

The screenshot shows the ePubBud website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links like 'Browse', 'New Book', 'My Books', 'Digitize', 'Sell', 'Activities', '\$5.150ths NEW', 'Forum NEW', 'Help', and 'Upload and Convert'. The main content area includes several promotional boxes: 'Free Children's eBooks' with a 'Browse All eBooks' button; 'Convert an eBook' with an 'Upload an eBook' button; 'Digitize a Real Book' with a 'Digitize a Real Book' button; and 'Sell Your eBook' with a 'Sell Your eBook' button. There is also a section for 'YouTube Videos in Your eBooks' and a 'Tutorial Video!' section. A large red text overlay reads 'Creating Electronic Books (ePub) Using ePubBud Website by C Lyman March 2011'. A green ePUB logo is positioned on the right side of the page.

Creating Electronic Books (ePub) Using ePubBud.com Website

Introduction

Electronic Books

What is an electronic book (eBook)? “An **electronic book** (also **e-book**, **ebook**, **digital book**) is a text and image-based publication in digital form produced on, published by, and readable on computers or other digital devices.^[1] (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/E-book>)

ePub

EPUB (short for **electronic publication**; alternatively capitalized as **ePub**, **ePUB**, **EPub**, or **epub**, with "EPUB" preferred by the vendor) is a free and open e-book standard by the International Digital Publishing Forum (IDPF). Files have the extension *.epub*.



ePub Logo - This is a logo owned by International Digital Publication Forum for the EPUB file format.

EPUB is designed for reflowable content, meaning that the text display can be optimized for the particular display device used by the reader of the EPUB-formatted book. The format is meant to function as a single format that publishers conversion houses can use in-house, as well as for distribution and sale.

(<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/EPUB>)

eBook Readers

An **e-book reader**, also called an **e-book device** or **e-reader**, is a portable electronic device that is designed primarily for the purpose of reading digital books and periodicals.

An e-book reader is similar in form to a tablet computer. A tablet computer typically has a faster screen capable of higher refresh rates which makes them more suitable for interaction. The main advantages of e-book readers are better readability of their screens especially in bright sunlight and longer battery life. This is achieved by using electronic paper technology to display content to readers.

Any device that can display text on a screen can act as an e-book reader, but without the advantages of the e-paper technology.

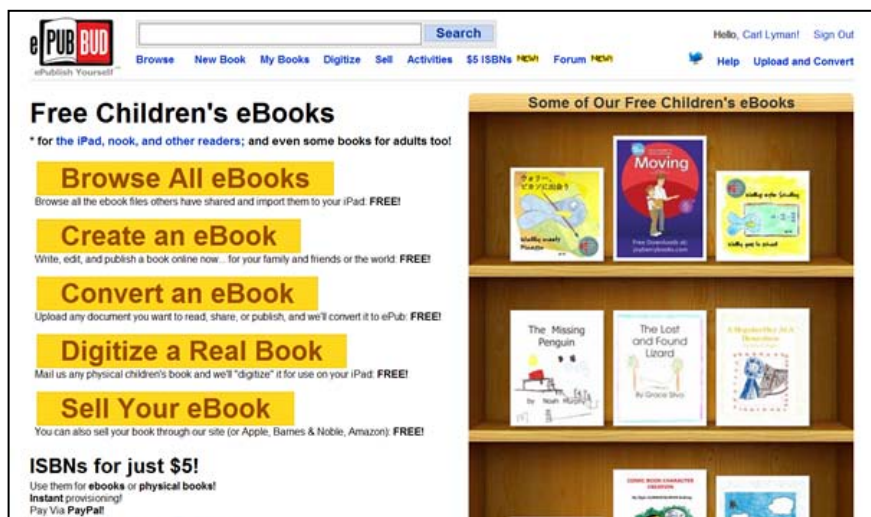
ePub readers can be found on a variety of hardware and operating systems. Some of the more popular ePub readers include: . Apple's iBook on the iPod and iPad that supports embedded audio and video, Barnes & Noble's Nook, and Adobe Digital Editions for Windows or Mac OS X.

(http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ebook_device)

ePubBud Website

Opening Screen at ePubBud

The ePubBud website is found at <http://www.epubbud.com>. The opening screen shows all the options that are available on the site. Options include: login to the website, browse for books, search for books, create a new eBook, digitize a real book, upload files and convert to eBook, etc.



ePubBud Website

Creating an ePubBud Account

Before a person can create a new book they must create a free account at ePubBud. There are four pieces of information that are required: (1) a username, (2) your real name, (3) an email address, and (4) a password.

The screenshot shows the ePubBud website interface. At the top left is the logo "ePUB BUD" with the tagline "ePublish Yourself™". To the right is a search bar with a "Search" button. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links: "Browse", "New Book", "My Books", "Digitize", "Sell", "Activities", and "\$5 ISBNs". The main content area is divided into two sections: "Sign In" and "New User?". The "Sign In" section has fields for "Your Email:" and "Password:", a yellow "Sign In" button, and a link for "Forgot your password?". The "New User?" section has a blue box containing the text "ePub Bud is 100% free and respects your privacy." and fields for "Choose Username:", "Your Real Name:", "Your Email Address:", and "Choose Password:". Below these fields is a yellow "Create Account" button and a note: "By signing up you are agreeing to the terms of service." At the bottom of the page is a footer with links: "How to read epub eBooks", "About", "Safety", "Privacy", "Terms", "Copyright", and "Contact Us", along with the copyright notice "© 2010-2011 ePub Bud, a not-for-profit organization."

Signup Screen

Video - How to Creating an Account

Browse All eBooks

The site can be browsed for all the public books on the website. Many of these books are free but some cost a fee. The books can be found in the following categories: Random Books, Most Popular Books, Recently Added Books, Toddler Books, Beginner Books, Children Books, Teen Books, Fiction Books, Reference Books, and Nonfiction Books.

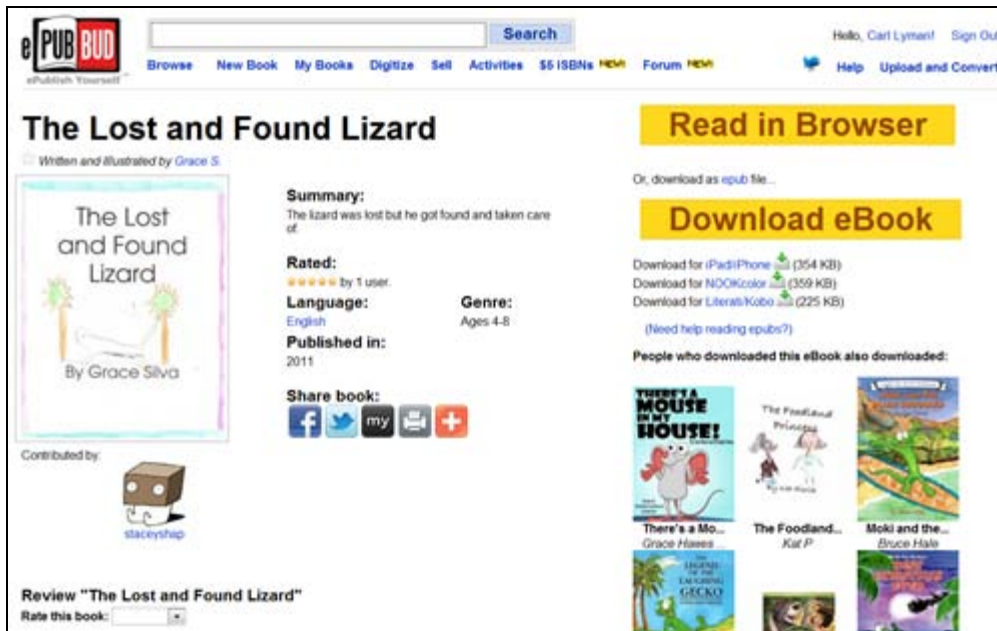
ePubBud sample Bookshelf

Video - How to Browse for Books



Book Download

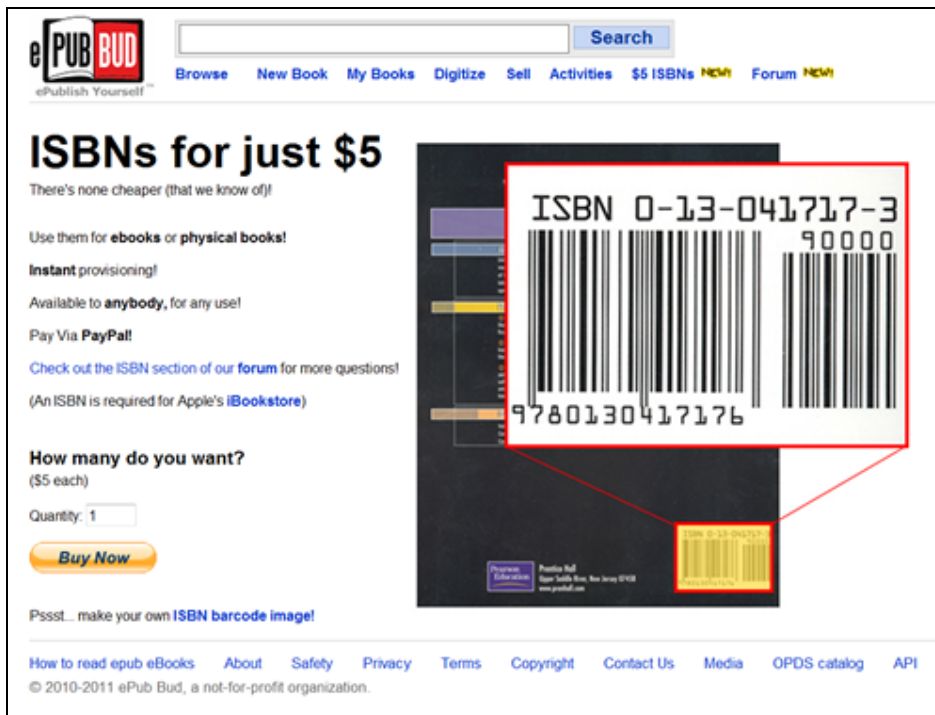
A book can be selected by clicking on it for additional information and then it can be downloaded if it is wanted.



Book Information and Download Page

ISBN Numbers

Any book that is sold on line needs an ISBN number. These can be purchased from ePubBud for only \$5.00. This is about as cheap as they can be purchased.

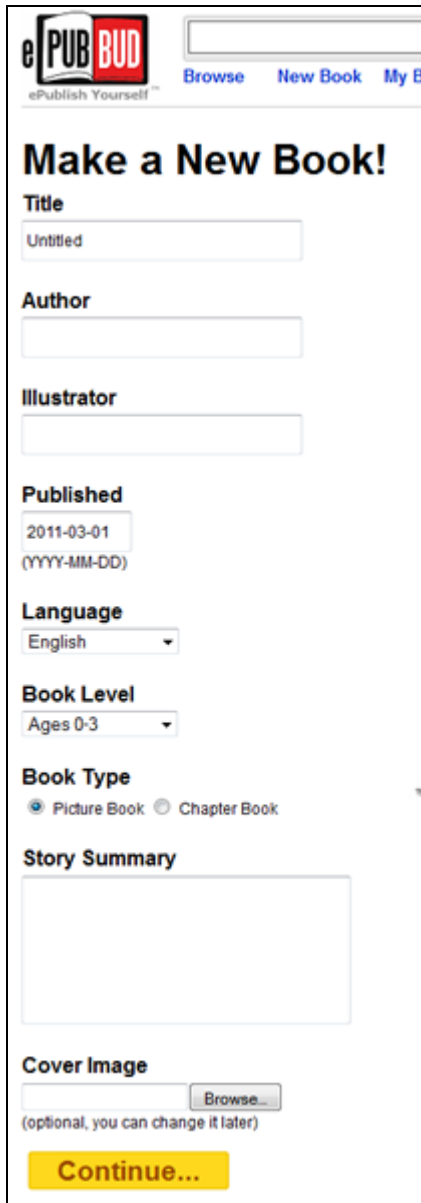


ePubBud ISBN Number Purchase

Planning a eBook

Book Information

Background information that is needed for the book includes: title, author, illustrator, published date, language, book level (ages 0-3, 4-6, 9-12, young adult, adult fiction, adult nonfiction, or textbook) , book type (picture or chapter), story summary, and the cover image.



The screenshot shows the 'Make a New Book!' form on the ePubBud website. The form includes the following fields and options:

- Title:** A text input field containing 'Untitled'.
- Author:** An empty text input field.
- Illustrator:** An empty text input field.
- Published:** A date picker showing '2011-03-01' with the format '(YYYY-MM-DD)' below it.
- Language:** A dropdown menu set to 'English'.
- Book Level:** A dropdown menu set to 'Ages 0-3'.
- Book Type:** Two radio buttons: 'Picture Book' (selected) and 'Chapter Book'.
- Story Summary:** A large empty text area.
- Cover Image:** A text input field with a 'Browse...' button next to it. Below the field is the text '(optional, you can change it later)'.
- Continue...:** A yellow button at the bottom of the form.

Book Information

Video - Information Needed for a New eBook

Cover Image

The Cover Image is a graphic. It should be about 500-600 pixels wide and 800-900 pixels tall. It can be either a jpg or png image.

Outline Chapters

Plan your book by making an outline of what will be included in the book. For each chapter include a description of the text, elements, photos, weblinks, and media that will be needed.

Collect or Create Media Assets

Write the story in a word processor. Don't worry about the font because the font and font size is a setting on the eBook reader. If it is saved as a word DOC file it can be directly upload for conversion or it can be copied and pasted into the online editor. Include formatting for chapter names, subtitles, paragraph headings, numbered or bullet lists.

Create the media that will be embedded in the book. Many different media elements that can be included in an ePub book and using ePubBud.coms, These media elements need to be created and saved in a project folder. Photos or graphics should be about 400-600 pixels wide. Audio files should be saved as AAC files in with an m4a extension. Video files should be saved as m4v files with a H-26 codec. Currently iPods/iTouches/iPhones/iPads using iBooks are the only readers that support embedded media.

Video - Planning an eBook

Composing a New Book

Document Upload Option

If the book has been written in a word processor with the pictures embedded in the text, probably the easiest way to create a new book is to upload the document using the Upload option on the top right side of the website. Pictures need to be on a line by themselves with no text wrapping. Put a caption on the line following the pictures as a caption for the picture. After the document has been uploaded it shows in your "My Books".

Uploaded Book

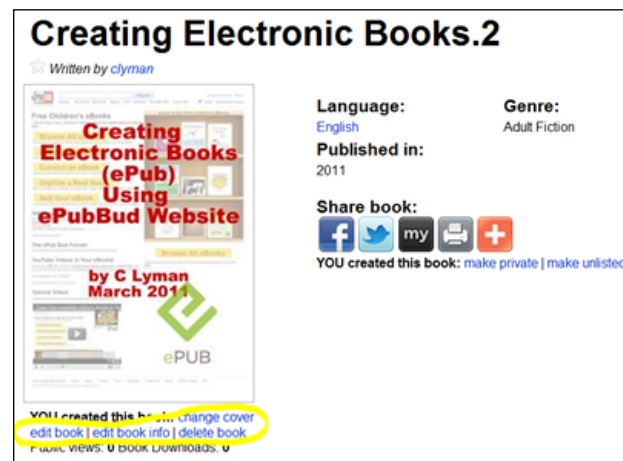
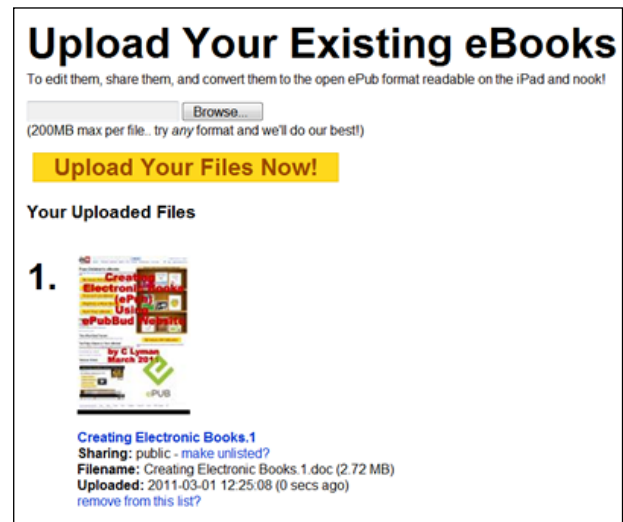
Video - How to Upload a Doc to Create an ePub Book

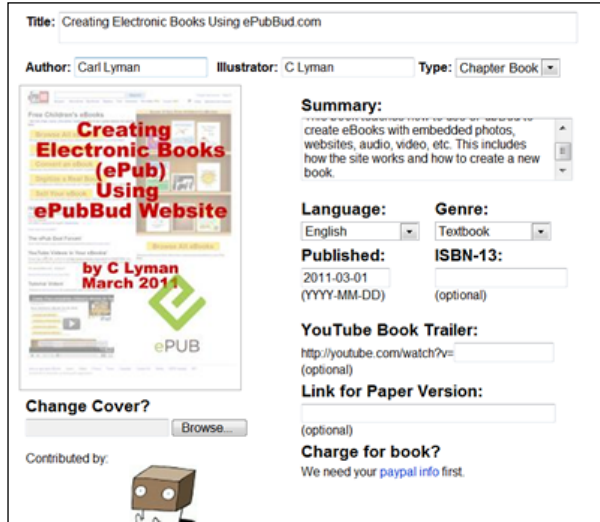
The Upload option with put the pictures in the document but will not divide it into chapters. It does not include any book information either. These can both be added by choosing the "edit book" or the "edit book info" links on the page. Double clicking on the eBook Title icon or the name of the book will open it up in "My Books". The book edit options are under the cover page. You can see them marked in yellow under the book cover on this screenshot.

Enter Book Information

The cover page for an uploaded document is the first graphic in the document. If the first is picture is what you want for the cover you will not need to use the "change cover" option. If you want to change the cover later on you can always use it to change the cover image.

The third option is "edit book info". Update the information for your book. This information can be edited and changed at anytime. Be sure to click the yellow "Save All Book Info Changes" button before you navigate away from the page.





Book Info Edit

Video - How to Edit the Book Information

Editing and Dividing the Book into Chapters

In the web based editor you will find the many of the tools you would find in a basic word processor. Extra lines can be deleted or inserted. The book can be divided into chapters so they when it is being read in an eBook reader the Table of Contents (TOC) option will allow the easy navigation of the book. The Chapter icon is the second icon on the second line of the toolbar. Place the cursor in the text where the chapter is want and click the Chapter icon. The chapter title should be on the line following the double lines that indicate a chapter division. It should be bolded and the font size could be larger than the text body. It can also be formatted with a

style option.

Chapter Tool and Chapter Marks

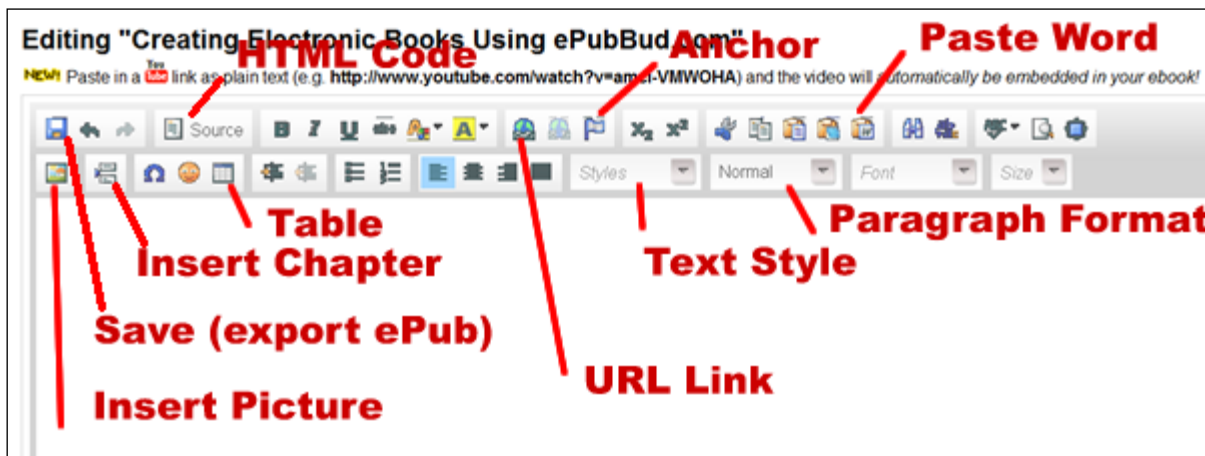
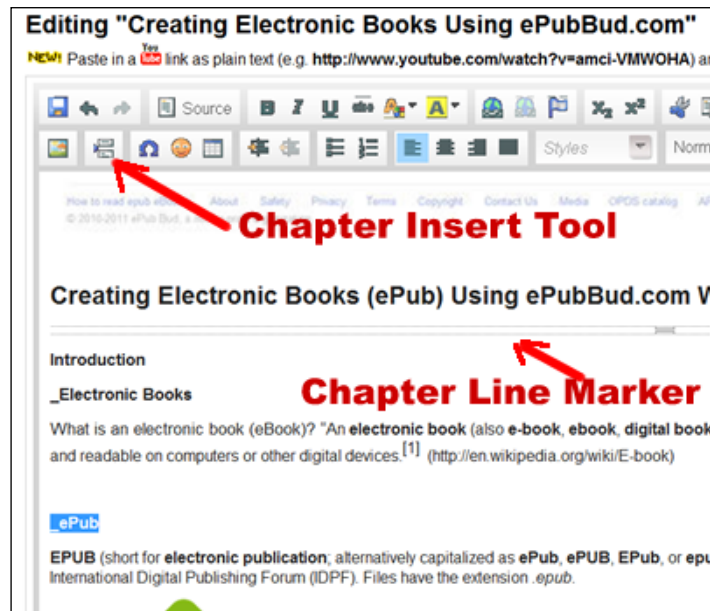
Video - How to Edit the eBook into Chapters

There are a variety of editing tools that can be used in the ePubBud editor.. Most of these editing tools are what you would expect in a word processor or an online text editor. Sometimes the navigating up and down in the editor is "jumpy". Control UpArrow or Control DownArrow will let you move a paragraph at a time.

Other Editor Tools

Upload Book Title Page

If you want to change the picture on the title page this can be done by "change cover" option when looking at the edit options under the book info.



Adding Content to the Book

After the book has been created, additional content can be added by going to “edit book”. In the book editor new content can be typed in or it can be copied and pasted from any word processor or text document.

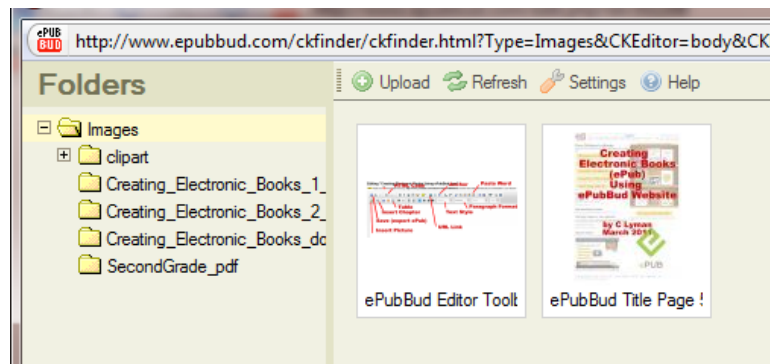
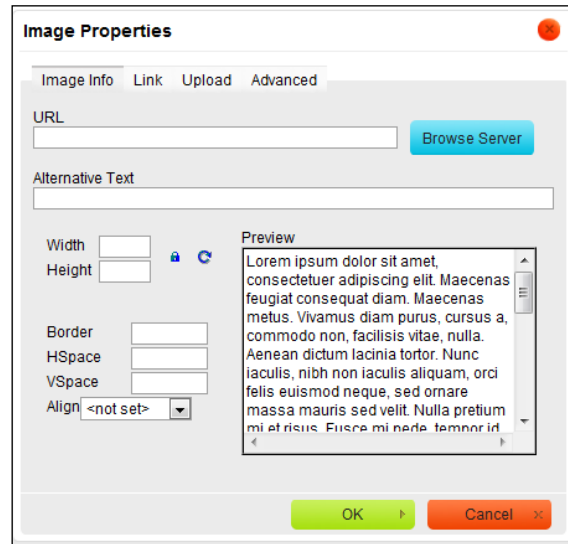
Embedding Pictures or Photos

Photos or pictures can be inserted in a couple of different ways. Both ways start by clicking on the Image Insert icon on the toolbar.

1. The first tab is “Image Info”, then click the blue “Browse Server” button.

Image Upload Dialog Box

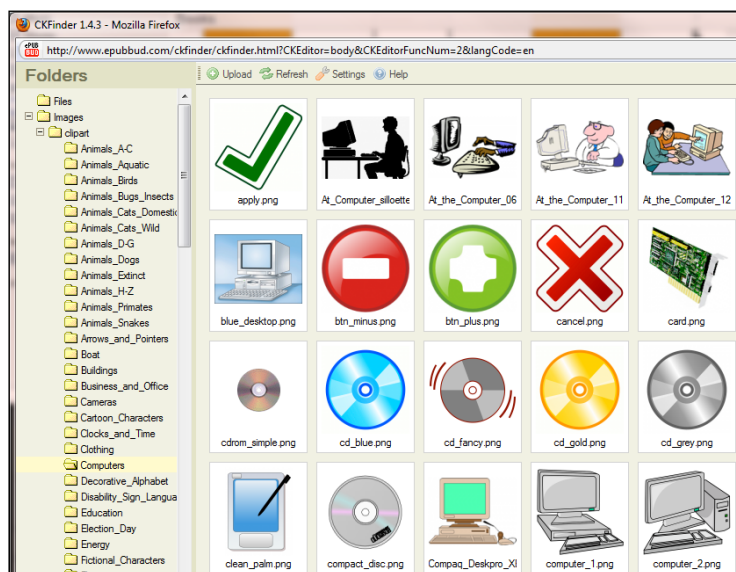
The “Browse Server” button takes you to the server at ePubBud will all the files you have uploaded or there is a clipart folder with a lot of images that also can be used.



Uploaded Images

Clipart Images in ePubBud Browser

The image can be selected by double clicking on the image. This brings the preview and metadata in the “Image Info” tab. Add some alternative text for the image. Properties for the image height and width can be adjust if needed. The Border property can put a line around the image to help define shape of the image. I have used a 1 pixel border in this ePub book. Do not worry about the space around the image or the alignment because the image should be on a line by itself.



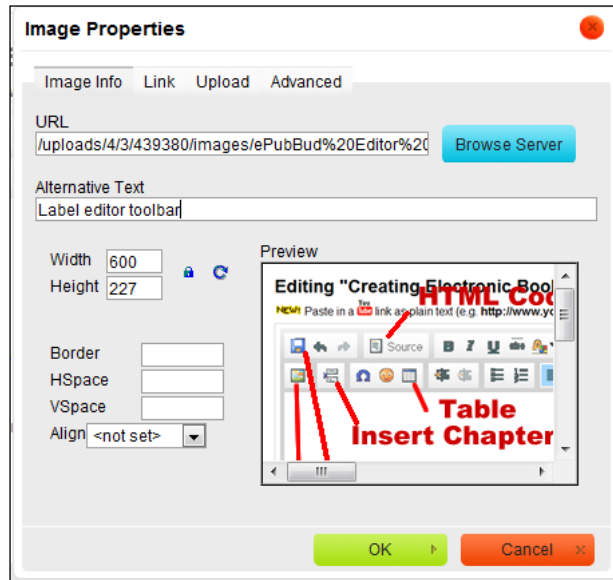


Image Browse and Upload Dialog Box

Video - How to Embed Images in the eBook

Embedding Video or Audio

To embed video or audio in the document it must first be uploaded to the ePubBud server. This is done with the “Upload and Convert” link on the home page. The media file is embedded by typing the name of the file on a line by itself in the document. Example:

ePubBud_Edit_in_Chapters.m4v

Audio can be embedded the same way. Uploading the audio file and placing the name of the file on a line by itself in the text of the document. Example:

ePubBud_Instructions.m4a

Video from YouTube can also be embedded by putting the URL of the YouTube video on a line by itself. Simply type a URL for the YouTube video in the the book and when you save it, it embed the video right into your ePub!

How to Video to Embed Audio & Video

Embedding Web Links or URL

To embed a Web link or URL, select the text in the document by highlighting it, click on the Link tool in the middle of the top toolbar. Choose the type of link. (URL, Link to anchor in text, or email) Select the protocol, http:// will work for most Web links. Type or paste the URL in URL blank field. Then click the “OK” button.

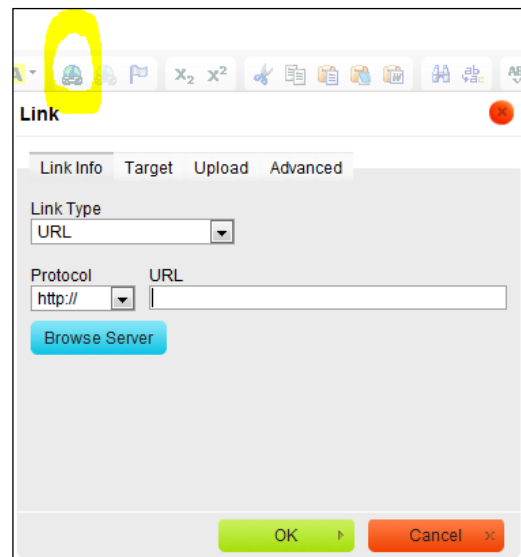
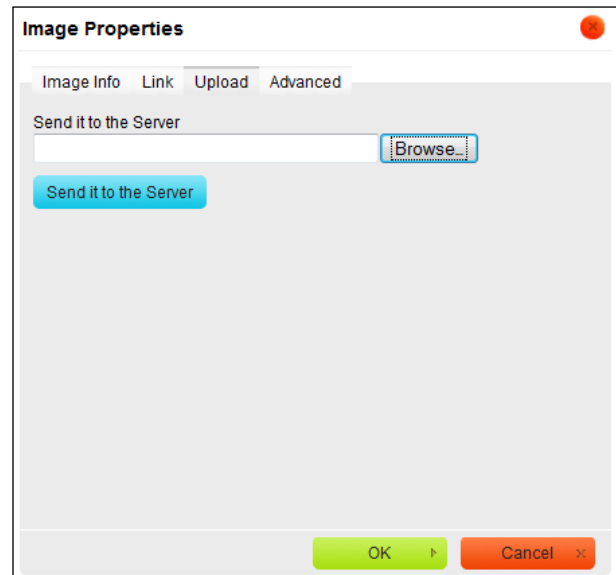
Link Dialog Box

Embedding Anchors

Hyperlinks can be made inside the document by using anchors and linking to the anchor as a target. First

Image Upload Dialog Box – Image Preview & Properties

The second common way to embed images is with the third tab in the upload “Image Properties” dialog box, the “Upload” tab. This method lets you browse your computer’s hard drive, select an image, and upload it to the ePubBud server. First click the “Browse” button to find the image on your computer. Select the image, then click on the blue “Send it to the Server” button. This will bring up the properties in the Image dialog box. Here alternative text and the size of the image can be adjusted.



anchors must be placed in the document using the anchor tool, the flag icon, in the middle of the top toolbar.

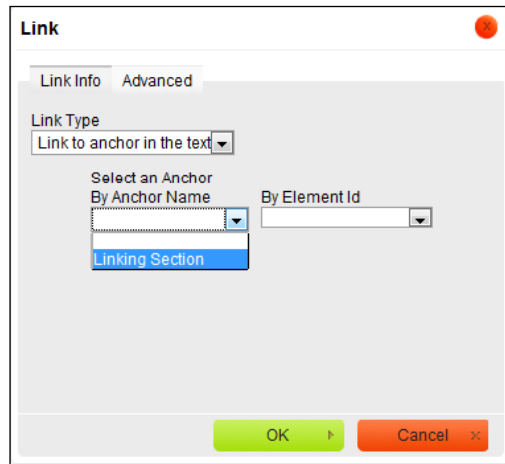
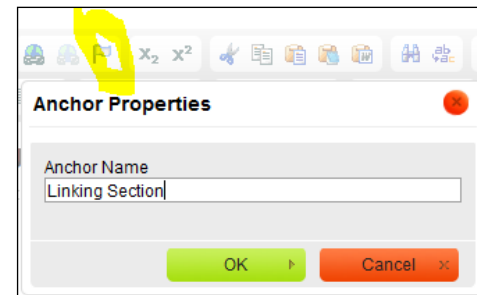


Link Section of the toolbar with the “flag” as the anchor tool

First place the cursor where you want the link to be. Click on the “flag” icon. Enter the name of the anchor. Then click the “OK” button. A small symbol with an “anchor” is placed in the document as a placeholder for the anchor.

Anchor Dialog Box

This anchor can now be linked to by choosing the “target” option when creating a link.



Link to Anchor by selecting a Target

Video - How to Add a Weblink

Save

When the editing of the document has been finished, “Save” the document. The blue disk on the left of the top tool bar is the Save icon. Saving the document creates an eBook in an ePub file format.

Reading in ePubBud Online Reader

Once a document has been saved into an eBook, it can be previewed or read in the ePubBud online reader. This is a good place to see the overall look of the book. Any embedded audio or video will not work in the online reader.

Proofread, and Revise as Needed

In the online reader, proofread your document and then make any revisions as needed.



Publishing a Book

Adjusting Publishing Setting

Once the book has been saved it is available for publishing. By default it will be published as a “Public” book. These settings can be change to “Make Private” or “Unlisted”. There are also icons to share on Facebook, Twitter, print, etc. If a book is made “Public” it will show up in a search and then can be downloaded by anyone.

Publishing Settings

Downloading to Computer

Once a book has been selected it can be downloaded by clicking on the yellow “Download eBook” button. A Save As dialog box will come up, choose the folder where you would like it to be saved, and save it.

Moving ePub Book to iTunes

Once the book has been downloaded, open Windows Explorer on a PC or Finder on a Mac, find the book with the epub extension. Open iTunes and then drag the file to the Library on the top left side of iTunes. The library will highlight and the eBook will be placed in the Book folder.

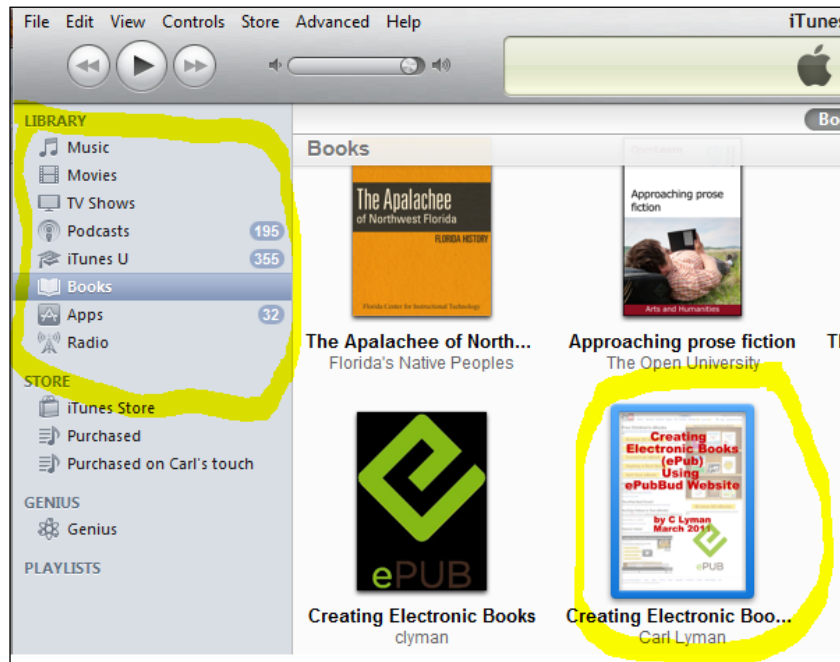
Summary:
This book teaches how to use ePubBud to create eBooks with embedded photos, websites, audio, video, etc. This includes how the site works and how to create a new book.

Language: English
Genre: Textbook

Published in: 2011

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YOU created this book: [make private](#) | [make unlisted](#)



The library and the book have been marked in yellow

Moving ePub Book to Your iPad or iPod

The easiest way to get the book onto your iPod, iTouch, iPhone, or iPad is plug in your device to your computer. Set the sync setting to manual. Then dray the book onto your device and it will then take a few seconds to sync the eBook.

Reading an ePub Book in iBooks

When iBooks is opened up you will see the books that have been uploaded to the library on your device. Select the ebook to open it up.

Table of Contents

The Table of Contents icon is on the top left of the screen once a book has been opened. The table of contents lets you select and move to any chapter in the book.

Turning Pages

Pages are turned by moving your finger to the right or the left. Most eBooks can be turn to read a two pages at a time in landscape or one page at a time in portrait.

Bookmarks

On the top right side of the iBook is a bookmark ribbon. Touch it to turn a bookmark on or off.

Dictionary

If you find a word you don't know, hold your finger on the word until it is selected, a menu shows up with a dictionary as one of the options, select it, and you can read the meaning of the word. The dictionary is a built in feature of iBooks.

Search

On the top right side of iBook is a magnifying glass that lets you search for any text that may be in the book. Type in what you are searching for and all the occurrences of the word will show up in context of the use of the word. You can select any of the occurrences and it will jump to that location in the book.

Marking Text & Notes

Your finger can be used to select text in the eBook. Once text is selected it can be highlighted or notes can be written on a sticky note.

Conclusion

eBooks can easily be created at the ePubBud Website using their free account. In the ePubBud editor, the book can have text, images, Web links, embedded video, embedded audio, or internal anchors. Once the book is finished it can be published in an ePub format for anyone to download and read.

Carl Lyman
Salt Lake City, UT