



Creating Ebooks Using Open-Source Tools

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Tools Used

- PdfMasher – PDF to EPUB converter
- Sigil – EPUB editor
- Calibre – Ebook manager (and EPUB to MOBI converter)
- Sony Reader – EPUB viewer
- Kindle Previewer – MOBI viewer



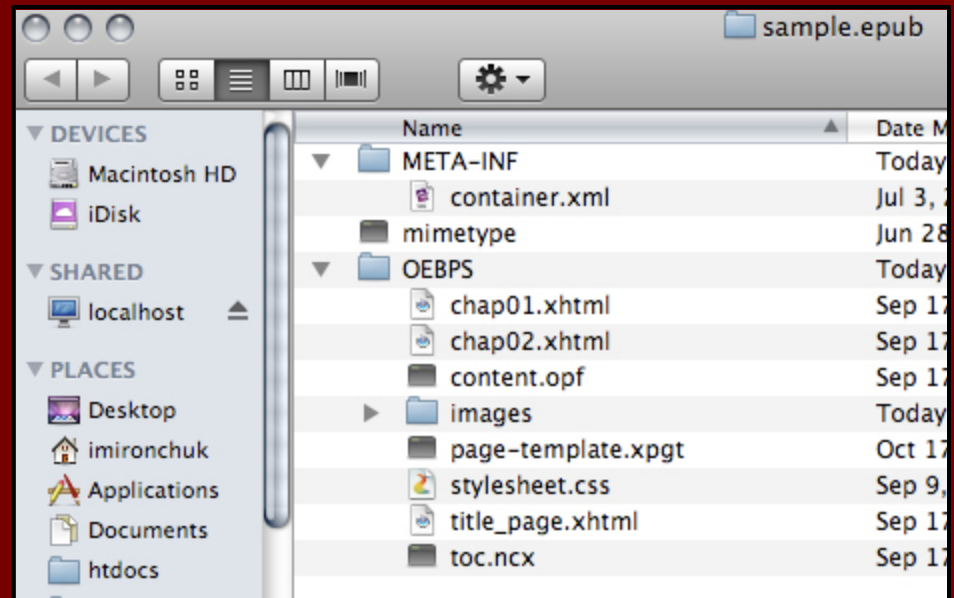


Acronyms Used

- **EPUB** – ebook standard (created 2007)
- **MOBI** – ebook format for Kindle
- **(X)HTML and CSS** – file format and style used for content
- **OPF** – metadata file
- **NCX** – navigational TOC

Epub File Components

- **META-INF:**
container.xml
(roadmap to actual files)
- **Mimetype:**
application/epub+zip
(hey, this is an EPUB!)
- **OEBPS:** text, images,
CSS, TOC, metadata,
fonts (the meat!)





Let's Make an Ebook!

STEP 1: PDF to EPUB with PdfMasher

- *generates clean EPUB text*
- *easily remove unwanted elements*
- *strips out styles*

<http://www.hardcoded.net/pdfmasher/>

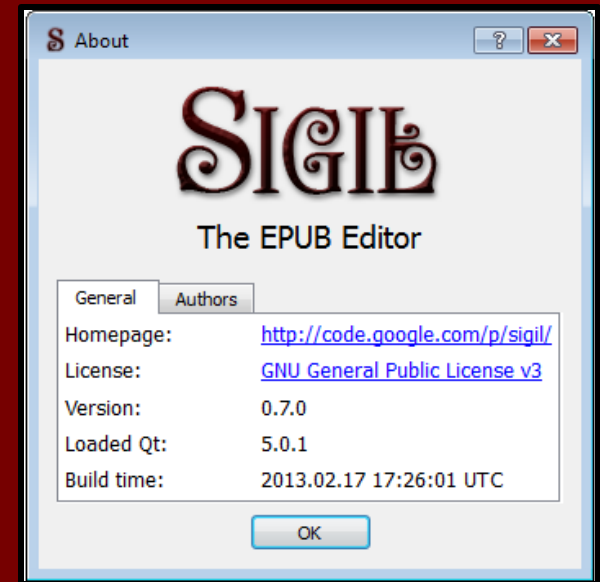




Let's Make an Ebook!

STEP 2: EPUB Editing with Sigil

- *add/edit text (HTML) files*
- *add/edit metadata*
- *add/edit CSS style(s)*
- *add images*
- *create TOC*



<https://code.google.com/p/sigil/>



Let's Make an Ebook!

STEP 3: Review EPUB with Sony Reader

- *review file / make corrections to EPUB file*
- *alternative software: Adobe Digital Editions or Bluefire App (iOS)*

<https://ebookstore.sony.com/download/>



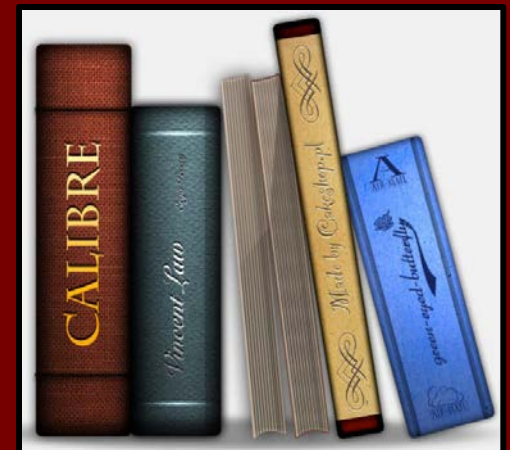


Let's Make an Ebook!

STEP 4: Convert EPUB to MOBI with Calibre

- *metadata tweaks, if necessary*
- *many settings for conversion*

<http://calibre-ebook.com/>





Let's Make an Ebook!

STEP 5: Review with Kindle Previewer

- *review file on different Kindle devices*
- *make corrections to EPUB file and reconvert*
- *ready for distribution!*



<http://www.amazon.com/gp/feature.html?ie=UTF8&docId=1000765261>



Ebook Vendors

- Amazon Kindle Direct Publishing
 - <http://kdp.amazon.com>
- Barnes & Noble PubIt!
 - <http://pubit.barnesandnoble.com/>





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