

# Self-Publishing Readiness Checklist

## *A Clear Starting Point for First-Time Authors*

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### **SECTION 1: Mindset & Expectations**

- I understand self-publishing is not instant success
  - I am choosing this path intentionally
  - I value ownership and creative control
  - I am publishing alongside real-life responsibilities
  - I am willing to grow over time
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### **SECTION 2: Manuscript Readiness**

- My manuscript is complete
  - I have revised it independently
  - I am open to professional feedback
  - I am not rushing to publish
  - I want readers to have a quality experience
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### **SECTION 3: Editing Essentials**

- I understand editing is not optional
  - I know the difference between editing types
  - I have researched editors
  - I understand editing costs vary
  - I prioritize clarity and credibility
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### **SECTION 4: Design & Formatting Basics**

- I understand covers affect discoverability
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