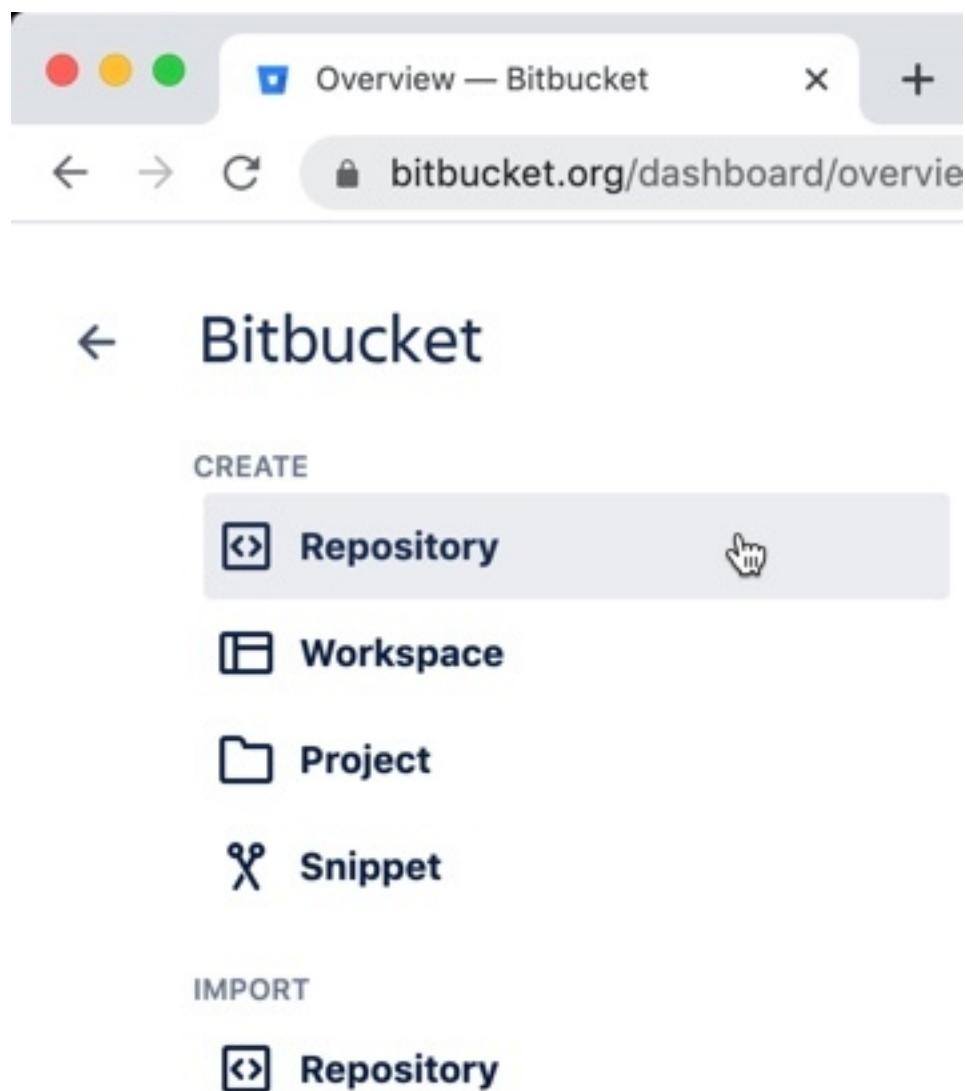
To do this, go to <https://bitbucket.org>²³ and sign in.

Click the + plus sign to the left in the menu at the top of the page.

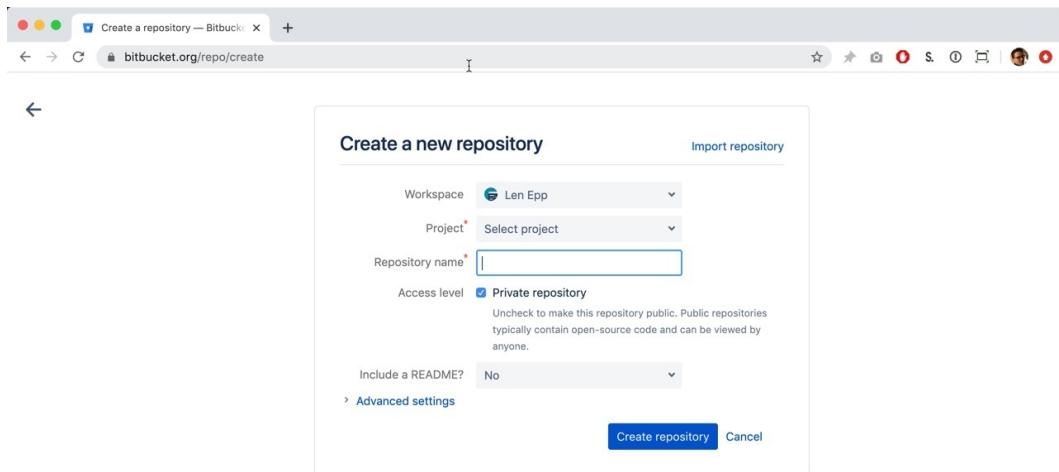
²³<https://bitbucket.org>



Under “CREATE”, select “Repository.”

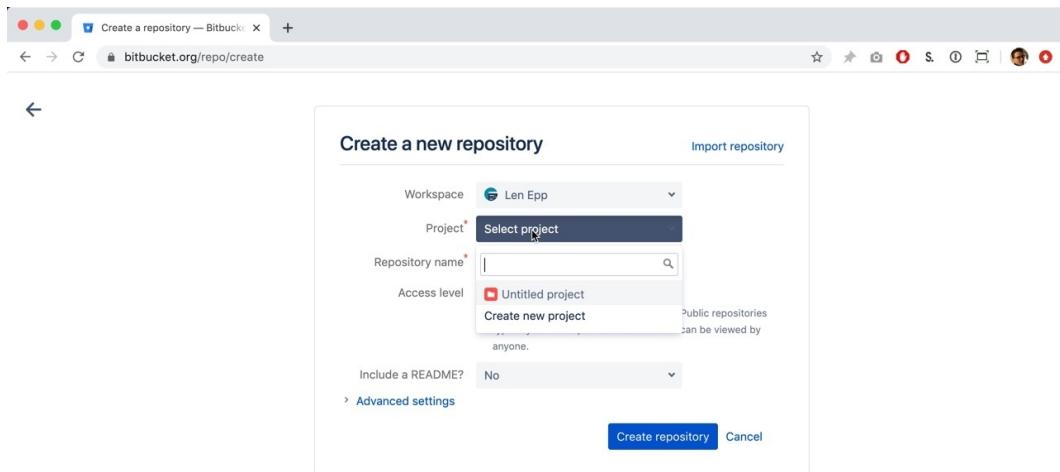


This will take you to a page where you can set up a new repository for your Leanpub book.

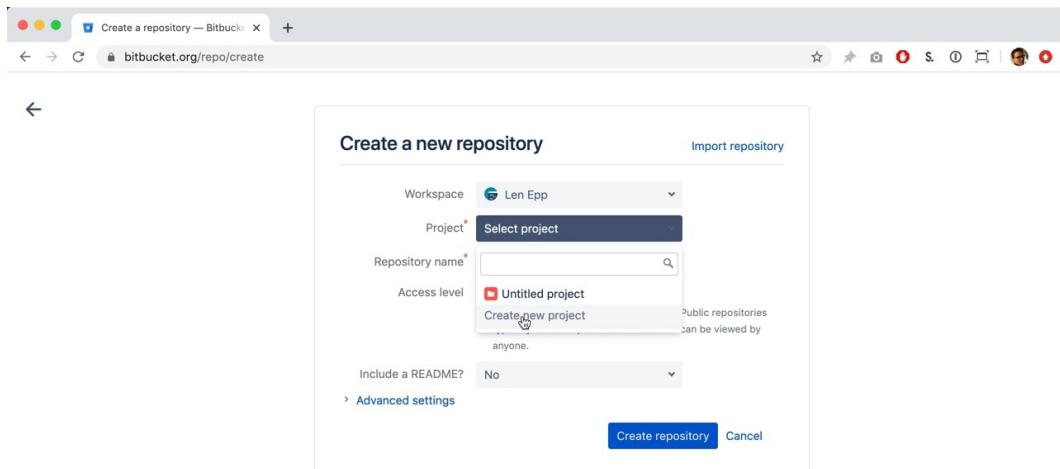


By default, “Private repository” will be selected. Leave this set to “Private repository” if you don’t want anyone to be able to see your repository.

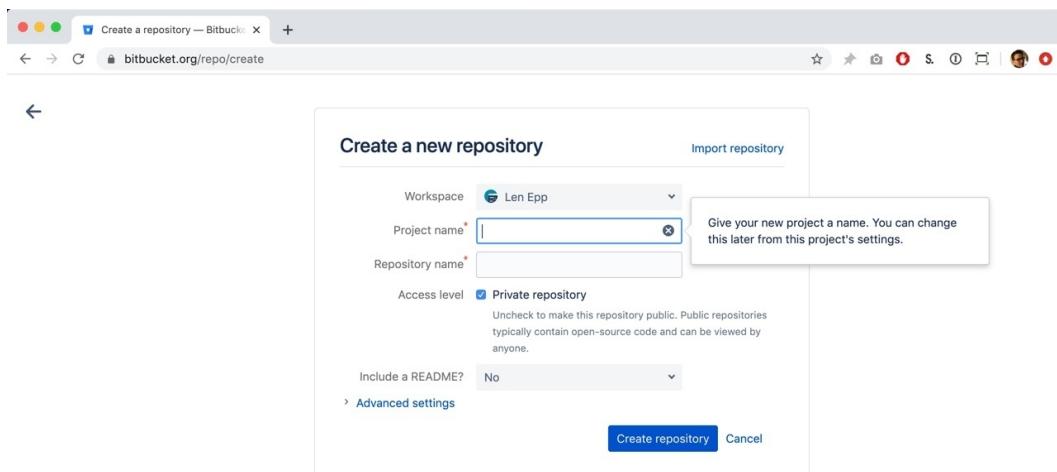
Next, you’ll have to associate the repository with a Project:



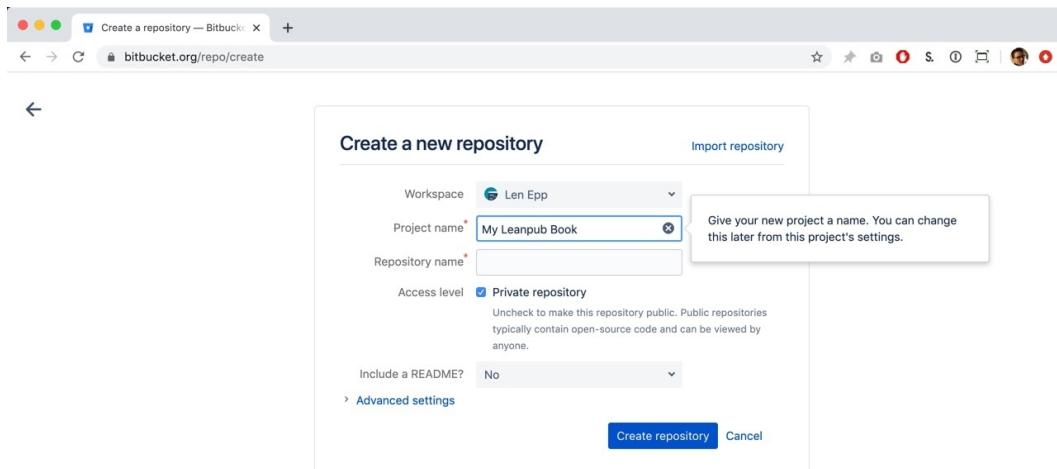
Select an existing project, or click on “Create new project”:



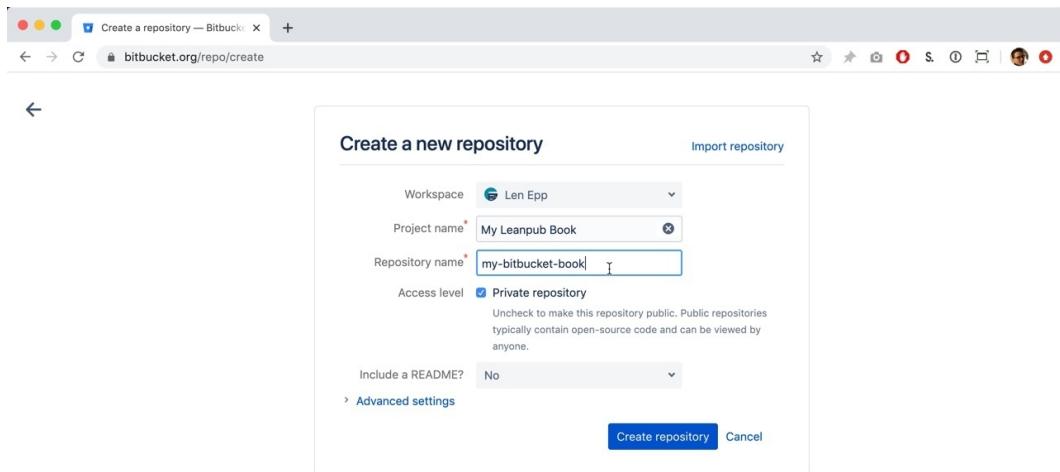
You will now have an option to create a name for your new project:



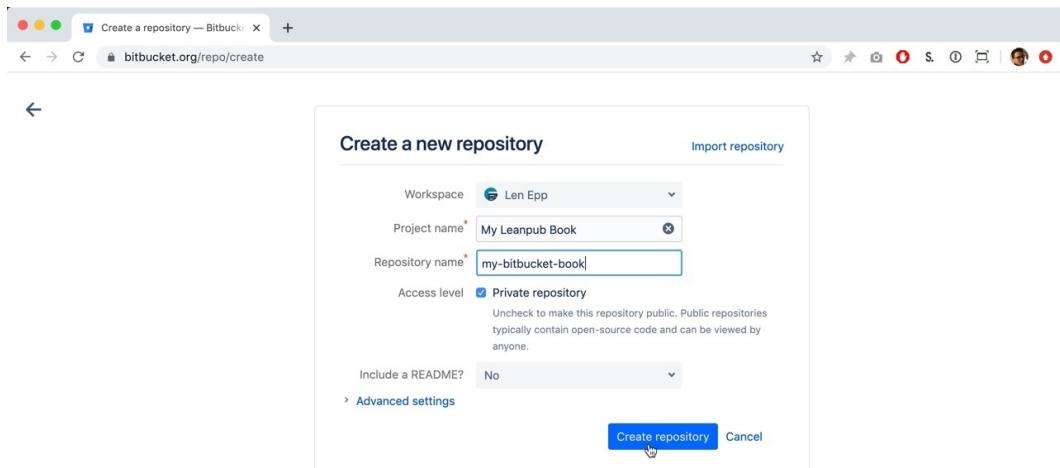
For this tutorial, we're going to name the project "My Leanpub Book":



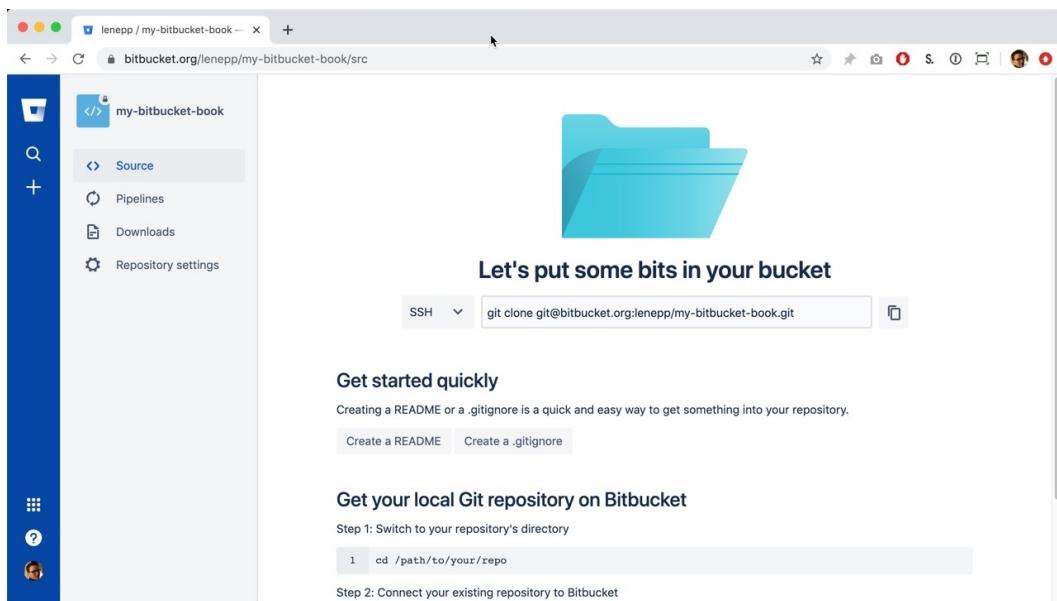
Next, type a name for your repository.



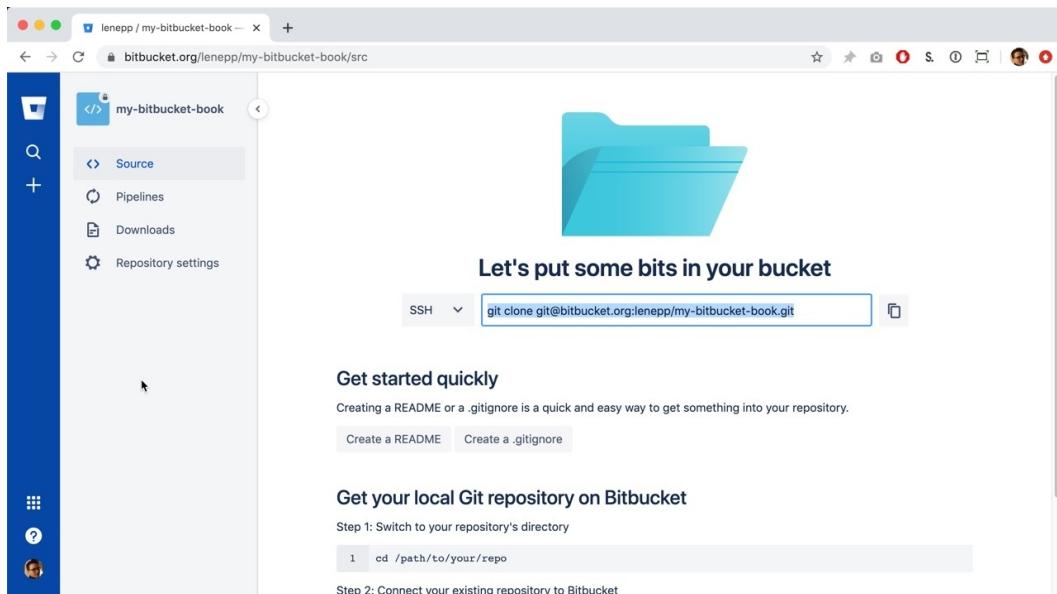
Click the blue “Create repository” button.



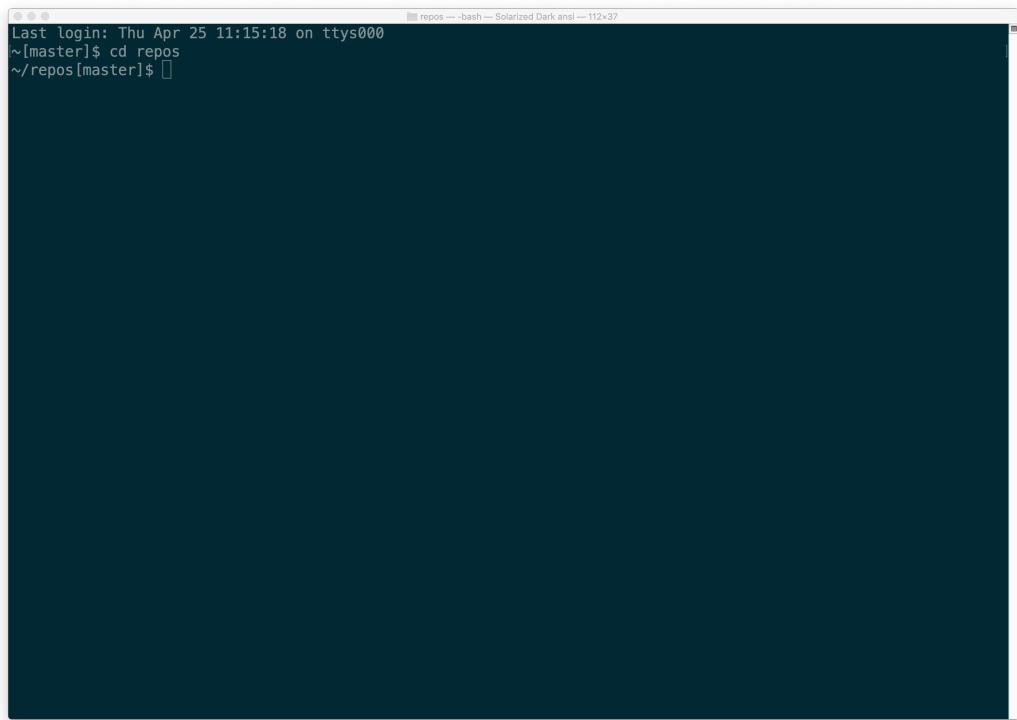
This will take you to a “Get started quickly” page:



Select the repository information and copy it.

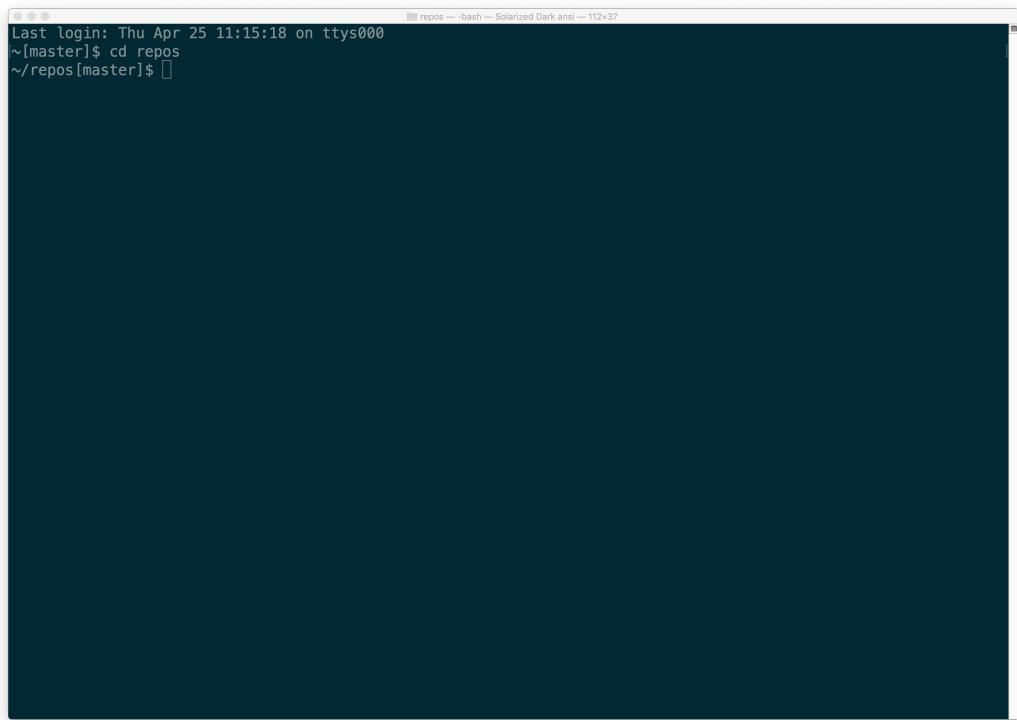


Go to the command line on your computer. In this tutorial we're using a Mac, so we use Terminal.



```
Last login: Thu Apr 25 11:15:18 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ 
```

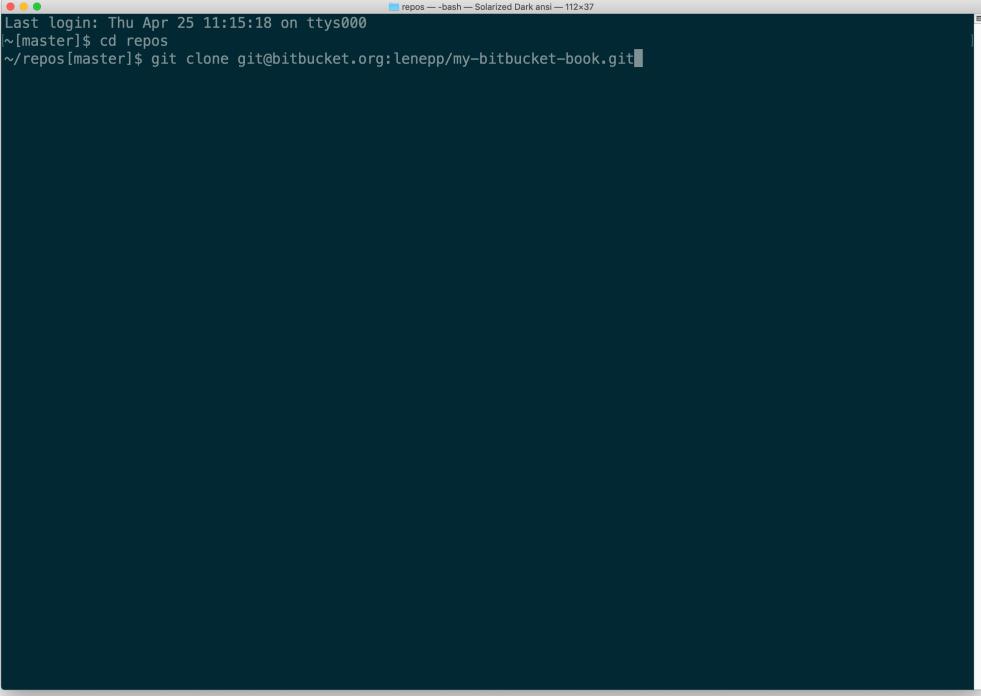
Go to the folder on your computer where you want to clone your Bitbucket repository. In this tutorial, that is a folder called `repos`.



The screenshot shows a terminal window with a dark background and light-colored text. At the top, it displays the path: `repos`, `hash`, and `Solarized Dark ansi`. The window title is `repos`. The terminal history shows:

```
Last login: Thu Apr 25 11:15:18 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$
```

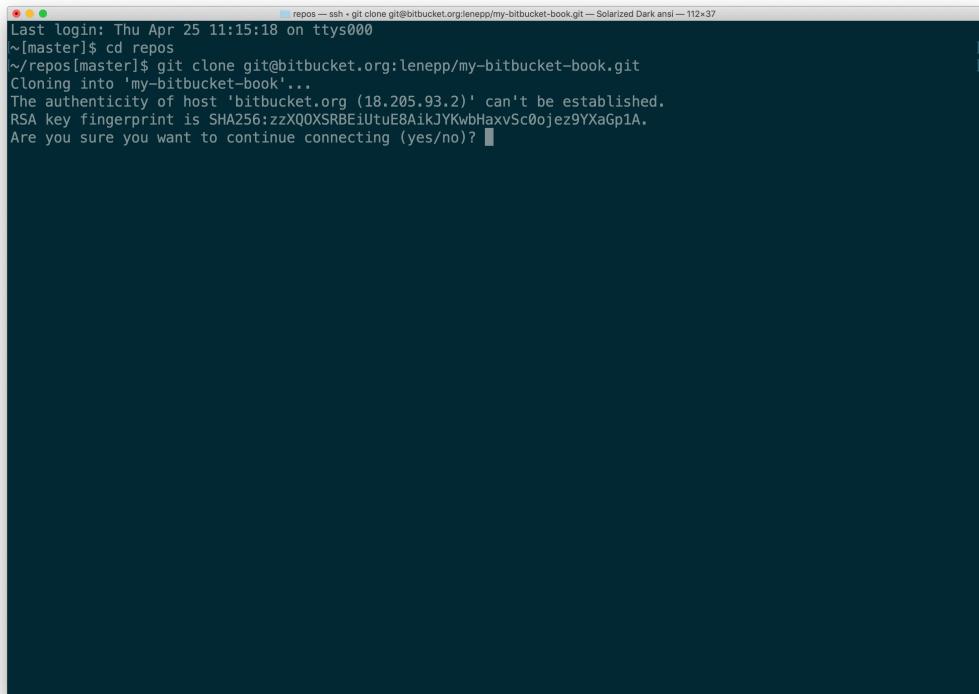
Paste in the repository information you copied on Bitbucket, and hit Enter.



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "repos — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 112x37". The window has three colored tabs at the top left. The terminal content is as follows:

```
Last login: Thu Apr 25 11:15:18 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ git clone git@bitbucket.org:leneppep/my-bitbucket-book.git
```

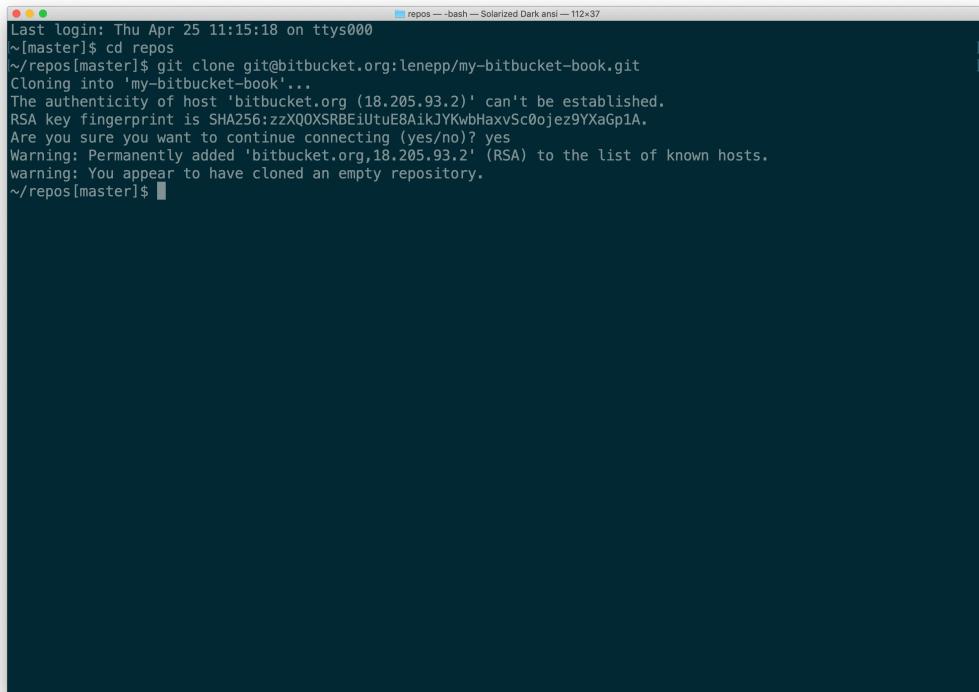
You may see a message asking if you are sure you want to connect. If you are sure, type “yes” and hit return.



The screenshot shows a terminal window with the following text:

```
repos — ssh · git clone git@bitbucket.org:lenepp/my-bitbucket-book.git — Solarized Dark ansj — 112x37
Last login: Thu Apr 25 11:15:18 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ git clone git@bitbucket.org:lenepp/my-bitbucket-book.git
Cloning into 'my-bitbucket-book'...
The authenticity of host 'bitbucket.org (18.205.93.2)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is SHA256:zzXQ0XSRBEiUtuE8AikJYKwbHaxvSc0ojez9YYaGp1A.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? █
```

After a moment, you will see a message saying that the repository has been cloned.



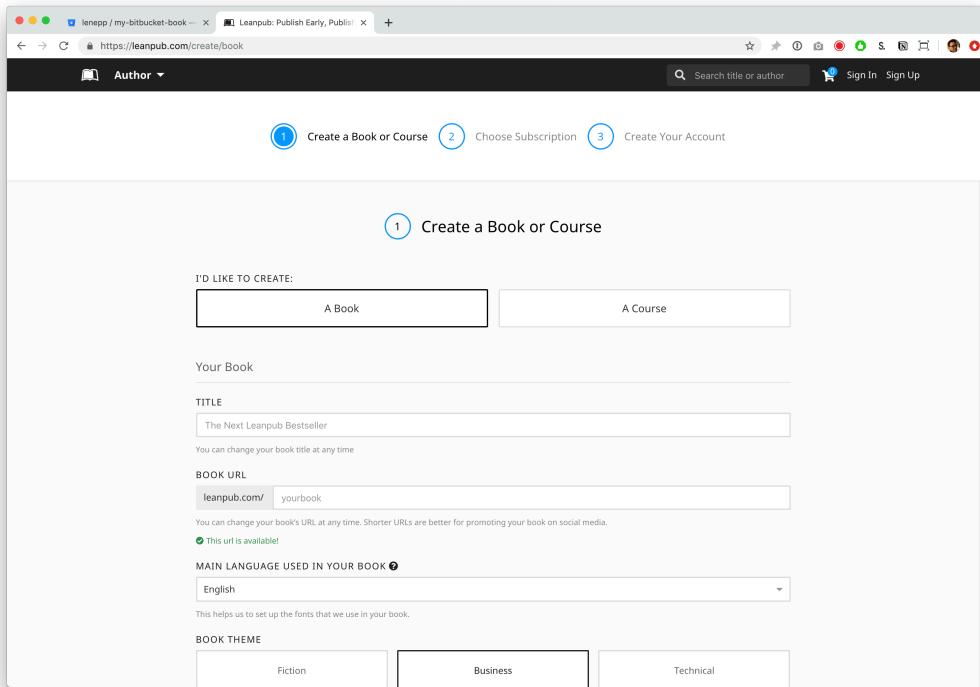
The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "repos — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 112x37". The terminal output is as follows:

```
Last login: Thu Apr 25 11:15:18 on ttys000
~[master]$ cd repos
~/repos[master]$ git clone git@bitbucket.org:leneppe/my-bitbucket-book.git
Cloning into 'my-bitbucket-book'...
The authenticity of host 'bitbucket.org (18.205.93.2)' can't be established.
RSA key fingerprint is SHA256:zzXQ0XSRBEiUtuE8AikJYKwbHaxvSc0ojez9YYaGp1A.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
Warning: Permanently added 'bitbucket.org,18.205.93.2' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.
warning: You appear to have cloned an empty repository.
~/repos[master]$ █
```

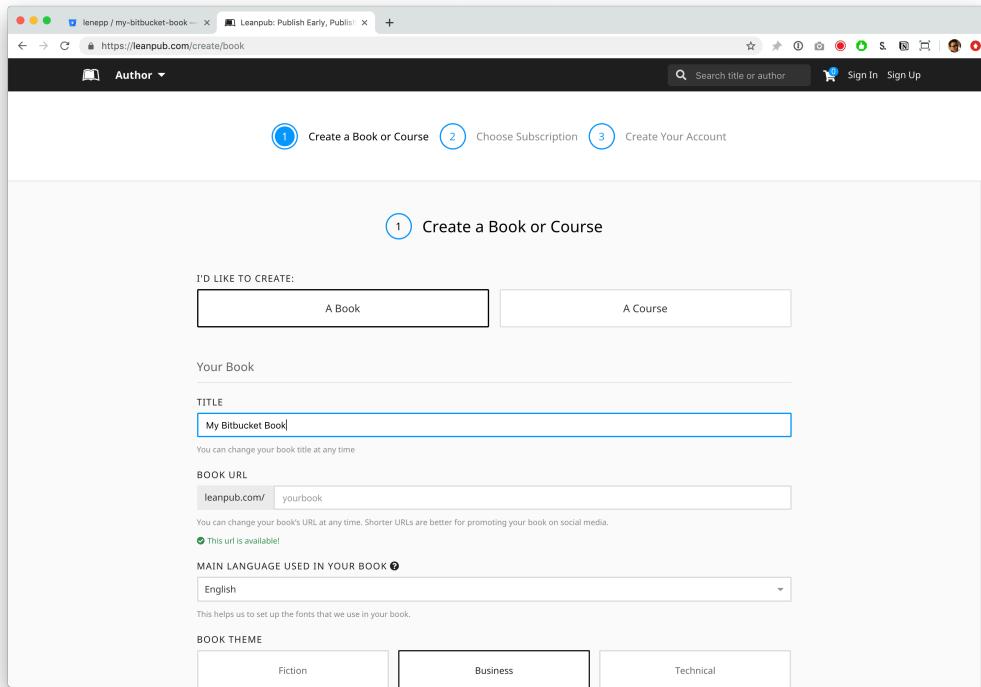
Creating a Book in Bitbucket Writing Mode

Go to [https://leanpub.com/create/book²⁴](https://leanpub.com/create/book) to create a book in Bitbucket writing mode.

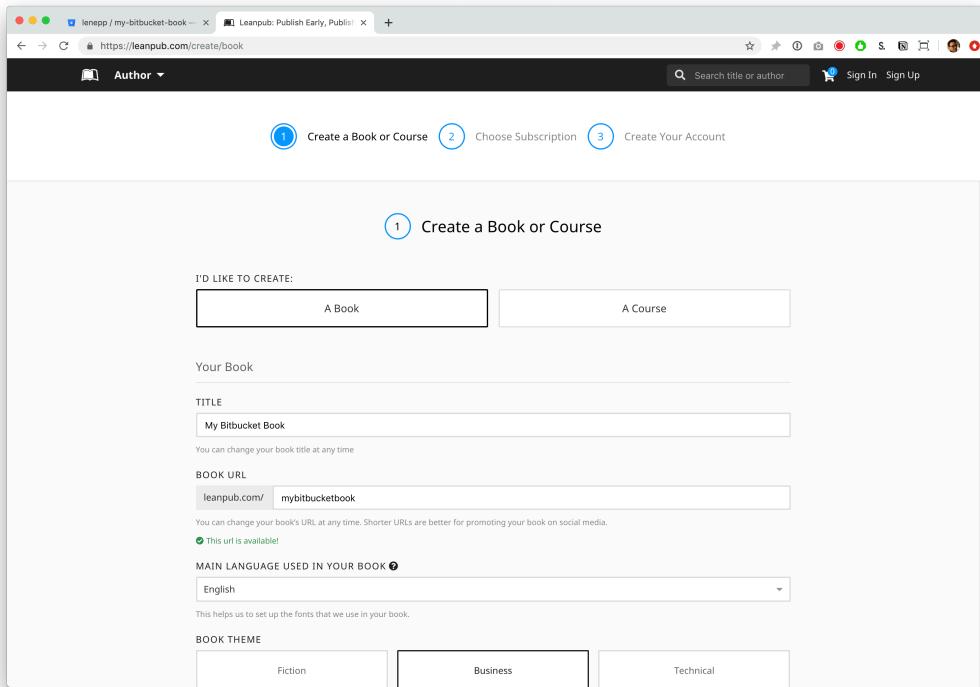
²⁴<https://leanpub.com/create/book>



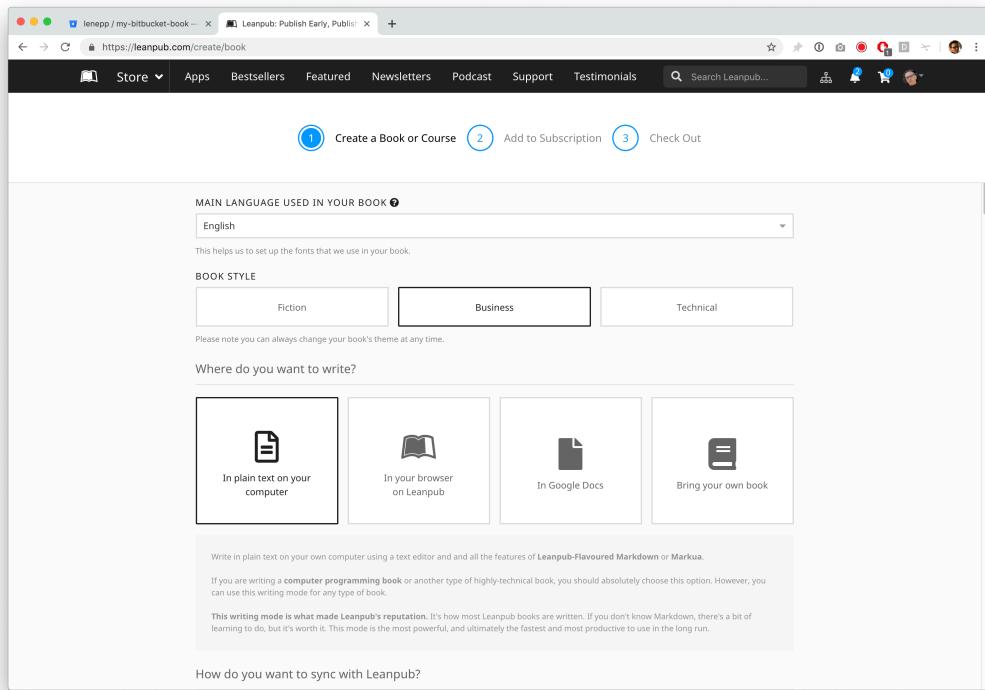
First, type a title for your book into the “TITLE” box. You can change your title later.



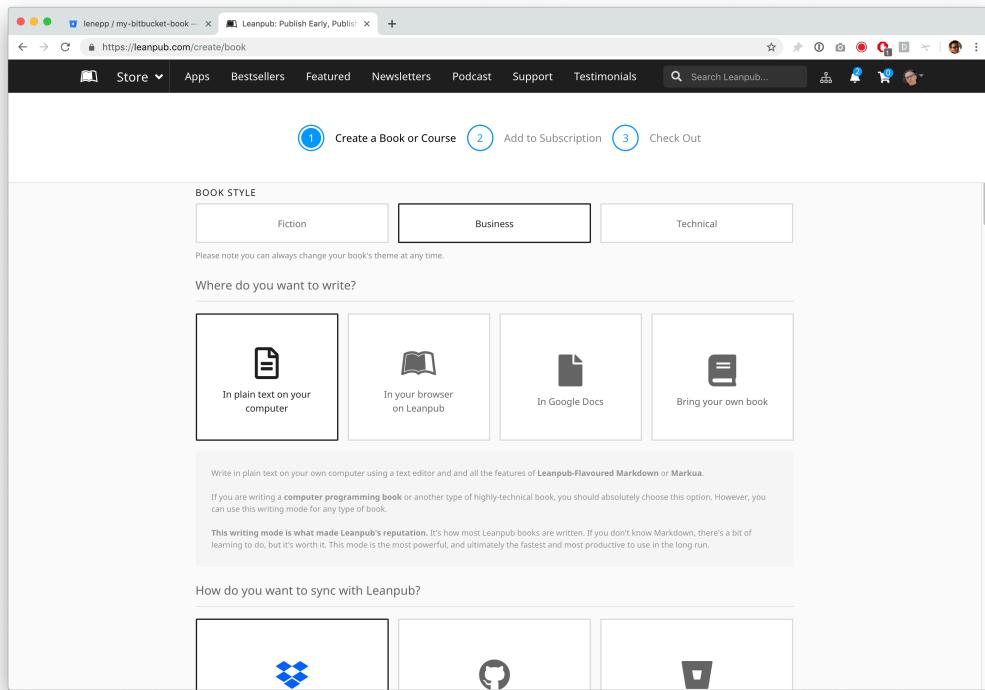
Click in the “BOOK URL” box. Leanpub will automatically suggest a URL for your book’s web page on Leanpub. You can change this URL at any time.



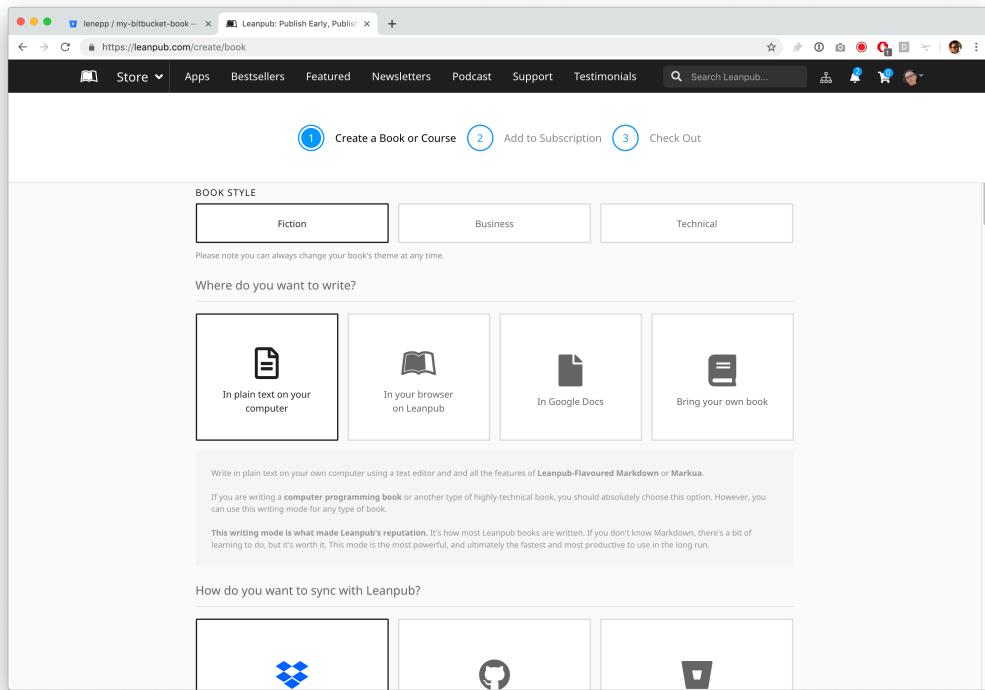
Scroll down and you will see “MAIN LANGUAGE USED IN YOUR BOOK.” You can select a language from the drop-down. Like the other settings, you can change this at any time.



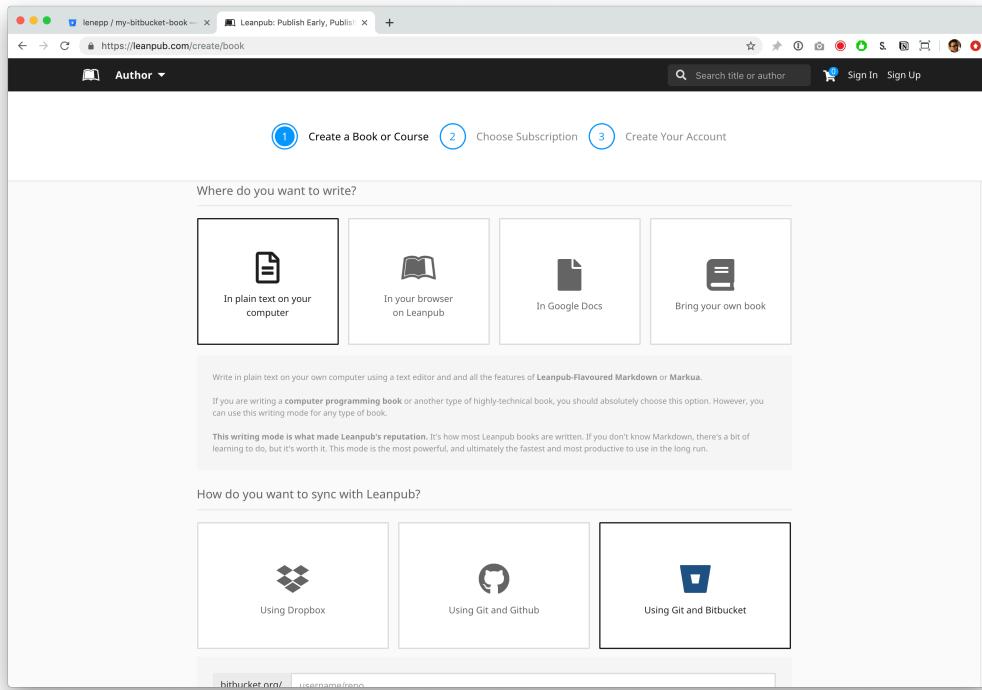
Scroll down and you will see the “BOOK THEME” options. “Business” will be selected by default. The Book Theme is just a set of standard formatting options conventional for books on these subjects. You are not required to choose any particular option. You can change your Book Theme at any time.



For this tutorial, we selected the “Fiction” Book Theme.

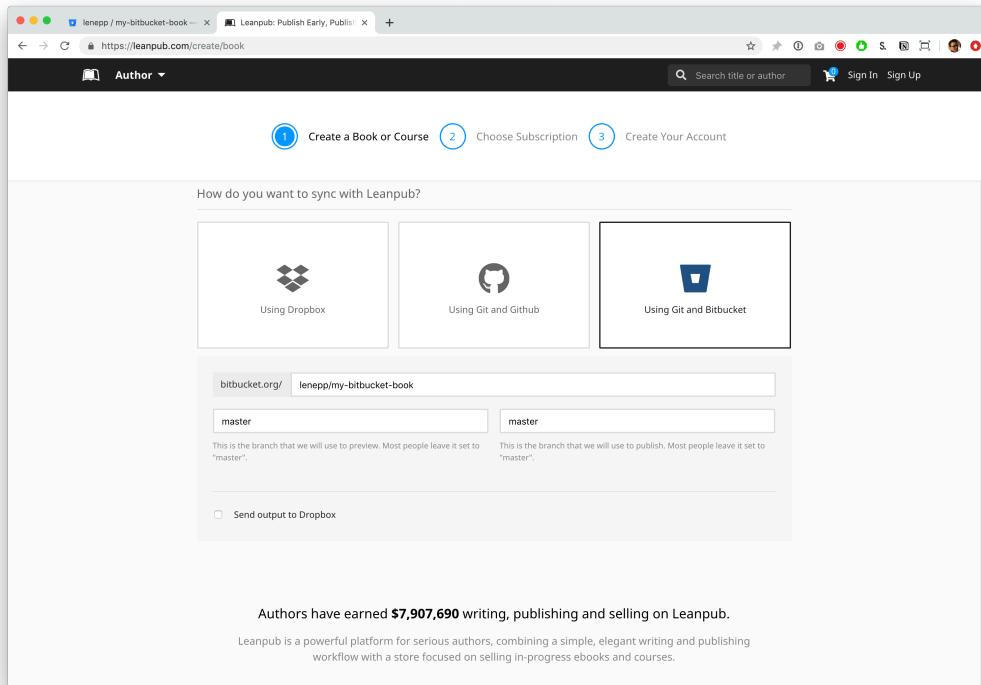


In the section below, you will be presented with various Writing Mode options. For this tutorial, select “Using Git and Bitbucket.”



Scroll down and you will see a box to enter your Bitbucket username, followed by a forward slash / and your Bitbucket repo name.

Enter your Bitbucket username, followed by a forward slash / and your Bitbucket repo name.



When you scroll down further, you will see the subscription plan options. By default, “Free” will be selected. If you have a paid Leanpub account already, you will see that plan selected automatically.

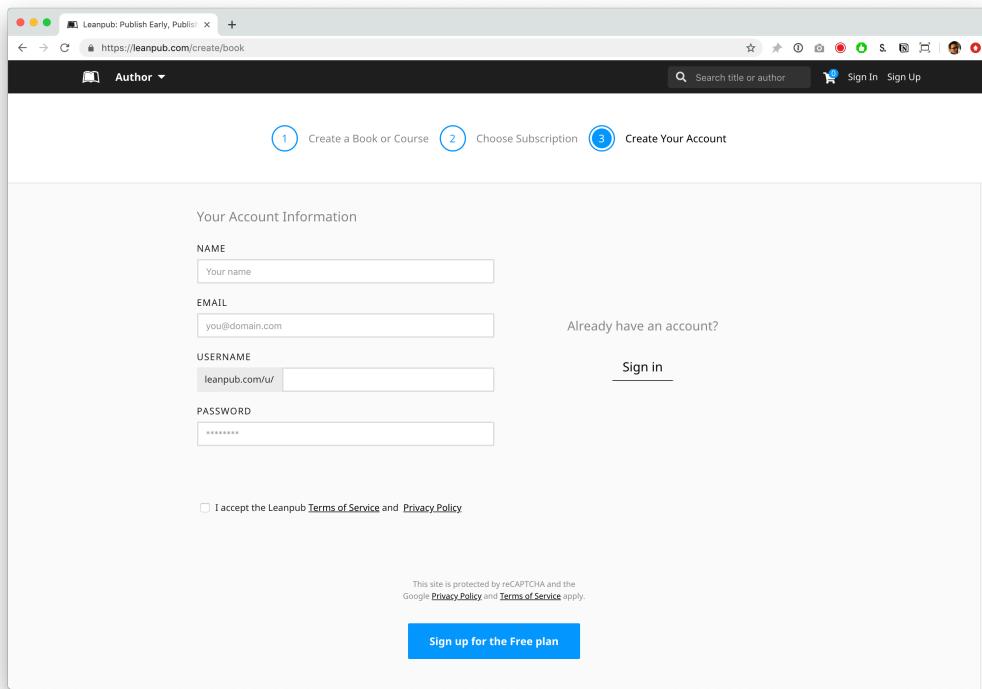
Select a plan.

The screenshot shows the Leanpub website at <https://leanpub.com/create/book>. The top navigation bar includes links for 'Author', 'Search title or author', 'Sign In', and 'Sign Up'. Below the navigation, there are three numbered steps: 1. Create a Book or Course, 2. Choose Subscription (which is currently selected), and 3. Create Your Account.

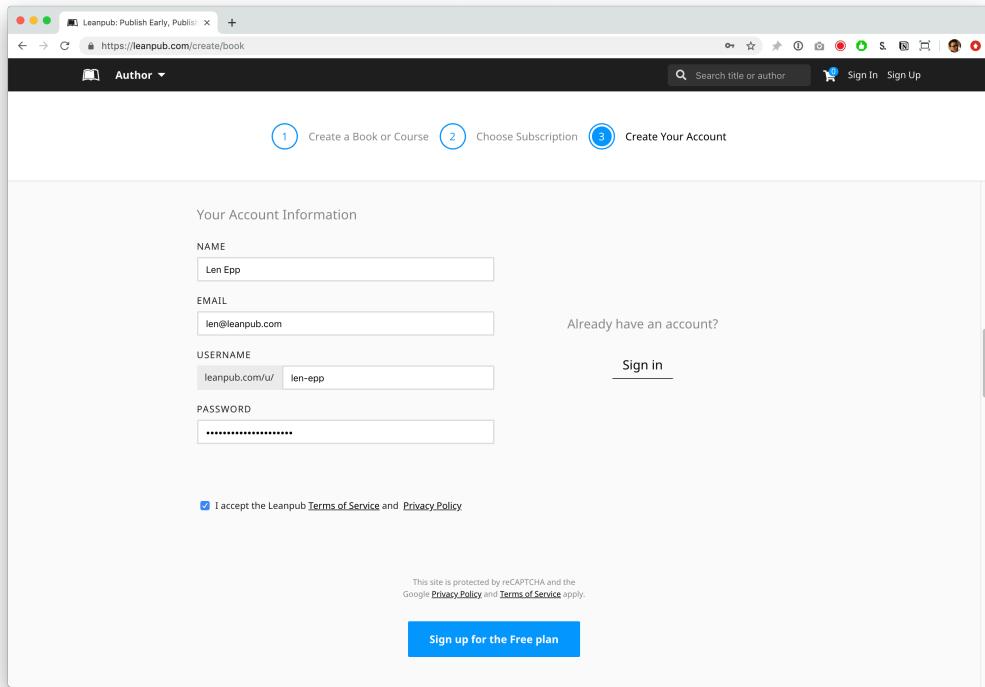
The main content area is titled 'Choose Subscription' and displays three plan options:

| Plan | Feature | FREE | STANDARD | PRO |
|--|------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----|
| Number of books or courses you can create | 100 | 100 | 100 | |
| | Royalty Rate | 80% | 80% | 80% |
| | Standard Themes | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Custom Themes | ✗ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | Google Analytics | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| | InDesign Export | ✗ | ✗ | ✓ |
| Preview or publish up to ten times per month | 10 | ∞ | ∞ | |
| | Free | \$8.99 / month | \$12.99 / month | |

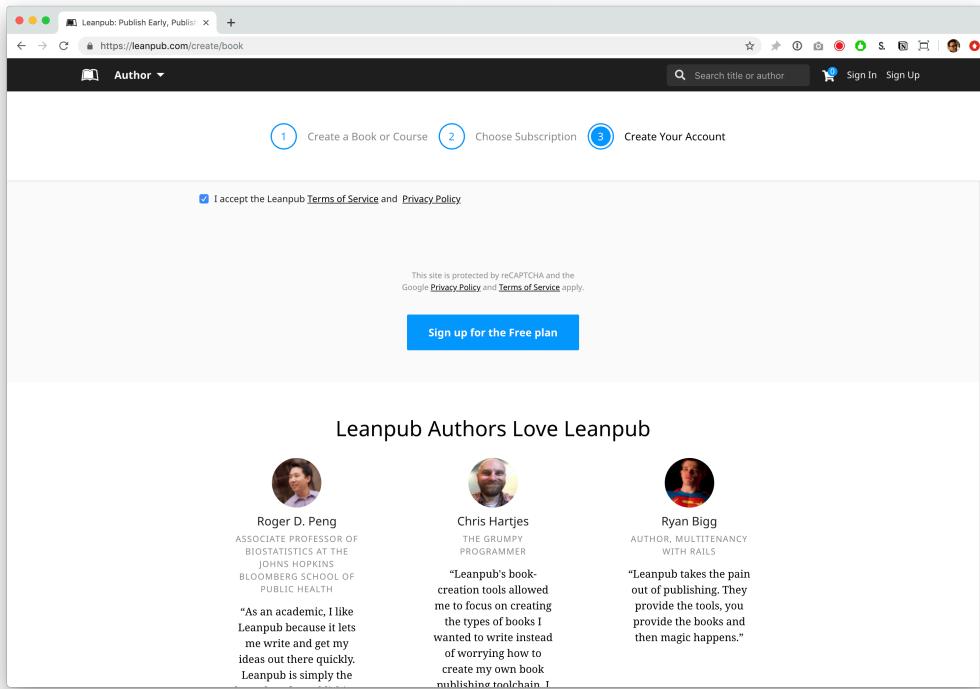
Scroll down and, if you are not signed in to a Leanpub account, you will see an option to enter information to create a new account. You will also see an option to sign in, if you already have a Leanpub account.



To create a new account, fill in the relevant information.



Finally, click the blue button to finish creating your new Bitbucket book.



You will now see that you are on the Getting Started page for your book.

If you use bookmarks in your web browser, we recommend you bookmark this page in your web browser in a bookmark folder for your book, but this is not required.

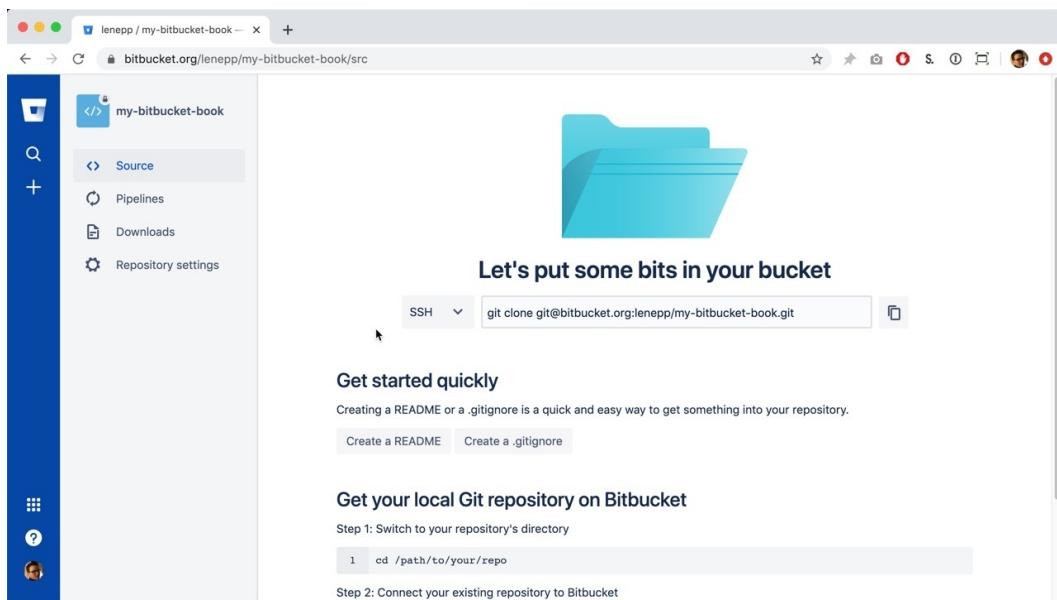
The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybitbucketbook/getting_started. The page is titled "Getting Started" and features a sidebar with a book icon and the text "My Bitbucket Book". The main content area starts with a heading "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Bitbucket Book!". It includes a short tutorial with a duration of 10 minutes, instructions for adding Leanpub as a user to the Bitbucket repository, and information about adding content to the book's repo. A blue speech bubble icon is visible in the bottom right corner.

Look at the Author “breadcrumb” menu at the top of the screen. This is how you will navigate to the web pages you will be using in Leanpub to work on your book and see all the features we provide, like uploading a book cover, or setting a price for your book.

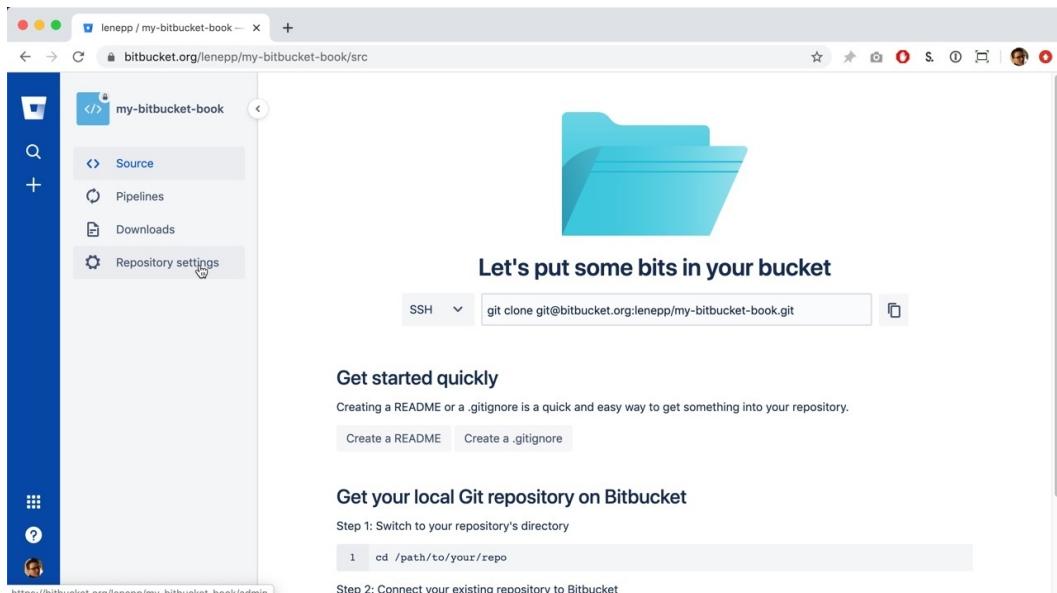
When you are finished this tutorial, we recommend you explore the various Author options.

Adding Leanpub As A Collaborator on Your Book's Bitbucket Repository

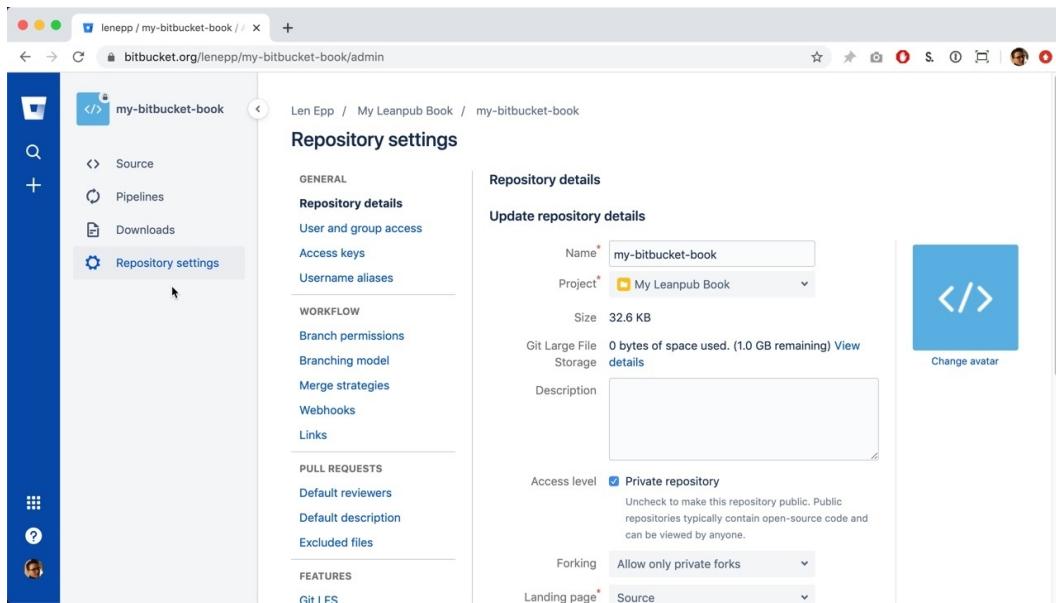
Go back to the Bitbucket page for your book's Bitbucket repository.



Click on “Repository Settings” in the menu to the left:

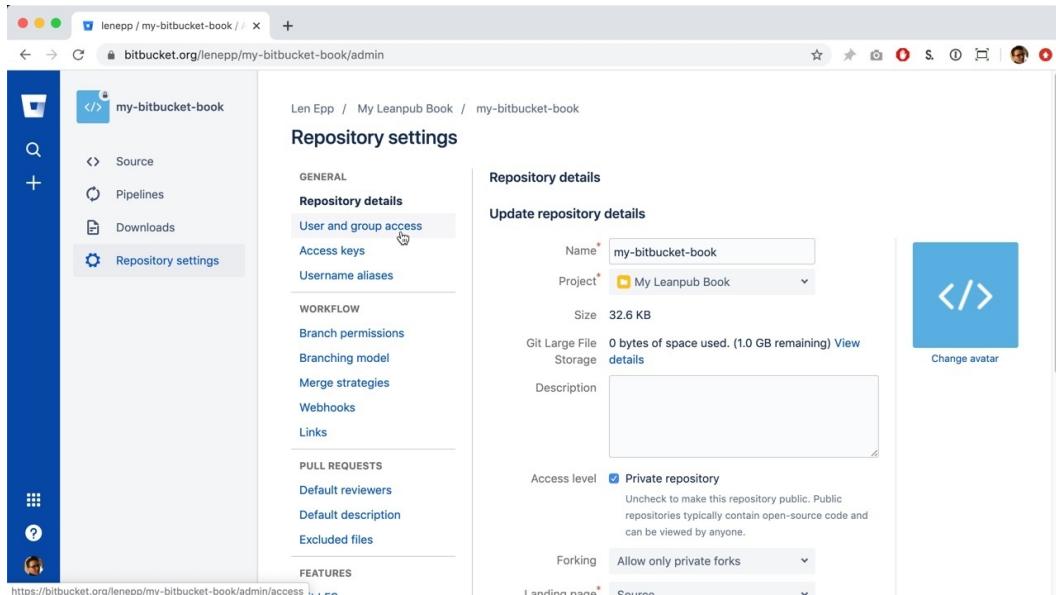


This will take you to the “Repository settings” page:



The screenshot shows the Bitbucket Repository settings page for a repository named "my-bitbucket-book". The left sidebar has a "Repository settings" section with various options like Source, Pipelines, Downloads, and Repository settings. The "Repository settings" option is currently selected. The main content area is titled "Repository details" and contains fields for "Name" (my-bitbucket-book), "Project" (My Leanpub Book), "Size" (32.6 KB), "Git Large File Storage" (0 bytes of space used, 1.0 GB remaining), and a "Description" field. Below these are sections for "Access level" (set to "Private repository"), "Forking" (Allow only private forks), and "Landing page" (Source). A large blue button with a white double slash icon and the text "Change avatar" is visible on the right.

Click on “User and group access” in the menu, under “Repository details”:



This screenshot is identical to the one above, but the "User and group access" option in the sidebar is now highlighted with a blue box. The rest of the interface remains the same, showing the repository details and configuration options.

This will take you to the “User and group access” page:

The screenshot shows the Bitbucket Repository settings page for a repository named "my-bitbucket-book". The left sidebar has "Repository settings" selected. The main content area is titled "Repository settings" and includes a "User and group access" section. A blue callout box highlights a message: "Repository access has changed. In order to improve user privacy, we have made changes to Bitbucket Cloud invitations. You must now enter an email address to add users who don't currently have access to this account." Below this, there's a note: "Grant access to this repository by adding users and groups. You can find them by name if they already have access. If not, type a full email address to add an existing account or to invite a new user." There are sections for "Users" and "Groups", both with an "Add" button.

Type “leanpub” in the search box.

The screenshot shows the same Bitbucket Repository settings page as the previous one, but with a search term “leanpub” entered in the “Add user” search bar under the “Users” section. The user “leanpub” is listed with a “TEAMMATE” badge and “owner” access level. The “Add” button is visible to the right of the user entry.

Click the “Add” button to the right:

The screenshot shows the Bitbucket interface for managing repository access. On the left, a sidebar lists repository settings like Source, Pipelines, Downloads, and Repository settings. The main area is titled 'Repository settings' and shows the 'User and group access' section. A message box states 'Repository access has changed' due to privacy improvements, asking to enter an email address to add users. Below this, under 'Users', 'leanpub' is listed with 'Read' access and an 'Add' button. Under 'Groups', there is a placeholder 'Select a group'. The URL in the browser is bitbucket.org/lenepp/my-bitbucket-book/admin/access.

You will see that Leanpub has been added as a collaborator on the repository.

This screenshot shows the same Bitbucket interface after adding 'leanpub' as a collaborator. The 'User and group access' section now includes 'leanpub' with explicit roles: 'READ', 'WRITE', and 'ADMIN'. The URL in the browser is bitbucket.org/lenepp/my-bitbucket-book/admin/access.

Adding Default Content to Your Bitbucket Repository

Next, you need to add some content to your Bitbucket repository. (Leanpub NEVER commits to your Bitbucket repository, since we do not want to cause merge conflicts.)

Go back to the Getting Started page for your book.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybitbucketbook/getting_started. The page title is "Getting Started | My Bitbucket Book". The main content area has a heading "Getting Started" with a subtext: "This is a short tutorial on how to get started previewing and editing your book. It should take between 5 and 15 minutes to complete." Below this is a large image of an open book icon. To the left of the image, the text "My Bitbucket Book" is visible. The right side of the page contains two sections: "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Bitbucket Book!" and "Step 1: Add Leanpub as a User to Your Bitbucket Repo". The "Step 1" section provides instructions for adding Leanpub as a user to the Bitbucket repository. The "Step 2" section is partially visible at the bottom. A blue circular icon with a white document symbol is located in the bottom right corner of the page area.

Scroll down to Step 2 and click the [this zip file²⁵](#) link, or click the link in this sentence in the tutorial. This will download the default content to your computer.

²⁵<https://github.com/leanpub/default-new-book-content/archive/master.zip>

Step 2: Add Content to Your Book's Repo

Before you create your first ebook preview, you need to add some content to your book's repo.

Here's a technical explanation of how the repo should be set up: the root of your Bitbucket repository should contain a directory called `manuscript`, which will contain all of the text files and other content for your book, including a directory called `images` for any images you wish to include in your book. (If you choose to write in Markdown, this directory should be called `resources` instead.)

If this is a new book, please download [this zip file](#) with some default book content to get you started.

Then, unzip the file, and add the `manuscript` folder to your book's repo on your computer.

(Please note that if you're writing in Markdown, you should rename the `images` folder to `resources` instead.)

If you have switched writing modes and already have content for your book, please get the latest version of your manuscript from the `Versions` tab on the left. (Whenever you switch writing modes, or preview or publish your book, we create a new backup version of your manuscript for you, excluding images and other resources.)

Then, add the `manuscript` folder to your book's Bitbucket repo.

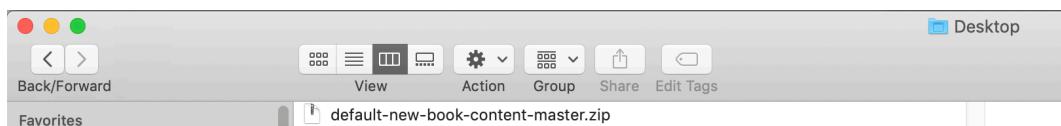
Step 3: Make Your First Preview

This is where the magic begins. When you click the button to create a preview of your book, we create multiple versions of it for you, that only you can see:

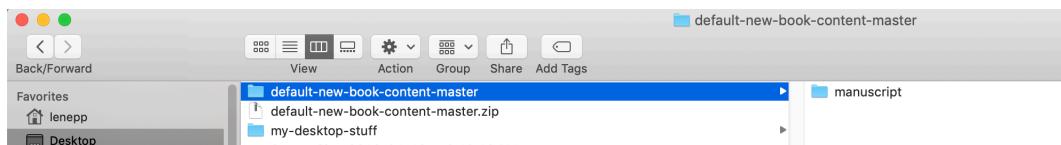
- PDF (for your computer)
- EPUB (for iPad and other ebook readers and phones)
- MOBI (for Kindle)
- Read online (for reading in your browser)

It takes a couple of minutes to generate the preview in all of these formats. When the book generation process is complete, you will be able to click links on the `Preview` page to see all of the versions of your book.

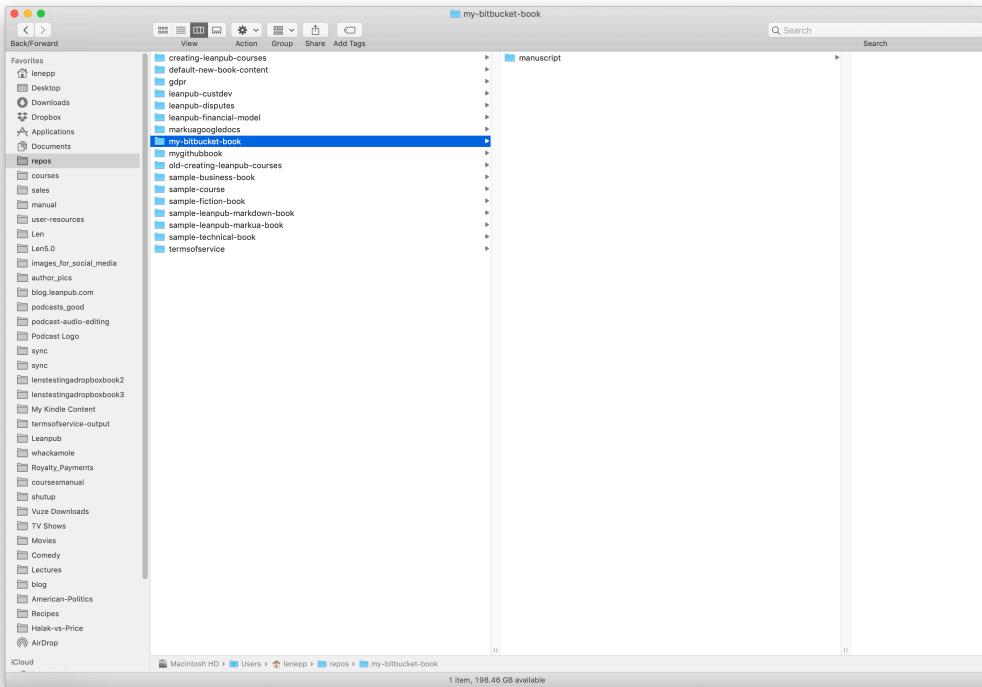
You will now find the file wherever you store downloads on your computer.



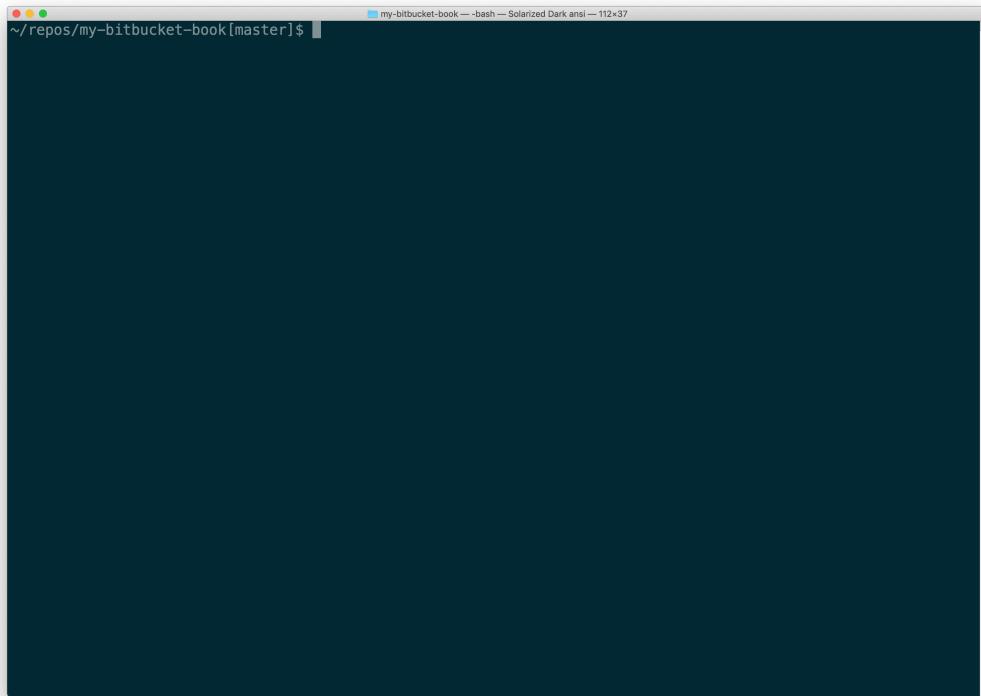
Double-click the folder to unzip it.



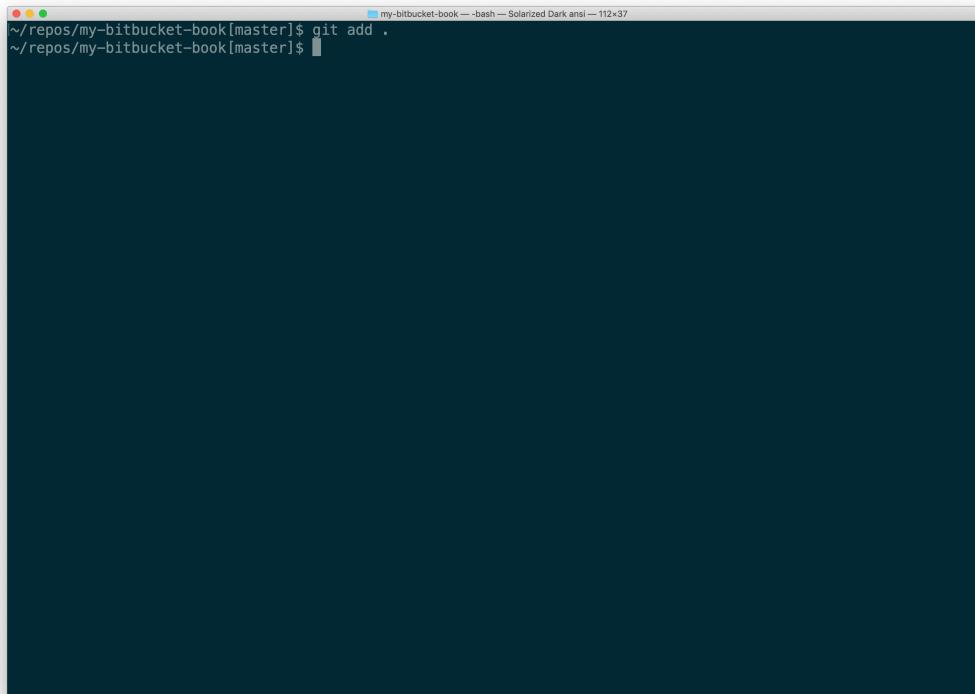
Copy the “manuscript” folder. Then, go to the cloned Bitbucket repository on your computer, and paste the “manuscript” folder into the repository.



Go back to the command line on your computer and change to the Bitbucket repository for your book.

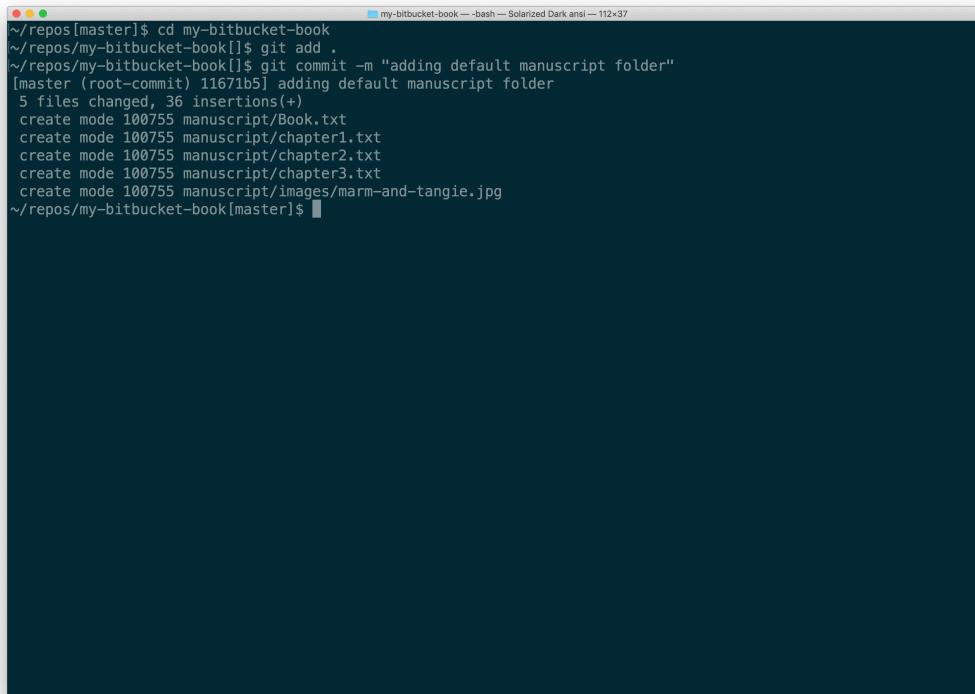


Type `git add .` to the content using Git.



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "my-bitbucket-book — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 112×37". The window has three colored tabs at the top left: red, yellow, and green. The terminal prompt is "("~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[master]\$ git add ." followed by a black terminal cursor. The rest of the window is completely black, indicating no output for the command.

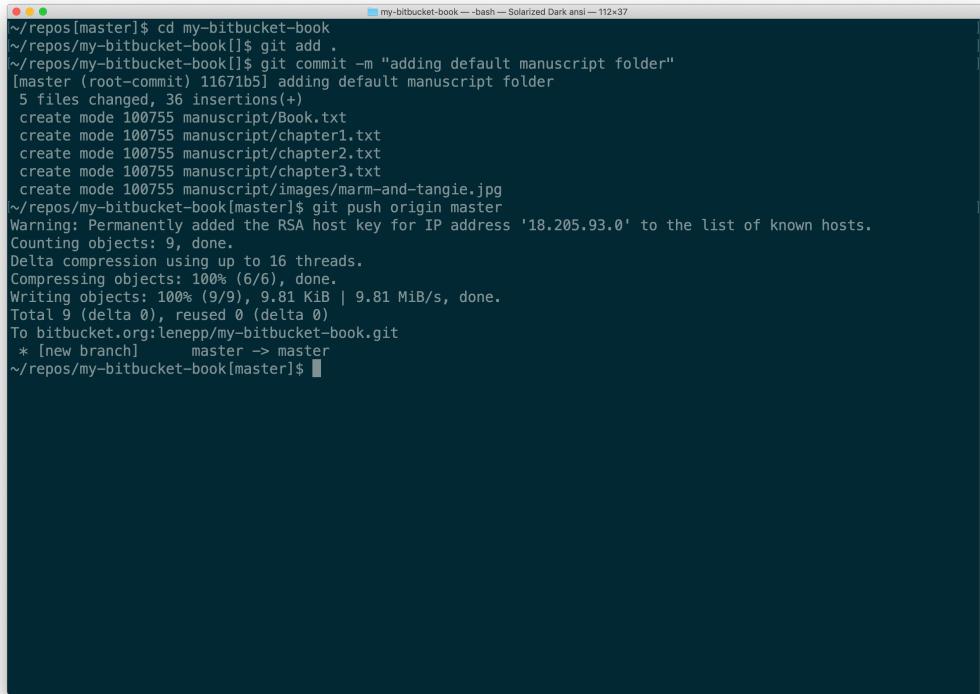
Type `git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"`. You will see messages indicating that the content has been committed.



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "my-bitbucket-book — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 112x37". The terminal displays the following command-line session:

```
~/repos[master]$ cd my-bitbucket-book
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[]$ git add .
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[]$ git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"
[master (root-commit) 11671b5] adding default manuscript folder
 5 files changed, 36 insertions(+)
create mode 100755 manuscript/Book.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter1.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter2.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter3.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/images/marm-and-tangie.jpg
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[master]$ █
```

Type `git push origin master` to push the commit to the repository on Bitbucket.

A screenshot of a terminal window titled "my-bitbucket-book — bash — Solarized Dark ansi — 112x37". The terminal shows a series of git commands being run. It starts with navigating to the repository directory ("cd my-bitbucket-book"), adding files ("git add ."), committing changes ("git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder""), and pushing the changes to a remote repository ("git push origin master"). The output includes standard git messages like "Warning: Permanently added the RSA host key for IP address '18.205.93.0' to the list of known hosts.", "Counting objects: 9, done.", "Delta compression using up to 16 threads.", "Compressing objects: 100% (6/6), done.", "Writing objects: 100% (9/9), 9.81 KiB | 9.81 MiB/s, done.", "Total 9 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)". Finally, it shows the new branch created ("* [new branch] master -> master").

```
~/repos[master]$ cd my-bitbucket-book
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[]$ git add .
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[]$ git commit -m "adding default manuscript folder"
[master (root-commit) 11671b5] adding default manuscript folder
 5 files changed, 36 insertions(+)
create mode 100755 manuscript/Book.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter1.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter2.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/chapter3.txt
create mode 100755 manuscript/images/marm-and-tangie.jpg
[~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[master]$ git push origin master
Warning: Permanently added the RSA host key for IP address '18.205.93.0' to the list of known hosts.
Counting objects: 9, done.
Delta compression using up to 16 threads.
Compressing objects: 100% (6/6), done.
Writing objects: 100% (9/9), 9.81 KiB | 9.81 MiB/s, done.
Total 9 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0)
To bitbucket.org:lenepp/my-bitbucket-book.git
 * [new branch] master -> master
~/repos/my-bitbucket-book[master]$ ]
```

Creating a Preview

To create your first preview, using the default content we included in your new book, go back the Getting Started page for your book:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybitbucketbook/getting_started. The page title is "Getting Started". The main content area features a large image of an open book icon. Below the image, the text "My Bitbucket Book" is displayed. The main heading is "Congratulations on creating your Leanpub book My Bitbucket Book!". A sub-section titled "Step 1: Add Leanpub as a User to Your Bitbucket Repo" provides instructions on how to add Leanpub as a user to the book's repository. Another section, "Step 2: Add Content to Your Book's Repo", is partially visible. The top navigation bar includes links for "Author", "Books", "My Bitbucket Book", "Book Info", and "Getting Started". The right side of the browser window shows various status icons and a search bar.

Click on “Getting Started” at the top, and you will see your the Author menu. It will look something like this:

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybitbucketbook/getting_started. The page is titled "My Bitbucket Book". On the left, there's a sidebar with links like "Account", "Library", "Store", "Forums", "Publisher", and "University". The main content area has sections for "Books", "Book Info", and "Getting Started". The "Getting Started" section is currently active, showing a sub-menu with options: "Authors", "Book Details", "Categories", "Contributors", "Copyright", "Dedication", "ISBN (optional)", "Language", "Mature Content", "Overview", and "Thank you". A tooltip at the bottom left says: "Book Tools menu. You can also click [this link](#) to go to the Preview page." Another tooltip below it says: "(After you create your preview on the Preview page, you will need to click the Getting Started link near the top of the Book Tools menu to get back to this tutorial.)" A third tooltip at the bottom right says: "Here's a screenshot showing where you can find Preview in the Book Tools menu:" followed by a smaller screenshot of the "BOOK TOOLS" section.

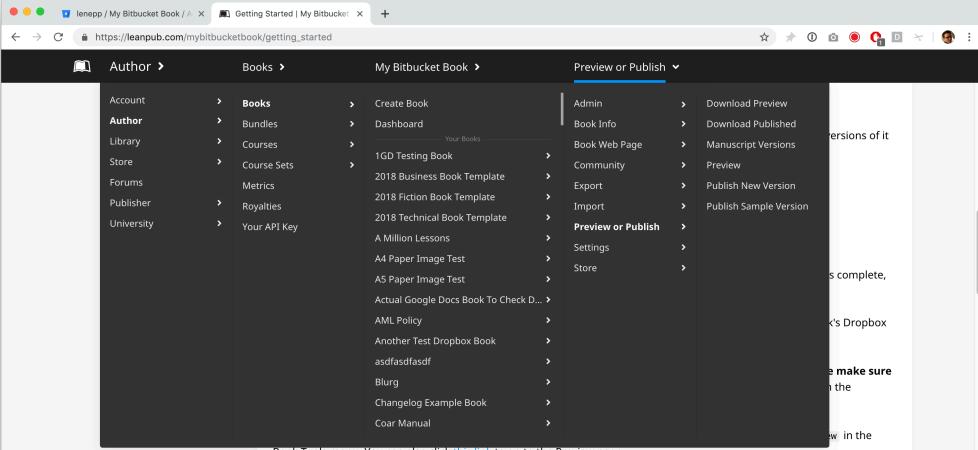
Book Tools menu. You can also click [this link](#) to go to the Preview page.

(After you create your preview on the Preview page, you will need to click the `Getting Started` link near the top of the Book Tools menu to get back to this tutorial.)

Here's a screenshot showing where you can find `Preview` in the Book Tools menu:

The "BOOK TOOLS" menu includes "Overview", "Getting Started" (which is highlighted), "Upload Book Cover", "Book Info", "Writing", and "Book Web Page". To the right, there's a note: "This is a short tutorial to help you get started. It should take around 10 minutes. By the end of this tutorial, you'll understand how to edit your book in Leanpub and how to generate previews of your book. If any part of this tutorial is not clear to you, then we recommend looking at our [manual](#), visiting the [Leanpub Author Help Center](#), emailing our friendly team at hello@leanpub.com, or joining the very helpful [Leanpub Google Group](#). 

Click on “Preview or Publish” under the “Book Info” column, and you will see something like this:

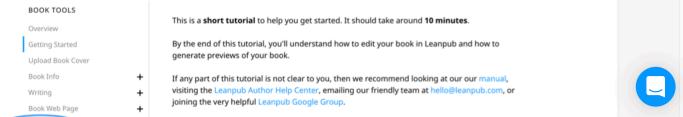


The screenshot shows a browser window with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybitbucketbook/getting_started. The page title is "Getting Started | My Bitbucket". The main content area displays a navigation menu with sections like "Account", "Author", "Library", "Store", "Forums", "Publisher", and "University". Under the "Books" section, there are links for "Create Book", "Dashboard", and "Your Books". The "Your Books" section lists several books: "1GD Testing Book", "2018 Business Book Template", "2018 Fiction Book Template", "2018 Technical Book Template", "A Million Lessons", "A4 Paper Image Test", "A5 Paper Image Test", "Actual Google Docs Book To Check D...", "AML Policy", "Another Test Dropbox Book", "asdfasdfasfdf", "Blurg", "Changelog Example Book", and "Coar Manual". On the right side of the screen, there is a sidebar titled "Preview or Publish" which contains options like "Admin", "Book Info", "Book Web Page", "Community", "Export", "Import", "Preview", "Publish New Version", and "Publish Sample Version". A tooltip at the bottom of the sidebar says: "Book Tools menu. You can also click [this link](#) to go to the Preview page." Another tooltip below it says: "(After you create your preview on the Preview page, you will need to click the [Getting Started](#) link near the top of the Book Tools menu to get back to this tutorial.)" A third tooltip at the bottom says: "Here's a screenshot showing where you can find [Preview](#) in the Book Tools menu:" followed by a smaller screenshot of the "BOOK TOOLS" section of the sidebar.

Book Tools menu. You can also click [this link](#) to go to the Preview page.

(After you create your preview on the Preview page, you will need to click the [Getting Started](#) link near the top of the Book Tools menu to get back to this tutorial.)

Here's a screenshot showing where you can find [Preview](#) in the Book Tools menu:

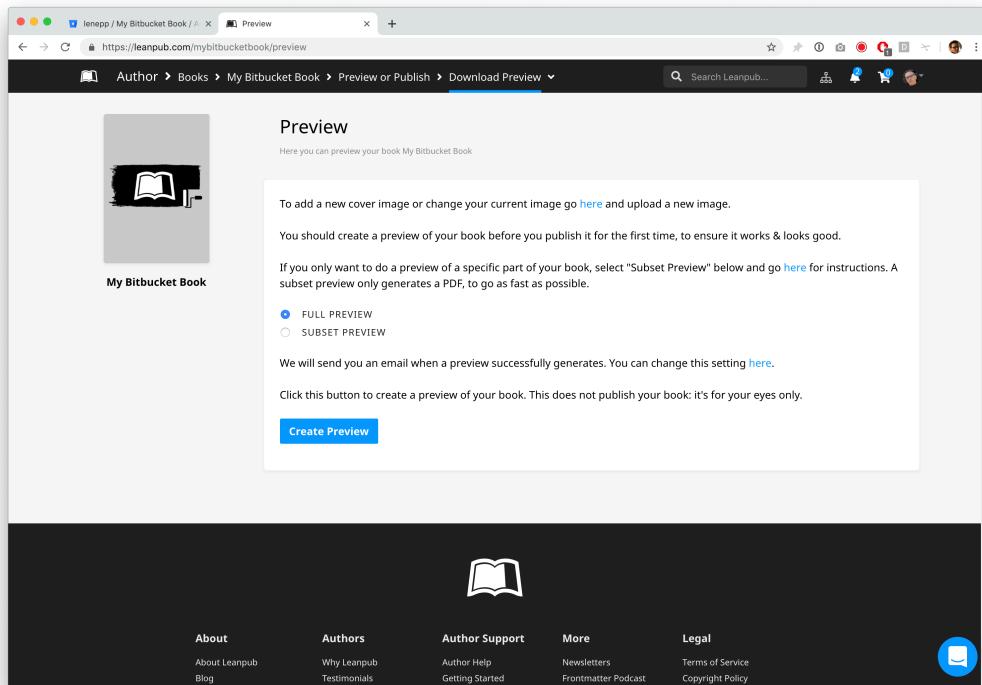


The "BOOK TOOLS" section of the sidebar includes links for "Overview", "Getting Started" (which is highlighted), "Upload Book Cover", "Book Info", "Writing", and "Book Web Page". To the right of these links is a tooltip with the following text:

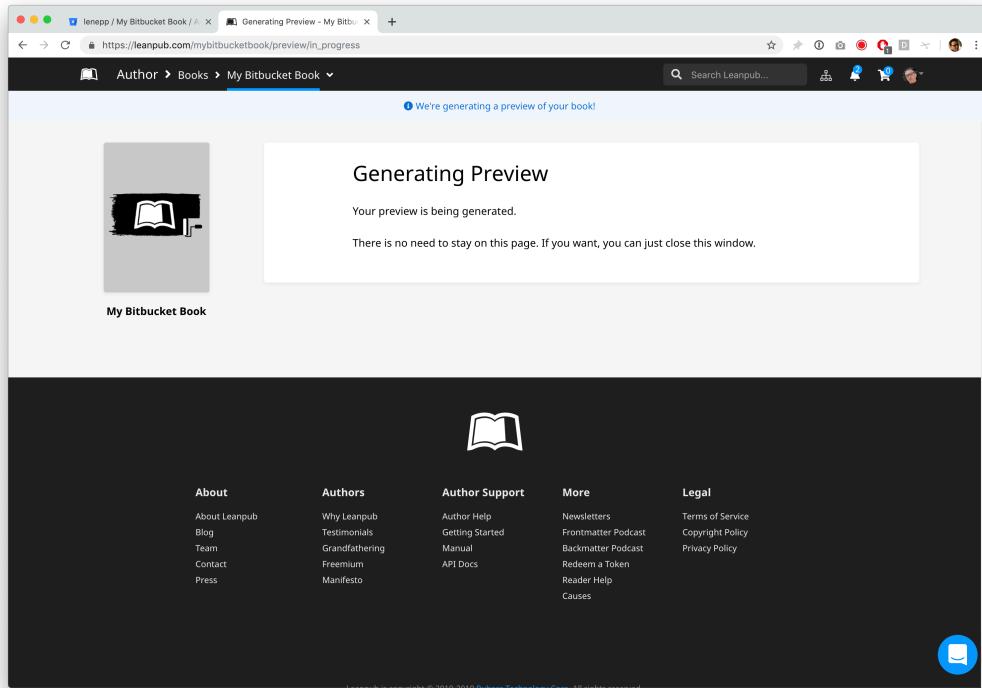
This is a short tutorial to help you get started. It should take around 10 minutes.
By the end of this tutorial, you'll understand how to edit your book in Leanpub and how to generate previews of your book.

If any part of this tutorial is not clear to you, then we recommend looking at our [manual](#), visiting the [Leanpub Author Help Center](#), emailing our friendly team at hello@leanpub.com, or joining the very helpful [Leanpub Google Group](#).

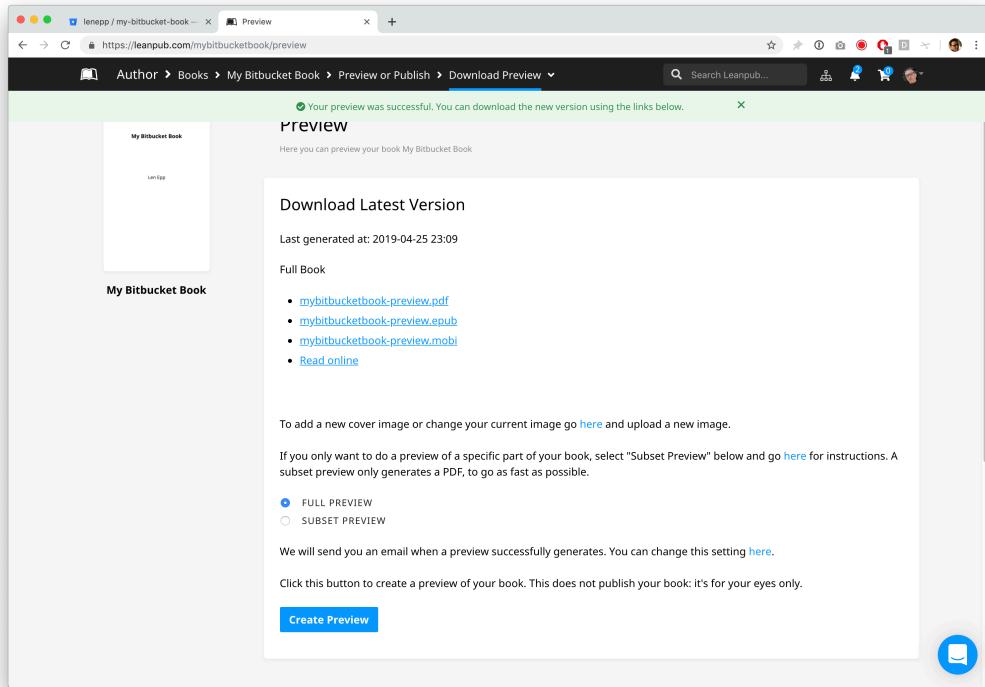
Select “Preview” in the column to the right, and you will go to the “Preview” page for your book:



Click the “Create Preview” button. You will go to a page like this, where you will see a progress bar at the top:



When the preview process is complete, you will see download links for the preview, in a variety of formats:



Click on the links to see what your book looks like in the various formats.

Writing in Your Book

Open your book folder in Bitbucket. You'll see a folder named `manuscript` inside it. This is where you write your book.

If you have just created a new book, the `manuscript` folder will contain four files with the file name extension `.txt`. There will also be a folder called `resources`:

```
Book.txt
chapter1.txt
chapter2.txt
chapter3.txt
resources
```

Open the file called `chapter1.txt` by double-clicking on it. You can also open the file in any specific text editing software you prefer.

Next, delete the contents of the file and type:

```
# Chapter 1

Hello, world!
```

In your text editor, save this change.

Make a New Preview of Your Book

Next, you need to commit your changes and push them to Bitbucket.

On the command line, type `git commit -m "first tutorial steps"` and hit the return key.

Next, type ‘`git push`’ and hit the return key.

The next time you create a preview of your book, you will see that Chapter One has changed, and it now says “Hello, world!”

To create a new preview, repeat what you did when you made your first preview, by using the Author menu in Leanpub to go to:

[Author > Books > \[Your Book Title\] > Preview or Publish > Preview](#)

How the List of Files in Book.txt Works

When you create a preview, you may not want our book generators to use all of the files in your `manuscript` folder. Also, you may want the contents of your book to reflect a different order than the order they are presented in, in your `manuscript` folder.

So, whenever you create a preview, our friendly bookbots generate your book using only the files that you have listed in the `Book.txt` file that is in your book's `manuscript` folder, and they use those files in the order that you have listed them.

Let's see how this works.

First, delete a file. In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file named `chapter3.txt` and delete it.

Now, let's rename a file. The files listed in `Book.txt` can have any name you want to give them. (To be clear, the files do not have to include the word "chatper" in the file name.)

In your book's `manuscript` folder, select the file `chapter2.txt`.

Now, change the file name to `conclusion.txt` by right-clicking on the file and selecting "Rename." *(Your computer might show a different word than "Rename," but there should be an option to change any file's name if you right-click on the file.)

Now that we have changed the files in the `manuscript` folder, we need to update the list of files in the `Book.txt` file.

Using your text editor, open the `Book.txt` file.

In the `Book.txt` file, you will see this list of files, like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
chapter2.txt  
chapter3.txt
```

First, delete `chapter2.txt`. Then, delete `chapter3.txt`.

Next, on the second line, type `conclusion.txt`.

Now, your list of files in `Book.txt` will look like this:

```
chapter1.txt  
conclusion.txt
```

Next, open the file `conclusion.txt`.

Now, delete everthing in the file, and type this:

Conclusion

This book is **done** and ready for *the world to see*, hooray!

Finally, save this change your text editor.

Next, you need to commit your changes and push them to Bitbucket.

On the command line, type `git commit -m "finishing tutorial"` and hit the return key.

Next, type ‘`git push`’ and hit the return key.

Now, go back to the preview page for your book at:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Preview or Publish > Preview

The next time you create a preview, it will reflect the changes you have made.

Congratulations! You’ve completed the Getting Started tutorial for writing a book in Leanpub using Bitbucket.

Next Steps

Next, we recommend you explore the Overview page for your book:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Book Info > Overview

On the Overview page, you can see all the pages you need to get your book set up on Leanpub, like “Upload Book Cover” and the “Book Details” page, where you can explain what your book is about to potential readers.

If you have any questions or can’t find anything, please search our Help Center for authors here: <http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>²⁶.

Happy writing!

²⁶<http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>

Getting Started with Bring Your Own Book Writing Mode

You can write a Leanpub book using the Bring Your Own Book writing mode. In this chapter we'll show you how to create a book and generate your first preview.

We also have a video, if you prefer to learn that way! You can watch the video here: <https://youtu.be/QC8Utbr9MM>²⁷.

Once you have successfully generated your first preview, you'll know everything you know to get started writing in the Bring Your Own Book writing mode.

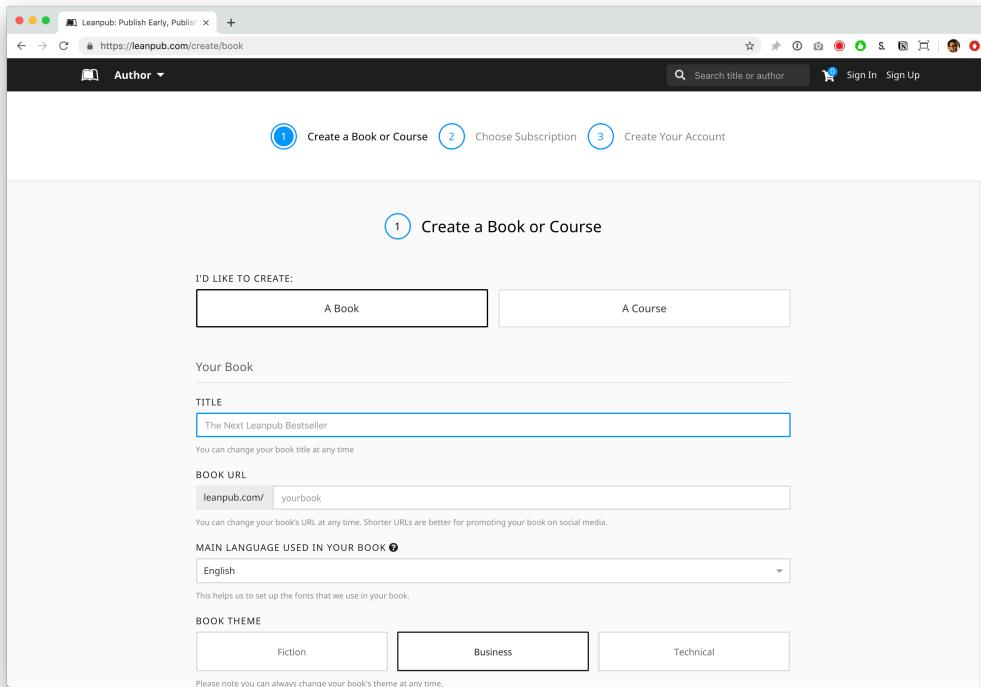
You'll find more information and detailed instructions on the "Getting Started" page for your book, which you'll go to automatically when you create your book.

Creating a Book in Bring Your Own Book Writing Mode

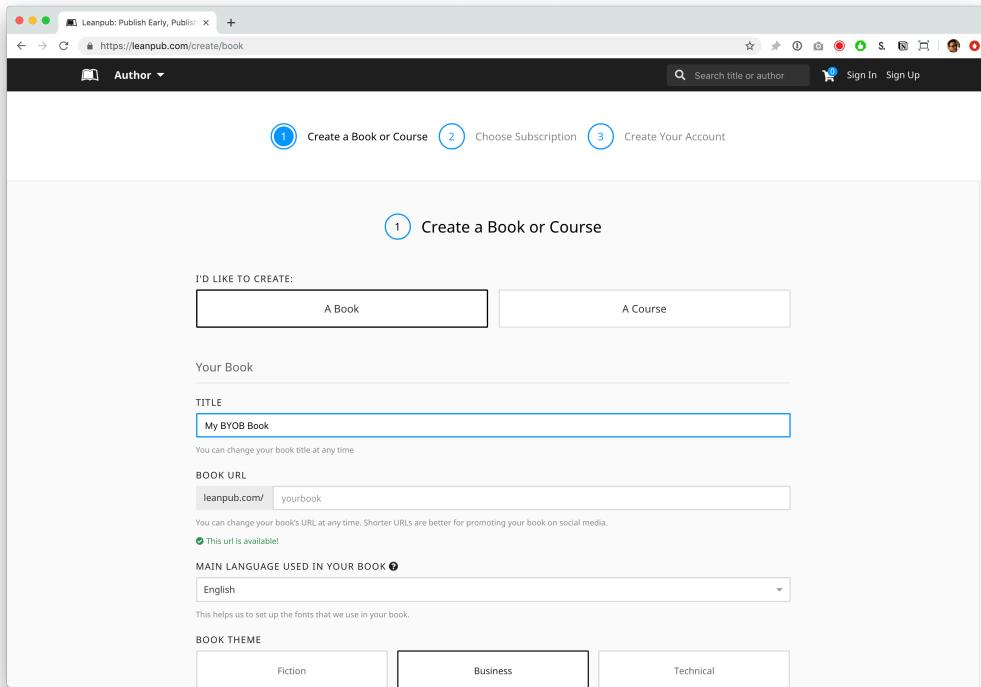
Go to <https://leanpub.com/create/book>²⁸ to create a book in Bring Your Own Book.

²⁷<https://youtu.be/8sSi0PLwIDo>

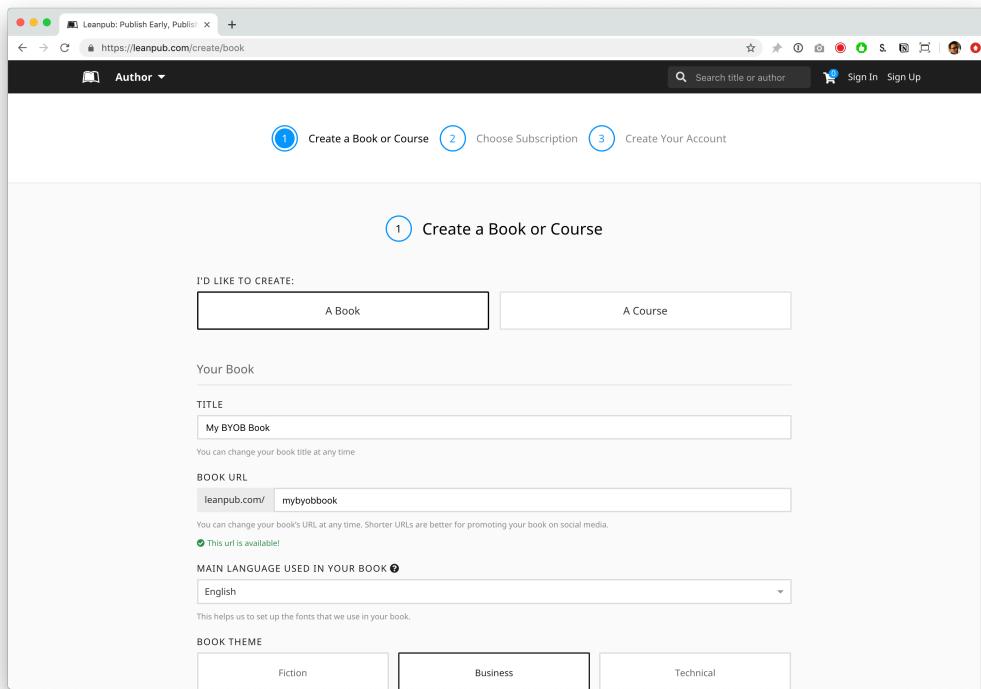
²⁸<https://leanpub.com/create/book>



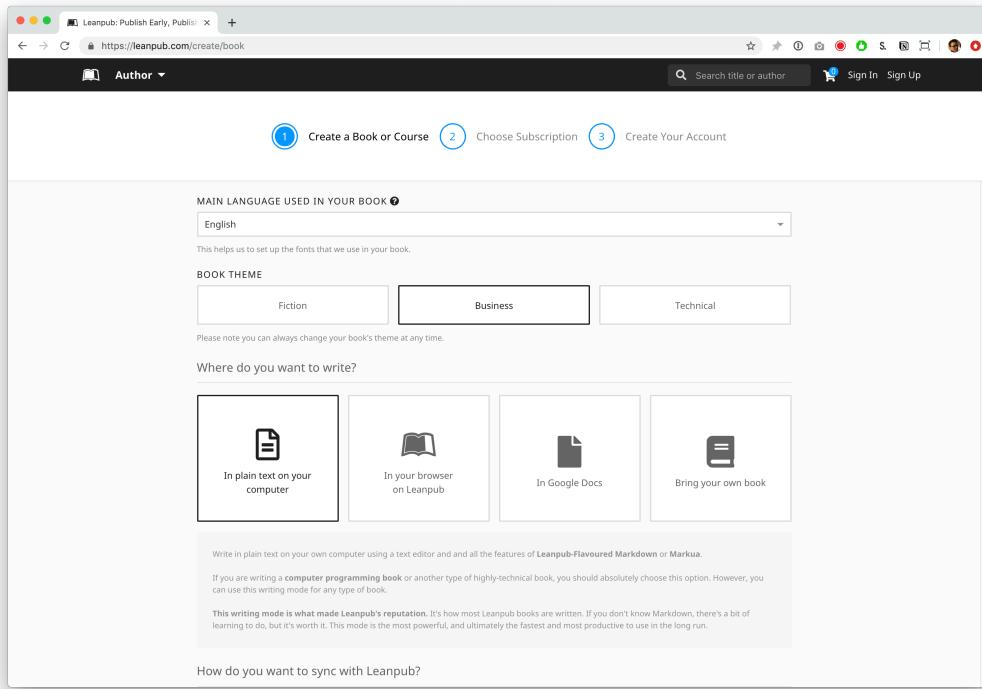
Next, type a title for your book into the “TITLE” box. You can change your title later.



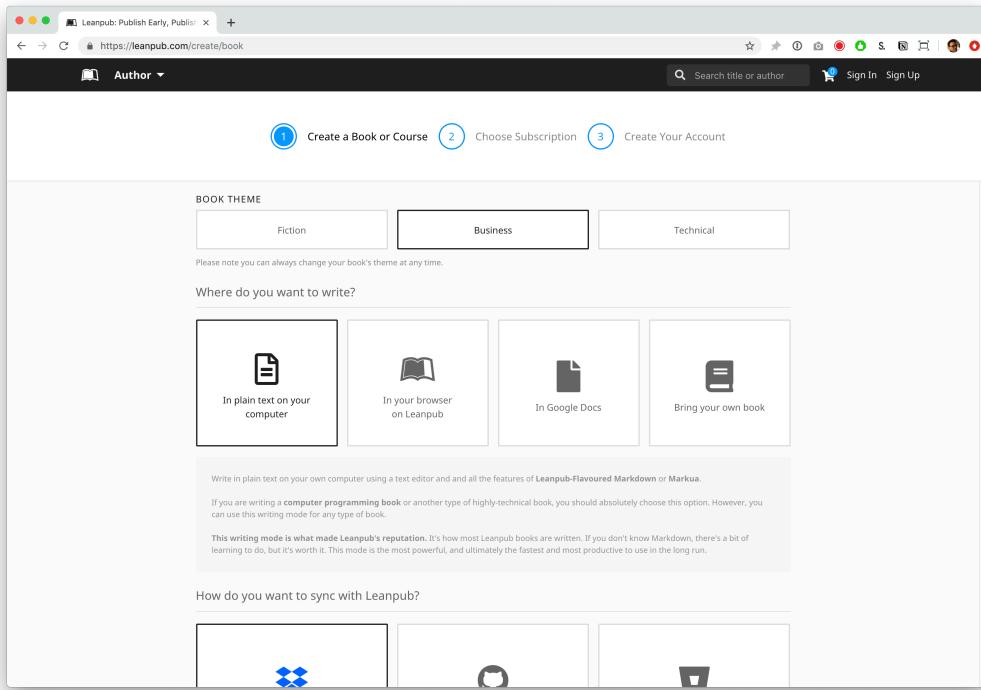
Click in the “BOOK URL” box. Leanpub will automatically suggest a URL for your book’s web page on Leanpub. You can change this URL at any time.



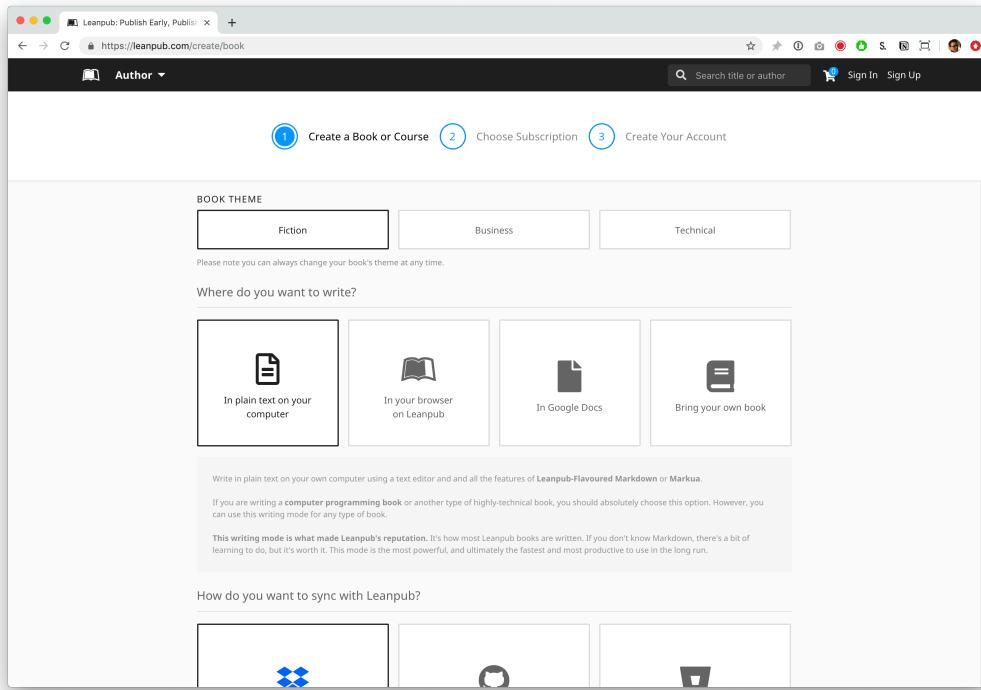
Scroll down and you will see “MAIN LANGUAGE USED IN YOUR BOOK.” You can select a language from the drop-down. Like the other settings, you can change this at any time.



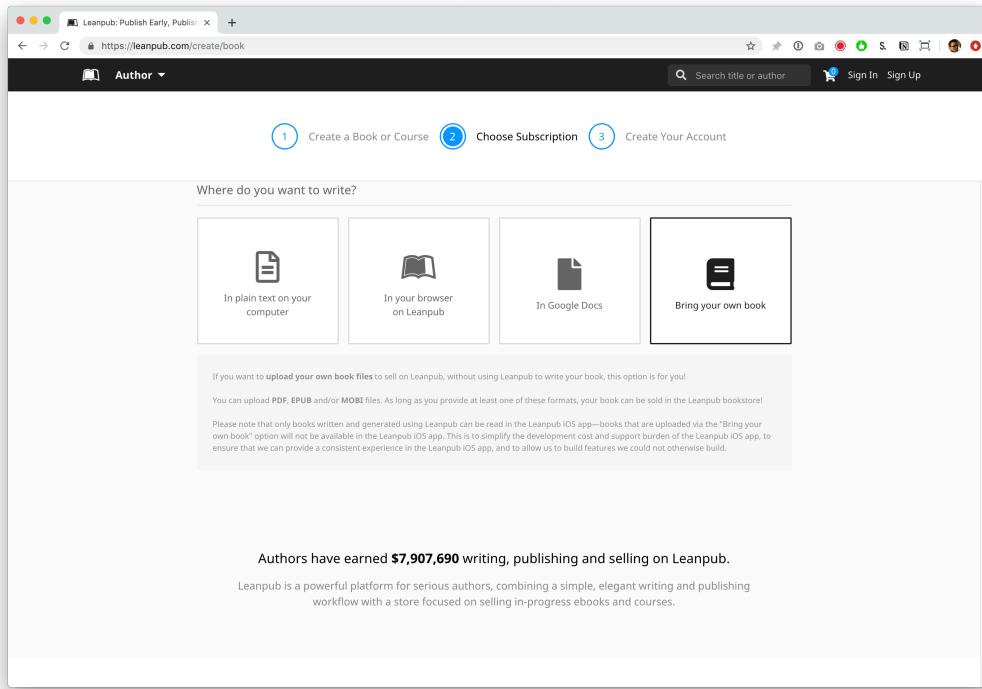
Scroll down and you will see the “BOOK THEME” options. “Business” will be selected by default. The Book Theme is just a set of standard formatting options conventional for books on these subjects. You are not required to choose any particular option. You can change your Book Theme at any time.



For this tutorial, we selected the “Fiction” Book Theme.

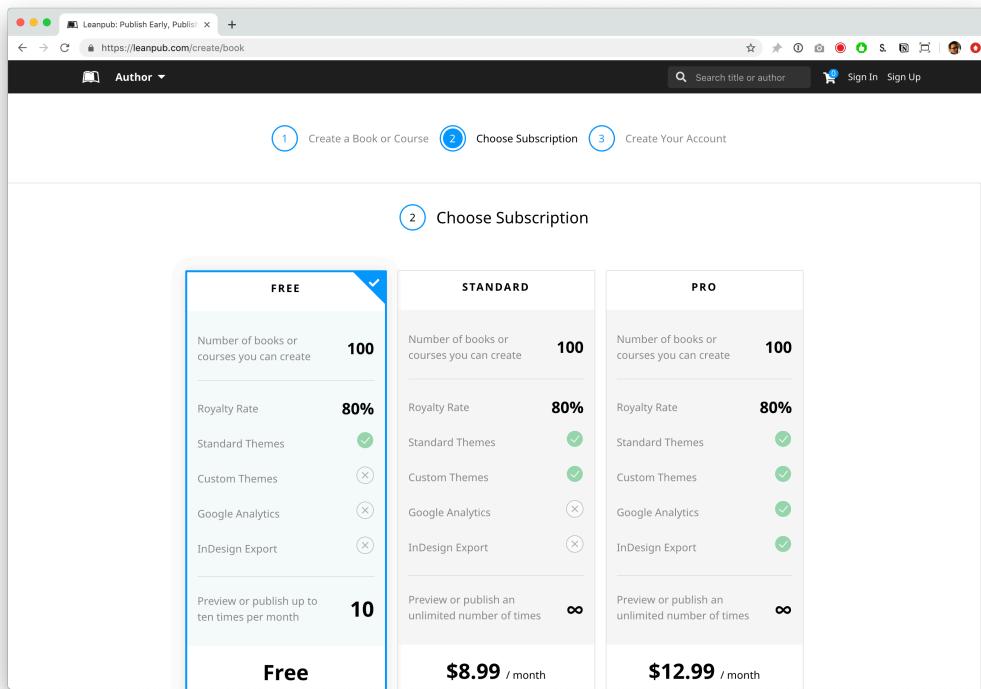


In the section below, you will be presented with various Writing Mode options. For this tutorial, select “Bring your own book.”

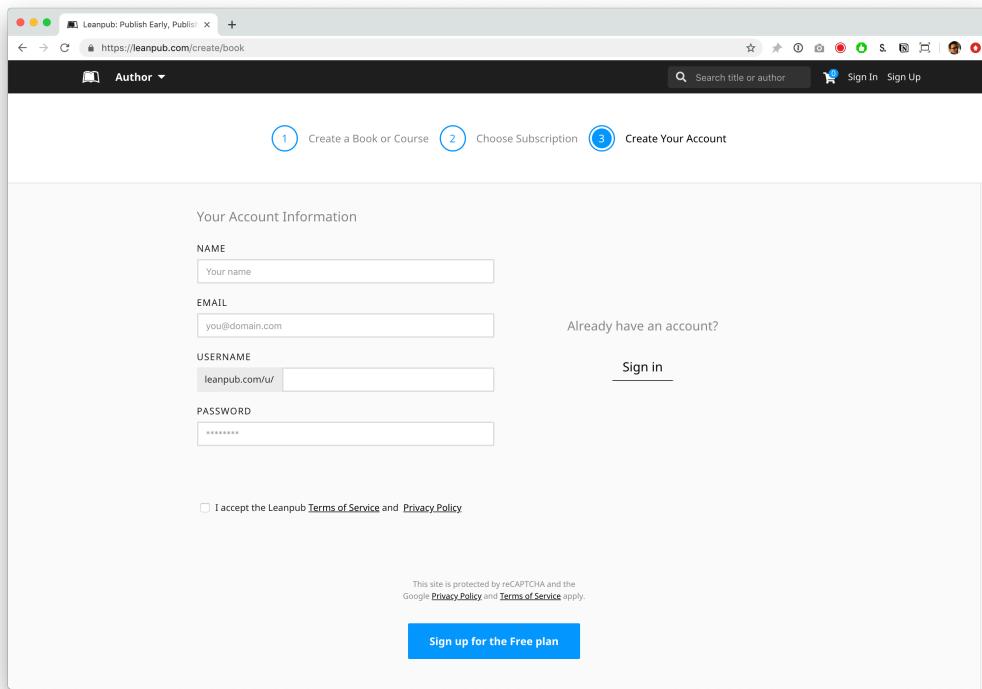


When you scroll down, you will see the subscription plan options. By default, “Free” will be selected. If you have a paid Leanpub account already, you will see that plan selected automatically.

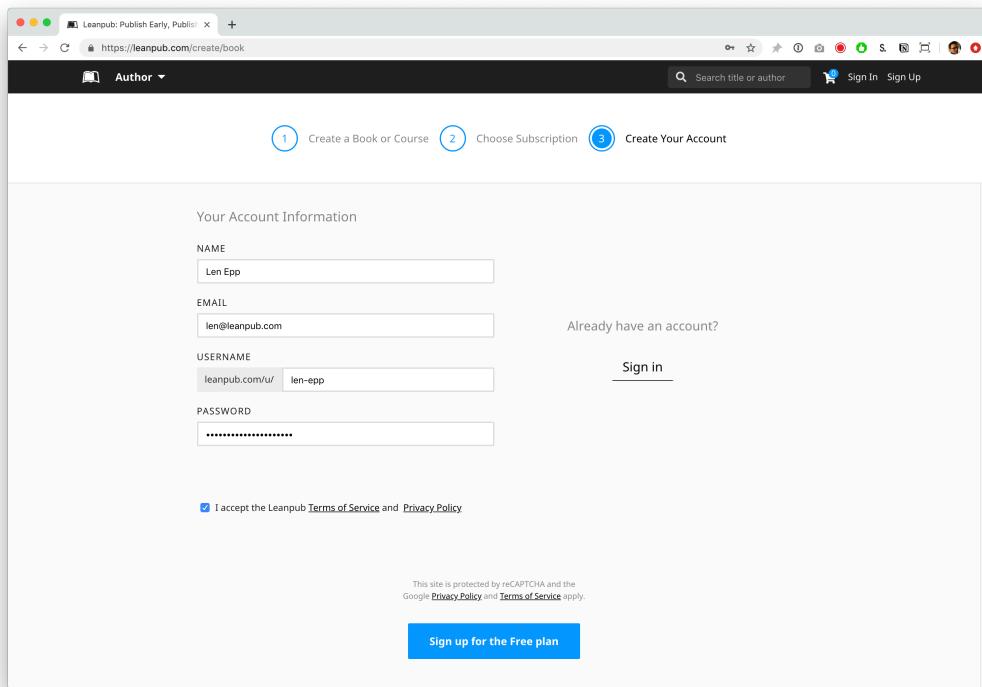
Select a plan.



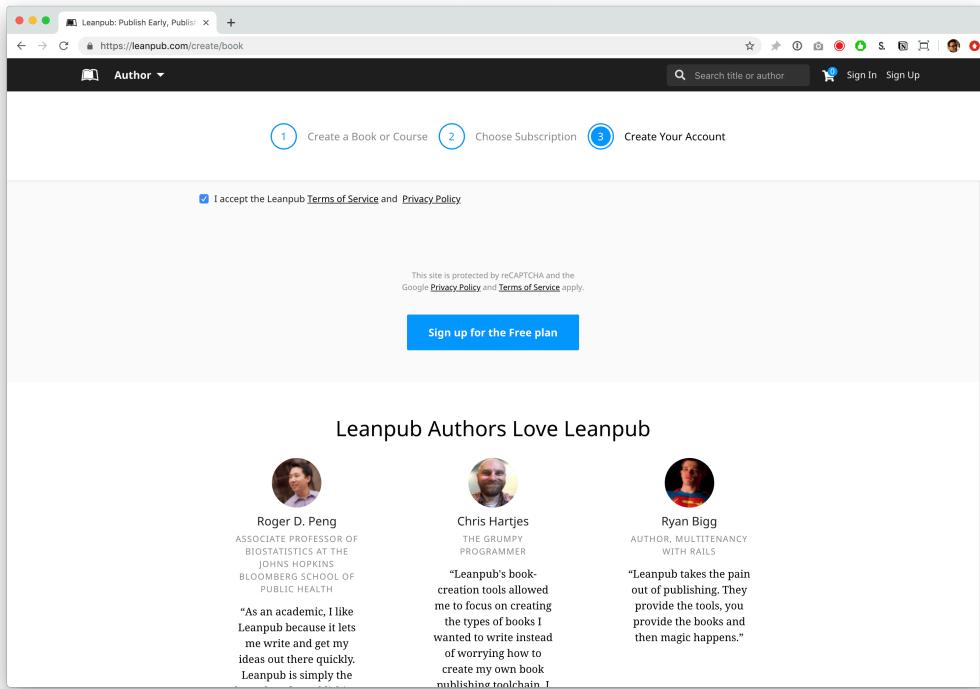
Scroll down and, if you are not signed in to a Leanpub account, you will see an option to enter information to create a new account. You will also see an option to sign in, if you already have a Leanpub account.



To create a new account, fill in the relevant information.

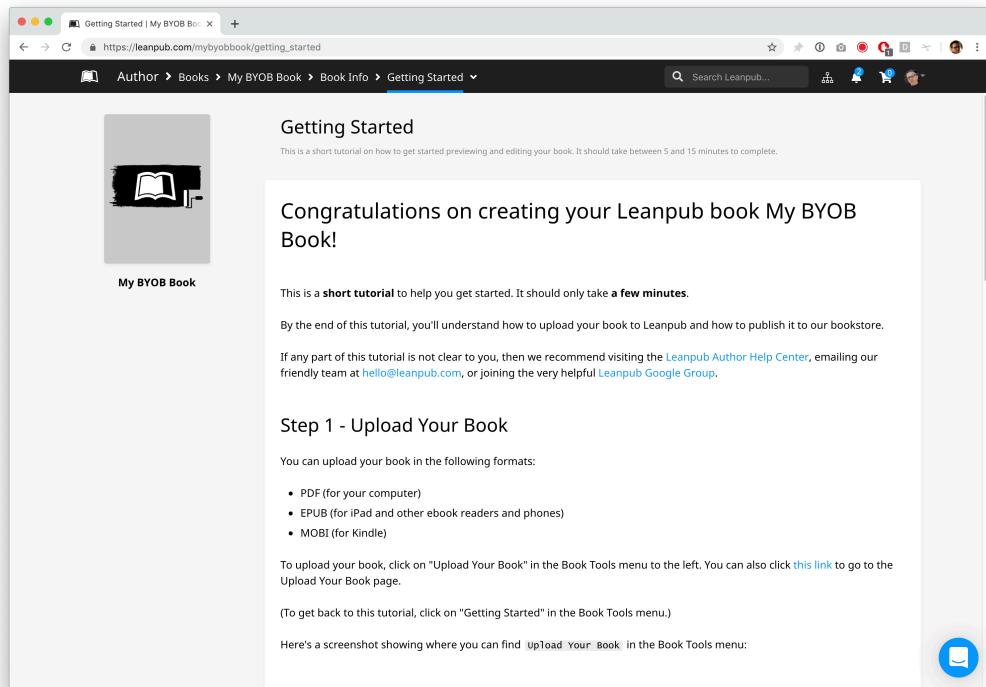


Finally, click the blue button to finish creating your new Bring Your Own Book book.



You will now see that you are on the Getting Started page for your book.

If you use bookmarks in your web browser, we recommend you bookmark this page in your web browser in a bookmark folder for your book, but this is not required.

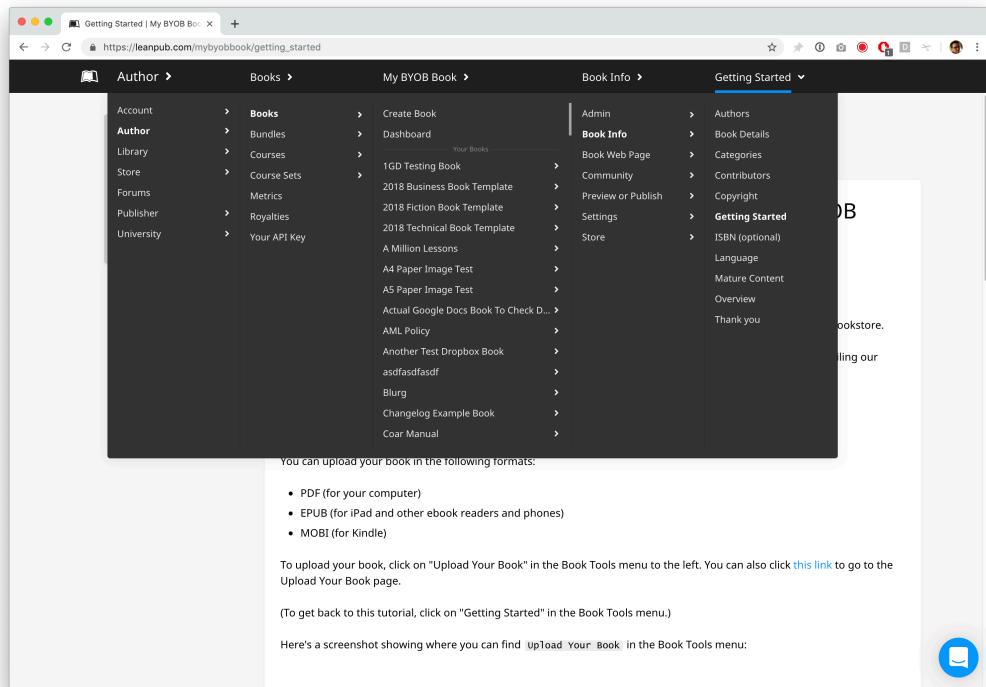


Look at the Book Tools “breadcrumb” menu at the top of the screen. This is how you will navigate to the web pages you will be using in Leanpub to work on your book and see all the features we provide, like uploading a book cover, or setting a price for your book.

When you are finished this tutorial, we recommend you explore the various Book Tools options.

Uploading Your Book In Bring Your Own Book

Click on “Getting Started” at the top, and you will see your the Book Tools menu. It will look something like this:



Click on “Preview or Publish” in the menu, and you will see something like this:

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Getting Started | My BYOB Book" with the URL https://leanpub.com/mybyobbook/getting_started. The page has a dark theme. On the left, there's a sidebar with links like Account, Author, Library, Store, Forums, Publisher, and University. The main area is titled "My BYOB Book" and shows a list of books under "Your Books". One book is selected: "1GD Testing Book". To the right of the book list is a vertical menu titled "Preview or Publish". This menu includes options like Admin, Book Info, Book Web Page, Community, Preview or Publish (which is currently selected), Settings, and Store. Below the menu, there's a section for uploading a book with instructions and a list of supported formats.

You can upload your book in the following formats:

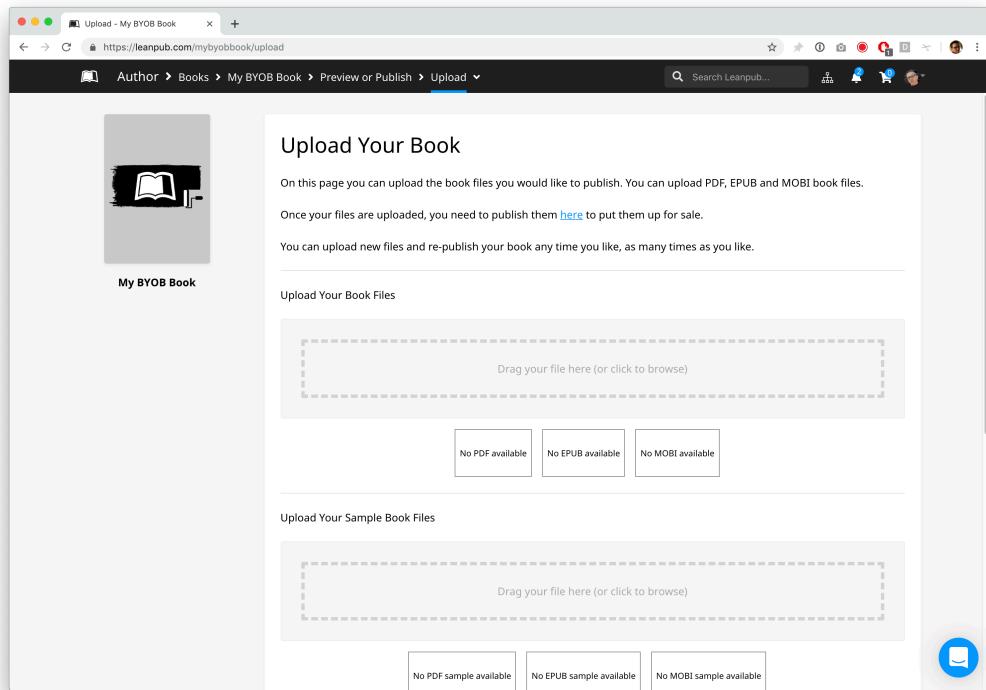
- PDF (for your computer)
- EPUB (for iPad and other ebook readers and phones)
- MOBI (for Kindle)

To upload your book, click on "Upload Your Book" in the Book Tools menu to the left. You can also click [this link](#) to go to the Upload Your Book page.

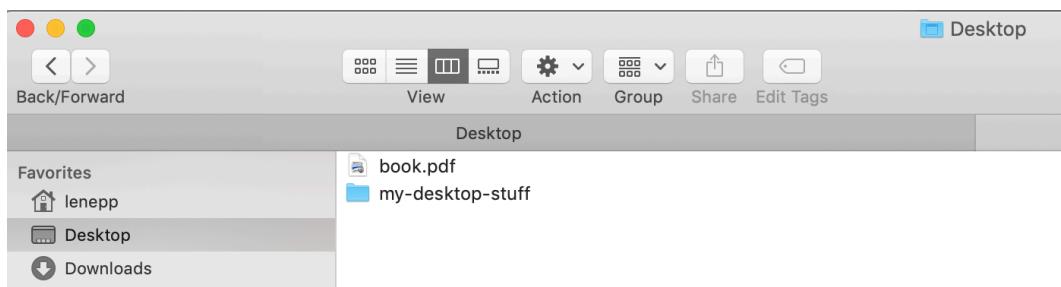
(To get back to this tutorial, click on "Getting Started" in the Book Tools menu.)

Here's a screenshot showing where you can find `Upload Your Book` in the Book Tools menu:

Select “Upload” in the column to the right:



On your computer, find the book file or files you would like to upload. (The file does not have to be named “book.pdf”; you can use any file name you prefer.)



Drag the file onto the top box that under “Upload Your Book Files.” You will see a progress bar as the file uploads:

Upload - My BYOB Book

Author > Books > My BYOB Book > Preview or Publish > Upload

Search Leanpub...

Upload Your Book

On this page you can upload the book files you would like to publish. You can upload PDF, EPUB and MOBI book files.

Once your files are uploaded, you need to publish them [here](#) to put them up for sale.

You can upload new files and re-publish your book any time you like, as many times as you like.

Upload Your Book Files

book.pdf
1.7 MB

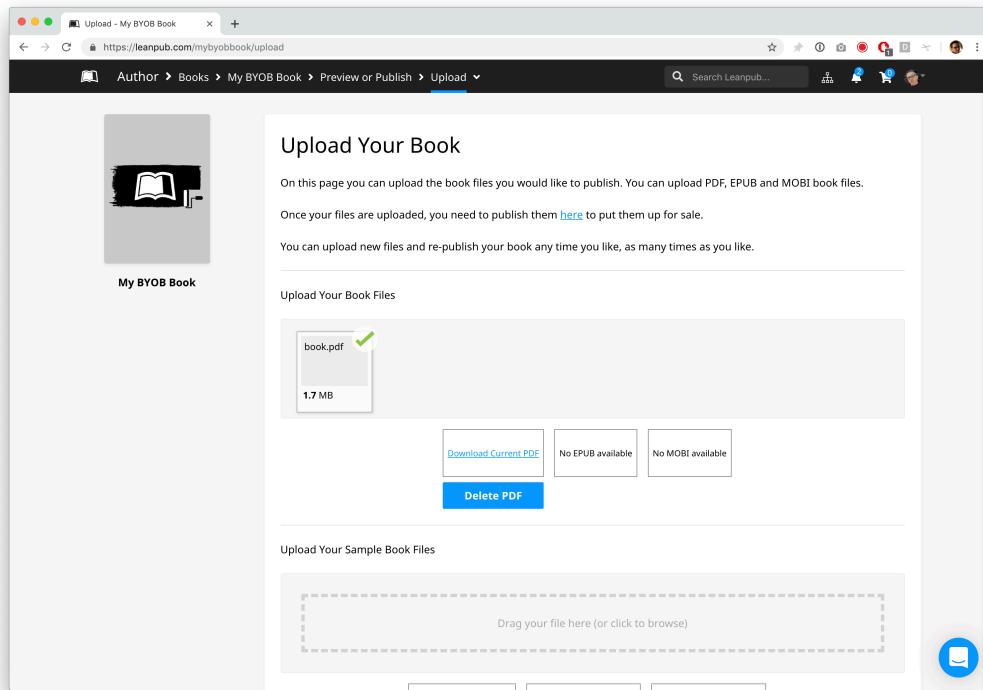
No PDF available No EPUB available No MOBI available

Upload Your Sample Book Files

Drag your file here (or click to browse)

No PDF sample available No EPUB sample available No MOBI sample available

When the file is uploaded, you will see a check mark:



That's it, you're done uploading your file! After you have added information about your book to Leanpub, then all you have to do is click the Publish button.

Adding Your Profile and Your Book Information

Here is an article on what to do next:

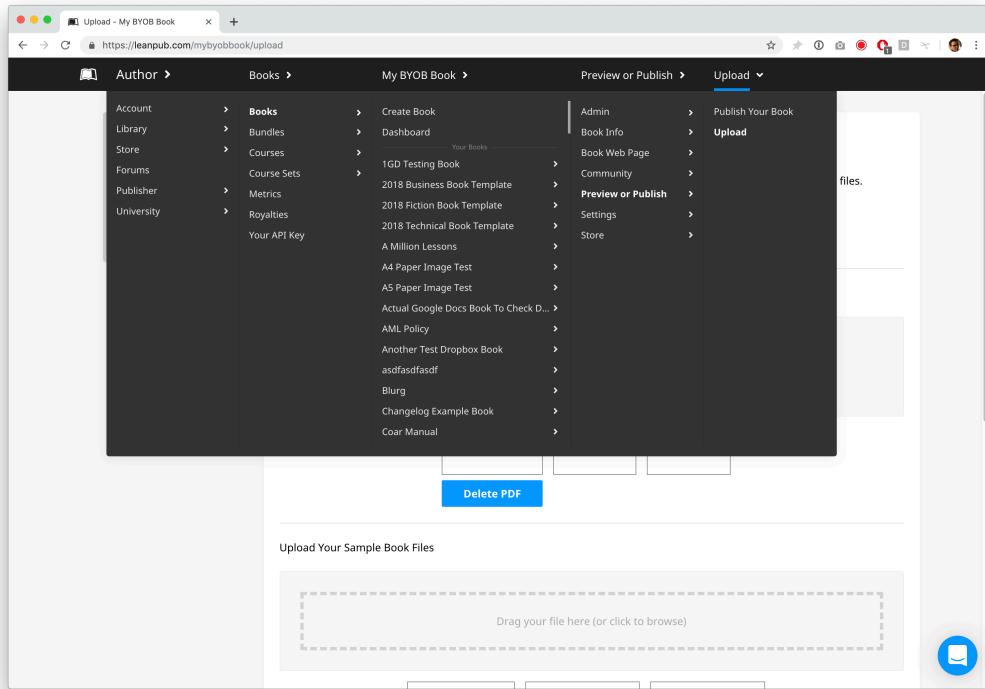
[http://help.leanpub.com/en/articles/2627439-things-to-do-before-publishing-your-leanpub-book²⁹](http://help.leanpub.com/en/articles/2627439-things-to-do-before-publishing-your-leanpub-book)

If you have all your materials ready, like your profile picture and your book cover, this should only take a few minutes, and you'll be ready to publish your book!

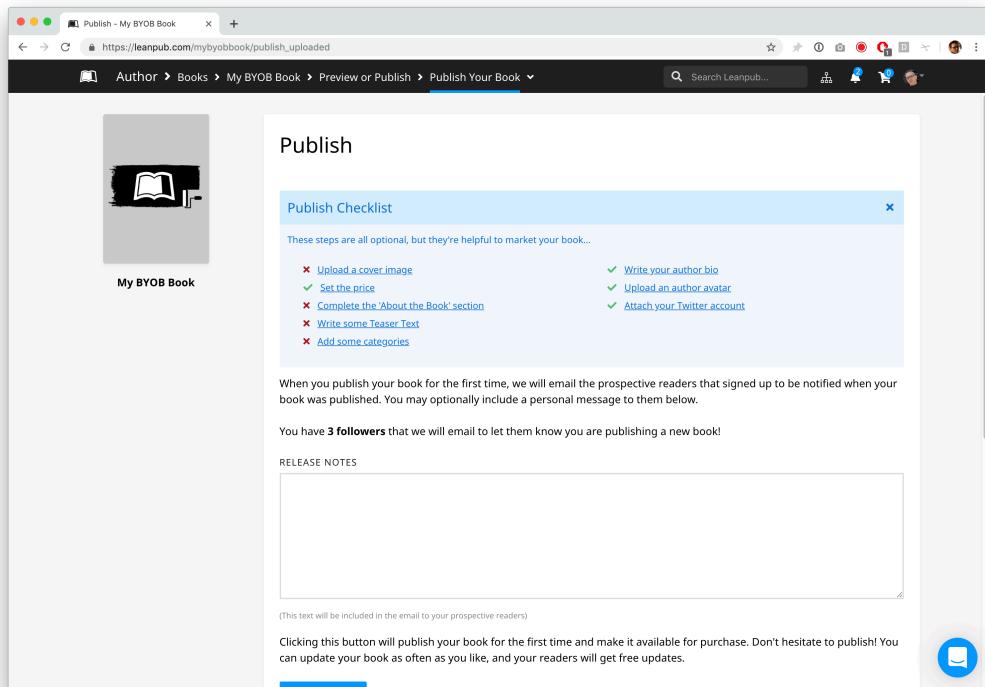
²⁹<http://help.leanpub.com/en/articles/2627439-things-to-do-before-publishing-your-leanpub-book>

Publishing Your Book

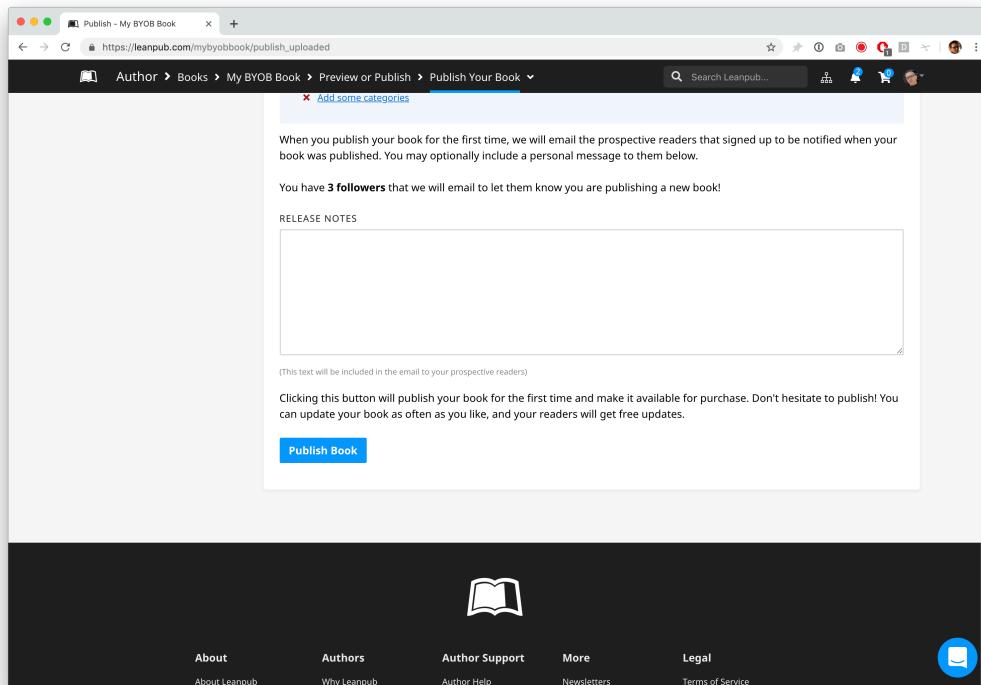
To do this, click on “Upload” in the menu at the top:



Select “Publish Your Book” at the top right, to go to the Publish page for your book.



Scroll down and you will see the blue “Publish Book” button.



Next Steps

Next, we recommend you explore the Overview page for your book:

Author > Books > [Your Book Title] > Book Info > Overview

On the Overview page, you can see all the pages you need to get your book set up on Leanpub, like “Upload Book Cover” and the “Book Details” page, where you can explain what your book is about to potential readers.

Leanpub has some features that are pretty unique in the world of self-publishing platforms. We recommend you read the following article if you’re interested in learning more:

<http://help.leanpub.com/en/articles/1587118-tips-for-self-publishing-and-selling-books-using-leanpub³⁰>

³⁰<http://help.leanpub.com/en/articles/1587118-tips-for-self-publishing-and-selling-books-using-leanpub>

If you have any questions or can't find anything, please search our Help Center for authors here: <http://help.leanpub.com/author-help³¹>.

Good luck!

³¹<http://help.leanpub.com/author-help>