

Indie Publishing Resources for Poets and Composers

Copyright and Related Systems

Electronic Copyright Office, a division of the US Copyright Office
eco.copyright.gov

Register your copyright online.

ISBNs (International Standard Book Numbers) via Bowker's My Identifiers
myidentifiers.com

The official source of ISBNs in the US. Some self-publishing platforms let you buy ISBNs from Bower at a discount if you purchase distribution services through them (e.g., IngramSpark).

ISMNs (International Standard Music Numbers)

www.loc.gov/ismn

The Library of Congress portal for registering as a publisher and obtaining an ISMN.

Library of Congress Control Number

loc.gov/publish/pcn/newaccount.html

Start here to request a free number for your book.

Blogs and Email Newsletters

BookLife by *Publishers Weekly*

booklife.com

Subsidiary of the industry trade publication Publishers Weekly. Its free email newsletter has lots of information and resources for indie authors.

IngramSpark's blog

ingramspark.com/blog

Practical posts by indie publishing experts about all aspects of indie publishing.

Jane Friedman's Free Newsletters

janefriedman.com/free-newsletter

Choose among three different free electronic mailings that include lots of helpful resources for writers. Not indie-publishing-specific, but lots of relevant information.

Blog Posts About Self-Publishing

Christian B. Carey, "The Pros and Cons of Self-Publishing," *MusicalAmerica Worldwide* (2014)
www.musicalamerica.com/news/newsstory.cfm?storyid=31861&categoryid=7

Advice and resources for self-publishing music.

Sabrina, "Indie Authors: An Overview of Book Distribution Options," *Digital Pubbing* (2017)

www.digitalpubbing.com/indie-authors-an-overview-of-book-distribution-options

Basic overview of various kinds of distributors, with links to services and to further information.

Indie Publishing Resources

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continued

Publishing Services Directories

Editorial Freelancers Association (EFA)

the-efa.org

National organization based in New York City.

Loft Community Postings

loft.org/resources__awards/community_postings

Editors and other publishing professionals advertise their services here.

Professional Editors Network (PEN)

pensite.org

Twin Cities–based professional association for editors in various industries (not limited to book publishing).

Resources for Music Engraving and Editing

Billy Bommer, “Best Music Notation Software of 2018,” TopTenReviews

www.toptenreviews.com/software/home/best-music-notation-software

Detailed reviews of a number of software programs, with information about features, cost, quality, etc.

Adrienne Montgomerie, “Resources for Editing Music (Part 3: da capo al fine),” Copyediting.com

www.copyediting.com/resources-for-editing-music-part-3-da-capo-al-fine

Books and online resources related to musical notation and music editing.

Christian Morris, “Self-Publishing,” CompositionToday (2012)

www.compositiontoday.com/blog/175.asp

Brief overview of several online platforms and services for self-publishing music.

Selected Self-Publishing Distribution Services and Platforms

CreateSpace (a subsidiary of Amazon)

www.createspace.com

A self-publishing platform that offers cover and layout templates as well as printing and distribution services through Amazon and elsewhere. Note that publishing through CreateSpace will make your book less attractive to bookstores and other book retailers that view Amazon as a competitor.

IngramSpark (a subsidiary of Ingram, the largest book distributor in the world)

www.ingramspark.com

Book printing and print and ebook distribution/wholesaler service for self-publishing authors. If you use IngramSpark, your book will be available to any bookstore.

SheetMusicPlus (an online-only retailer)

www.sheetmusicplus.com

Self-publishing services offered through SMP Press. SheetMusicPlus sells sheet music as well as song collections.