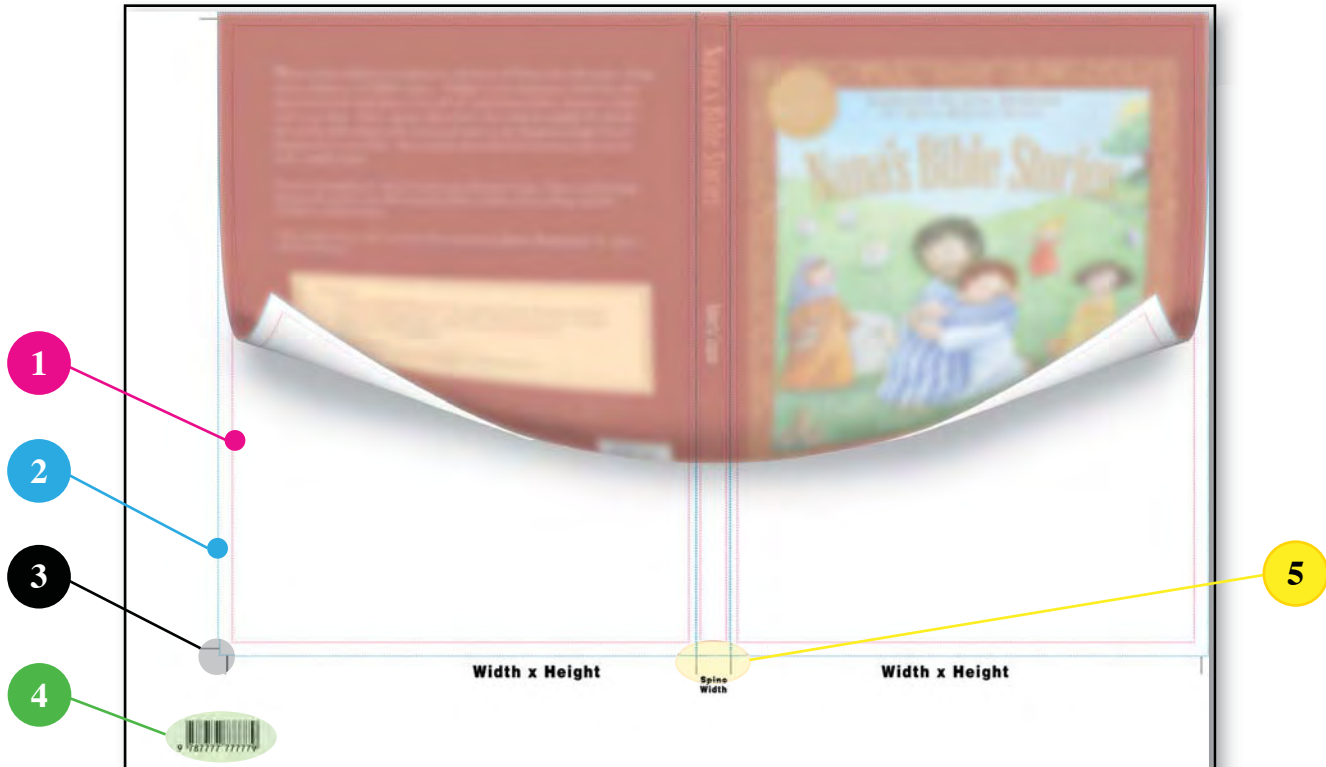




## Perfect Bound Template Explained



*Please do not reposition the contents or resize the document.*

It is normal to have blank, white areas around your cover.

**1**

**Magenta Dotted Lines** show the “Safety Area”. No text, logos, borders, boxes, or barcodes should extend outside the designated area. Each part (back cover, spine, and front cover) has a safety area. ([more](#))

**2**

**Cyan Dotted Lines** show the “Bleed Area”. Any background color, pattern, gradient or image that you wish to extend to the edge of your printed book should extend to, but not *past*, the cyan dotted lines. ([more](#))

**3**

**Black horizontal and vertical lines** at the corners are “Trim Marks”. This is where your book will be cut after it is bound with the interior pages. ([more](#))

**4**



**The “Check Barcode”** is the extra barcode at the lower left corner of the template. This barcode is not to be moved and is used for binding purposes. It will not appear on your printed book.

**5**

**Black vertical dashed lines** at the center and bottom of your cover are “Fold Marks”. This is where your book will be folded to create a spine.

*Click on the image below to request a Custom Cover Template*

### Custom Cover Template Generator

Create a custom template for your cover. Enter info about your cover and you will be emailed a template to use to build your cover, which is customized with your book's specific spine width, bar code, etc.

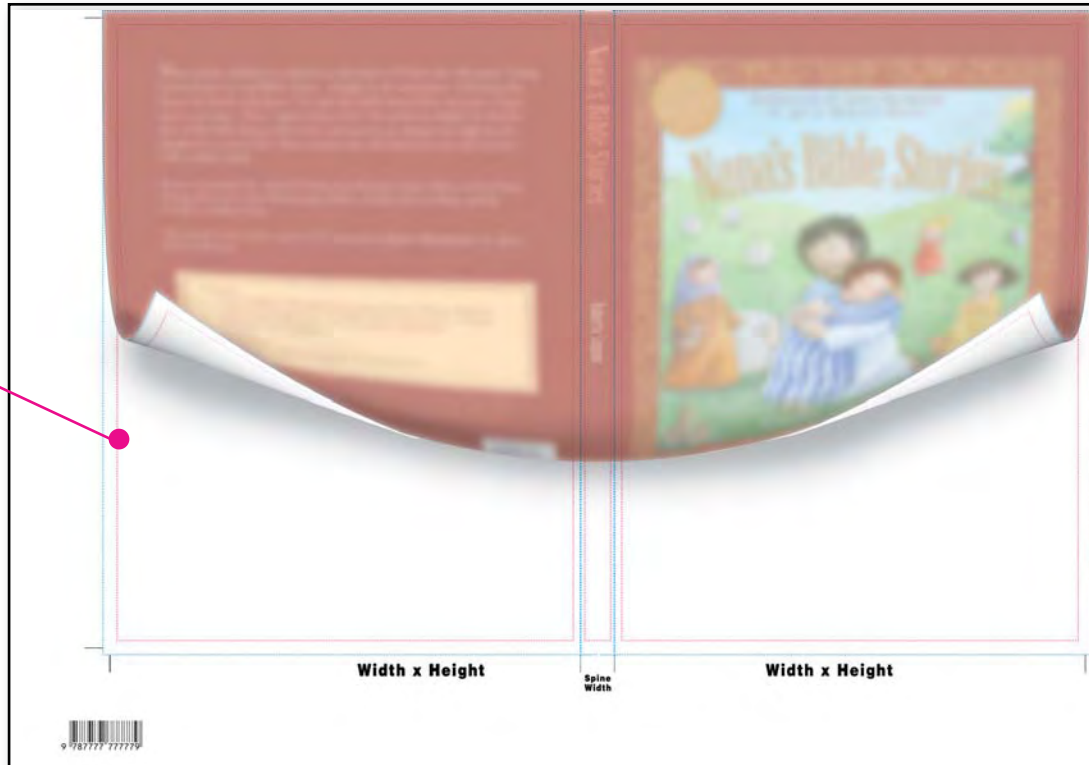
[Create Your Cover Template](#)



phone 615-213-5815  
fax 615-213-4426  
1246 Heil Quaker Blvd.  
La Vergne, TN 37086  
lightningsource.com



## Perfect Bound Template Explained



\* *Magenta Dotted lines should not be visible on the PDF that you submit to LSI. Please delete or cover the lines after you have built your cover to the template specifications.*

1

**Magenta Dotted Lines** show the “Safety Area”. No text, logos, borders, boxes, or barcodes should extend outside the designated area. Each part (back cover, spine, and front cover) has a safety area.

In the binding process of your book, the cover will be trimmed to the final trim dimensions. LSI has a trim variance of .0625". If elements are positioned outside this designated area, they will be in danger of being trimmed.

Be aware that the ‘tails’ of various lower case letters should not hang outside the safety area. This is a common mistake when typesetting the spine text.

*Examples of such letters are; y, p, g and j*

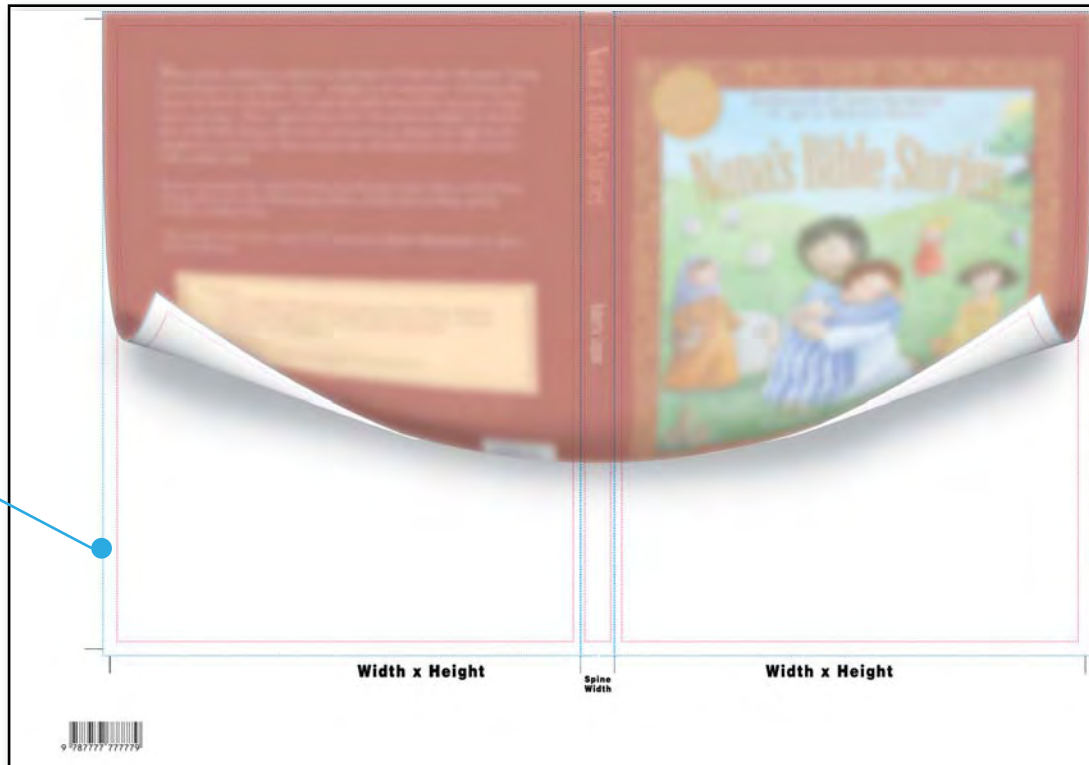
The safety area specifications for a perfect bound book are:

- .125" inside the trim and from the spine fold for front and back covers.  
\* *(LSI prefers .25" if possible)*
- If the interior page count is 108-740, the spine safety is .0625".
- If the interior page count is 80-104, the spine safety is .03125".

(less)



## Perfect Bound Template Explained



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1

**Magenta Dotted Lines** show the “Safety Area”. No text, logos, borders, boxes, or barcodes should extend outside the designated area. Each part (back cover, spine, and front cover) has a safety area.

2

**Cyan Dotted Lines** show the “Bleed Area”. Any background color, pattern, gradient or image that you wish to extend to the edge of your printed book should extend to, but not *past*, the cyan dotted lines.

In the binding process of your book, the cover will be trimmed to the final trim dimensions. “Bleed” is excess background that allows a small margin of error when trimming your book. If bleed were not present, the white paper that the cover is printed on would be visible after the book is trimmed.

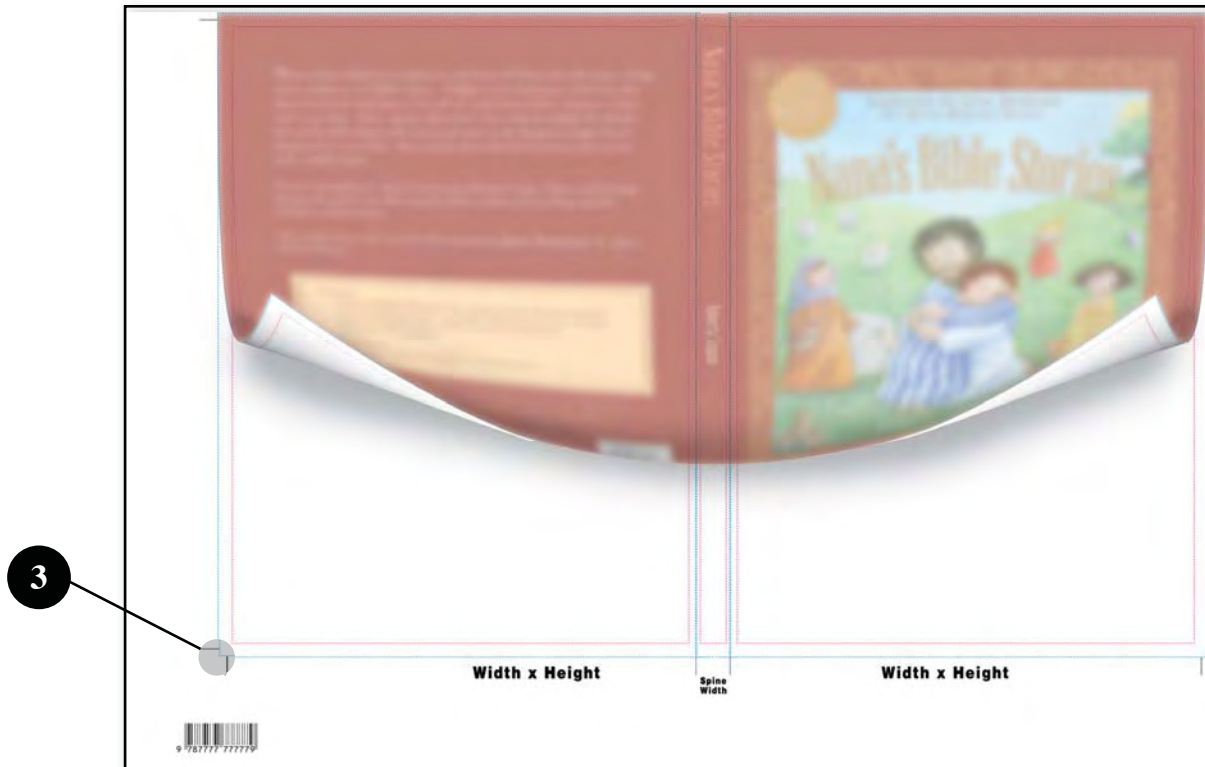
Bleed is necessary on all four sides of the cover file. If you want an *image* or *background color* to go all the way to the edge of your bound book, it will need to extend to the blue dotted lines on the template.

The bleed specification for a perfect bound book is:

- .125" outside the trim marks.  
(less)



## Perfect Bound Template Explained



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2

**Cyan Dotted Lines** show the “Bleed Area”. Any background color, pattern, gradient or image that you wish to extend to the edge of your printed book should extend to, but not *past*, the cyan dotted lines.

3

**Black horizontal and vertical lines** at the corners are “Trim Marks”. This is where your book will be cut after it is bound with the interior pages.

Your background will extend .125" *outside* of the trim marks. The safety area falls .125" *inside* the trim marks.

These marks are used after your cover has been bound to the interior pages. A 3-blade cutter will cut the book to these marks for the final trim size that you have chosen for your book.  
(less)