



THUMBNAIL SHEETS



HOW TO USE THIS TOOL

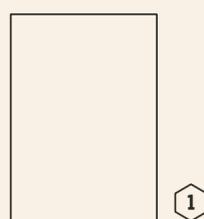
Thumbnail sketching, often called “thumbnailing” or “flat planning,” is a vital step in the creative process. With these, you can iterate on conceptual ideas without getting stuck in the details. Keep it to the broad strokes. Focus on form.

These thumbnail sheets provide exact dimensions for common paper sizes. They represent only a fraction of the possible options out there.

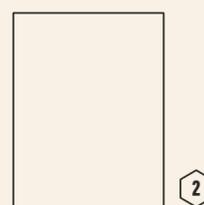
PRINT INSTRUCTIONS

The thumbnail sheets are formatted for US letter but will work on A4 and others. All you need is a printer and the ability to change some settings.

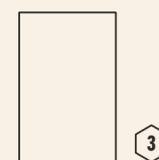
- 1 Open your preferred PDF viewer and limit the print to your desired pages. Each page is in a different format, which you can see on the right.
- 2 Go to sizing & handling and confirm that it fits on your page with your printer. Do NOT distort or warp the pdf to fit. Shrink proportionally.
- 3 Increase the number of copies to your desired number of sheets. Double-check if your printer has economy or low-ink options—press print.



ISO 216 (A/B SERIES)
1:√2
Sizes change but dimensions remain the same in ISO 216.



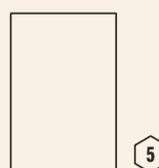
US LETTER (AMERICAN)
8.5 x 11 in
Sizes and dimensions change across the American system.



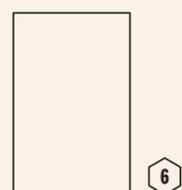
HALF LETTER (DIGEST)
5.5 x 8.5 in
Half of the US letter. Common format in books and US zines.



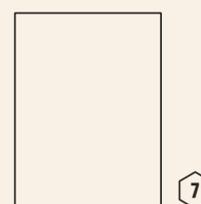
POCKET BOOK (US)
4.25 x 6.87 in
Common format for pocket references and checkout pulps.



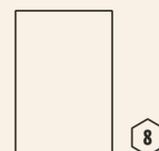
US TRADE (PAPERBACK)
6 x 9 in
Mass circulation. Common option with print-on-demand.



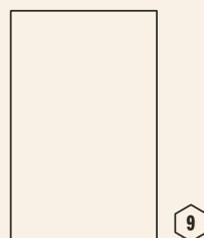
COMIC BOOK (GRAPHIC NOVEL)
6.625 x 10.25 in
Slightly wider and taller to accommodate images.



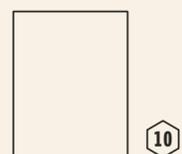
PA4 (TRANSITIONAL)
210 x 280 mm
An alternative to ISO 216's A4. Sizes are not proportional.



PA5 (TRANSITIONAL)
140 x 210 mm
Popular everywhere. Slightly narrower than the A5 by 5 mm.



F4 (TRANSITIONAL)
210 x 330 mm
Popular in parts of Southeast Asia. Notable for its length.



F4 (TRANSITIONAL)
165 x 210 mm
A smaller, non-proportional variation of the F4 format.



SQUARE (PICTURE)
1:1
Commonly found in children's books, art books, and more.