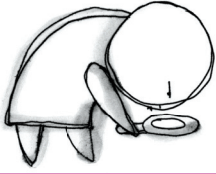


## Why 32 pages?

The “industry standard” for picture books is currently 32 pages. Why? It all comes down to the construction and printing of the book. 32 pages are generally the most economical when printing hardcover books. If you do see alternate sizes you’ll usually find them in increments of 8 or 16. (for examples 16, 24, 40 or 48 pages) I could go into all the details about why this is the standard, but if you’d like to learn more check out these links:



## more info about Book construction:

<http://editorialanonymous.blogspot.com/2008/10/basic-book-construction.html>

<http://taralazar.com/2009/02/22/picture-book-construction-know-your-layout/>

<http://booksforkeeps.co.uk/issue/194/childrens-books/articles/process-creation-and-audience-the-32-page-picture-book>

**It’s important to note** though that current print-on-demand technologies and self-publishing platforms open the door for more flexibility and more potential to experiment with layout outside of “industry standards.” But, if you’re going the traditional routes or want to hook-in to existing structures and channels (such as bookstores and libraries) when self-publishing then you can expect to create a 32 page book similar to what you see on the adjacent page.

## A few optional layouts:

- 1. Traditional Full Opening then Story:** Title (pg 1) - Copyright (pg 2) - Dedication (pg 3) - 14 Full Spreads (pgs 4-31) - About/Credits or other back matter (pg 32);
- 2. Story Bracketed:** Title (pg 1) - 15 Full Spreads (pgs 2-31) - About/Credits/Dedication or other back matter (pg 32);  
(*Call Me Tree* follows this format)
- 3. Story begins immediately and unexpectedly, then title, then full story:** 1/2 spread of story & art (pg 1) - Copyright (pg 2) - Title (pg 3) - 15 Full Spreads (pgs 4-31) - About/Credits/Dedication or other back matter (pg 32)
- 4.** there are numerous ways to play with the format and through the thumbnail process you can experiment with what works best!

## What are endpapers?

The **endpapers** or **end-papers** of a book are the pages that consist of a full spread size folded, with one half pasted against an inside cover, and the other serving as the first free page. The front endpapers precede the title page and the text and the back endpapers follow the text.

With **self-ended** books the endpapers are printed on the same paper as the rest of the book and are included in the typical 32-page count. Page 1 and 2 and 31 and 32 are the ones glued onto the inside of the cover leaving 28 interior pages, and potentially only 12 full spreads.

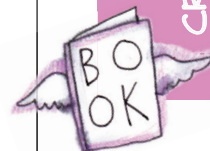
With **separate-ended** books the endpapers are printed on different paper than the rest of the book (often are a solid color paper but sometimes are illustrated) and are not counted in the 32-page count.

# OVERVIEW OF BOOK SPREADS

## for a Typical 32 Page Children's Book

generally a 32 page picture book with endpapers, title, dedication, etc. provides 14 full page spreads but can also be adjusted to 14-1/2, 15, 15-1/2 or even 16 spreads dependent on how end pages are done. Through the thumbnail process it will likely become apparent what format will work best for your book.

<b>End Page</b>		Title page or 1/2 page spread to begin story <b>1</b>		Copyright info  <b>2</b>	Dedication or Title Page or Beginning of Story <b>3</b>
Begin or Continue Story					
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	About Author, Dedication, copyright or 1/2 page spread <b>32</b>	<b>End Page</b>



The Art of It

CREATING A BOOK FROM THUMBNAILS TO FINAL ART

Overview of Book Spreads

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