

What's Special About Nested Pages?

A QUICK GUIDE TO IMPOSITION

When you read a book with nested pages, its pages read in normal sequential order (page 1 comes before page 2, 3, and 4, etc.) If you take the book apart, you'll find that the pages were not printed with page 1 on the same sheet as page 2, and so forth. The designer has reshuffled the individual pages in order to print, fold, and nest properly as a booklet. This reshuffling, or reordering of pages, is known as *imposition*. It looks like this (see right).

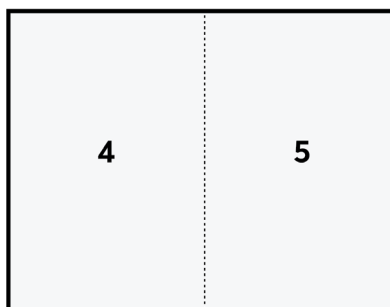
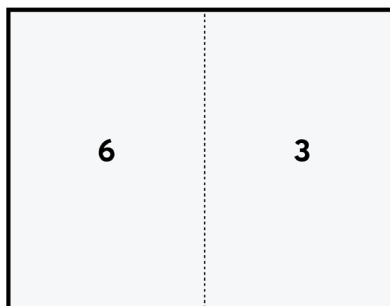
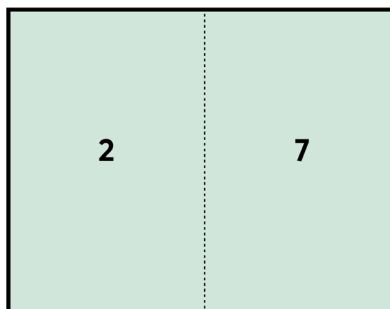
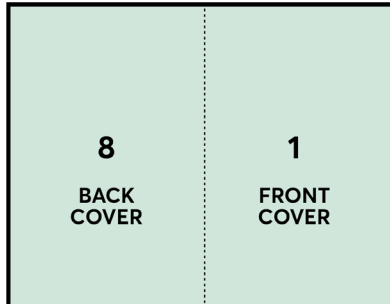
Pages—including your front and back cover—are now in an order that will read correctly when bound as a double-sided booklet. The Bindery provides imposition services. Please reach out with any questions!

What is a "signature" in bookbinding?

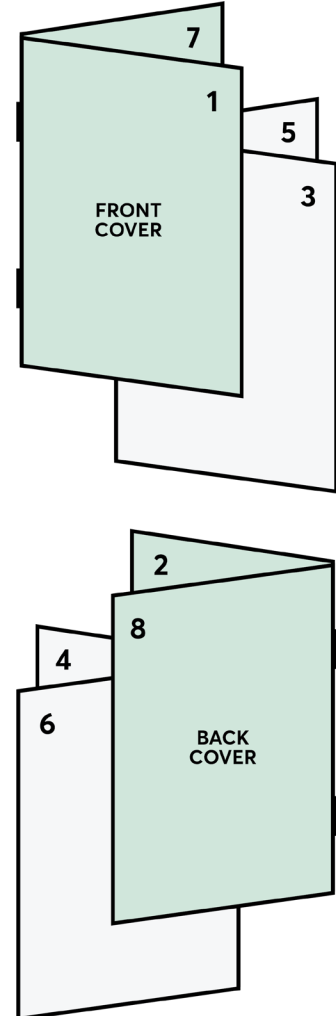
A group of sheets folded in half, intending to be worked into a book's binding as a unit. Also known as a *section* or *gathering*.

Examples you may have seen of books with signatures:

- Wire-stitched zines and poetry chapbooks
- Leather-covered religious texts
- A lay-flat coffee table book



Above: how your file might be set up on-screen in a 2-page spread view (also known as "facing pages").

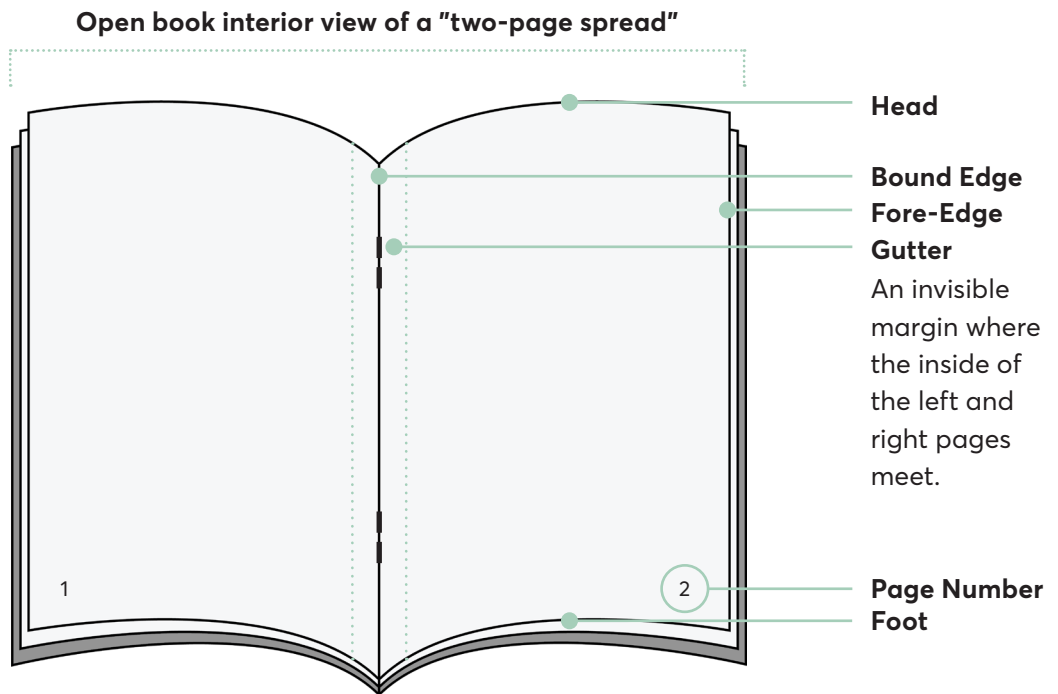
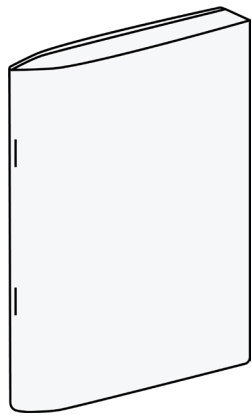


Above: Two views of how your file would properly print as a double-sided booklet. The prints get folded and nested to result in proper page order for the reader.

Wire-Stitched Booklets



AT A GLANCE



What is it?

Wire-stitched booklets feature centrally folded sheets of paper inserted or "nested" into each other in sequence, then stitched one or more times along the fold. Wire stitches (staples) are a common binding material for this style.

Is it right for your project?

This style of booklet is ideal for zines and chapbooks. It is relatively straightforward to format and produce. That translates into cost savings for you: it is one of the most affordable binding styles we offer.

Features

- Softcover only
- 36* reading pages or fewer
- 70#T interior paper
- Corner rounding available

**More pages may be unwieldy or too thick to bind. This depends on paper and cover thickness.*

Common Sizes

- 5.5 x 8.5 in
- 5 x 7 in
- 8.5 x 11 in

Recommended Page Margins

Head: At least $\frac{1}{4}$ in

Bottom: At least $\frac{1}{4}$ in

Spine edge: $\frac{3}{4}$ in or more

Fore-edge: At least $\frac{1}{4}$ in

Tip: Make a physical prototype "dummy" book and test what margins look best with your work—keeping in mind that things like gutter, creases, and stitching contribute their own visual "noise."