

# A Short Guide to Sharing Your Work



# A Short Guide to Sharing Your Work

*Cost, Accessibility, and Creative Commons  
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WALTON*

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY



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# AFFORDABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY





# Accessibility and Affordability

When you author an eBook, you will want to consider two major questions: how important is accessibility, and how important is affordability? We'd guess that both are important to you, or you wouldn't be interested in publishing an eBook with the Affordable Learning Exchange (ALX)! Here are some thoughts on these two areas:

**Accessibility** is an important factor to keep in mind when considering your choices. A print option for an eBook might be important to students who have limited or unreliable access to wifi off campus; in Ohio, roughly 8% of households do not have broadband internet service.<sup>1</sup> In addition, some students retain information better from reading print materials than online. Also consider how your eBook can work with screen readers for students with visual impairments or those who prefer to listen to books. Overall, providing access to

1. Bureau of Census. "Percent Of Households With A Computer And Paid Internet Subscription By State: 2017." ProQuest Statistical Abstract of the U.S. 2019 Online Edition. Ed. ProQuest, 2019. Web: ProQuest Statistical Abstract 07/19.

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*Timeline of downloads for an Ohio State  
faculty-created book before and after a price was  
assigned*

# EPUB & EPUB<sub>3</sub>

There are a few formats to become familiar with as you create your eBook. We'll start with EPUB and EPUB<sub>3</sub>.

EPUB & EPUB<sub>3</sub> (for Barnes & Noble Nook, Apple iBooks, Kobo, etc.)

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# PDF (in print and digital)

PDF is a familiar format for many. Here are some items to consider:

## PDF (for print)

This format makes it easy for students to print out your book at minimal cost, and is useful for those without wifi at home, or for those who prefer to read extended texts in print. It is also useful for students who like to write in their books.

However, PDF is also a fairly inflexible format unless you have software that permits editing.

## PDF (for digital distribution)

This is the standard PDF format, but blank pages are automatically omitted.

This is a fairly inflexible format unless you have software that permits editing. It is difficult to read on a mobile device. If the PDF is just a scanned image, screen readers will not work. The text must be readable (OCR'd) for screen readers to work properly.

# Other Formats

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This chart explains all of the options available with a Creative Commons license. A PDF version of this chart can be downloaded by clicking [here](#).

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# Six licenses for sharing your work



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One way to share your work is to share it with others, and you can choose to share it with others, and you can choose to share it with others.

Another way to share your work is to share it with others, and you can choose to share it with others, and you can choose to share it with others.

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CC BY-SA	CC BY-SA	CC BY-SA
CC BY-NC-SA	CC BY-NC-SA	CC BY-NC-SA
CC 0	CC 0	CC 0

# Summary Flow Chart: A Guide to Decisions

There are a lot of choices to consider as you make your book available via the ALX. This chart is meant to help clarify the options you have. You can also download this chart here: [ALX flowchart](#)

