♡ FREE PRINT GUIDE · FOR EVERY THISTLEFOX KIT

print it like a pro.

everything you need to turn a PDF into tags, signs and sheets you're proud to put on the table. keep this one next to your printer (or in your market binder).

FROM THE WORKBENCH

to the market table. ♡

the 5-minute quick start

SETUP_01.EXE

1. **unzip first.** kits arrive as a .zip. on a phone, open it in the Files app and tap it to unzip.
2. **pick your size.** US Letter for the US, Canada and Mexico. A4 for everywhere else.
3. **open it in a real PDF app** (Adobe Acrobat Reader, Preview or your phone's Files app), not a browser tab.
4. **print at 100% / actual size,** borderless off.
5. **print one test page** before the whole stack.

which file do i pick?

LETTER / A4

US Letter is 8.5 × 11 in (216 × 279 mm). **A4** is 210 × 297 mm (8.27 × 11.69 in).

match the PDF to the paper in your tray. only have the other size? choose **Fit to page** instead of Actual size. it shrinks the page about 3%, which nobody at your booth will notice.

GOLDEN RULE print one page, check it, then print the rest. one test sheet saves a stack of cardstock and a lot of ink.

in this guide

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US LETTER · A4 · FREE FOR MAKERS · PRINT AT HOME

free ✓

THISTLEFOX MAKERY ♡ FREE PRINT GUIDE

paper cheat sheet ♡

the right paper does most of the work. here's what to load for each kind of Thistlefox printable.

YOU'RE PRINTING	BEST PAPER	US WEIGHT	METRIC	FINISH
checklists, trackers + logs packing, inventory, show tracker	everyday copy paper	20 – 24 lb	75 – 90 gsm	matte
workbooks you'll keep pricing, season plan, tax organizer	premium paper, both sides take ink	28 – 32 lb	105 – 120 gsm	matte
price tags + hang tags	heavy cardstock	100 – 110 lb cover	270 – 300 gsm	smooth matte
product labels + stickers	full-sheet matte sticker paper	label stock	label stock	matte
booth signs + price lists	cardstock, then laminate	80 lb cover	216 gsm	matte or satin
cheat cards + cash box cards	light-medium cardstock	65 – 80 lb cover	176 – 216 gsm	matte
receipt book + order forms	copy paper (2 copies: you + them)	20 – 24 lb	75 – 90 gsm	matte
giveaway slips + sign-up sheets	copy paper on a clipboard	24 lb	90 gsm	matte
wholesale line sheet	bright white premium paper	32 lb	120 gsm	smooth, in color

paper weight decoder

LB VS GSM

US paper has two scales, which is why "65 lb" cardstock is heavier than "32 lb" paper. grams per square meter (gsm) is the honest number, so check it on the pack.

- ♡ **75 – 90 gsm** everyday copy paper
- ♡ **100 – 120 gsm** premium "presentation" paper
- ♡ **176 gsm** light cardstock (65 lb cover)
- ♡ **216 gsm** medium cardstock (80 lb cover)
- ♡ **270 – 300 gsm** heavy cardstock (100 – 110 lb cover)

the starter stash

BUY THESE FOUR

buy these four packs and you can print every kit in the shop:

- [ ] bright white copy paper, ~90 gsm
- [ ] smooth white cardstock, 216 gsm (80 lb)
- [ ] heavy white cardstock, 270 gsm (100 lb)
- [ ] full-sheet matte sticker paper

CHECK YOUR PRINTER search your model plus "max paper weight". most home inkjets take light cardstock in the main tray and heavier stock one sheet at a time through the rear or manual feed.

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printer settings ♡

every Thistlefox kit already has safe margins built in, so the default "make it fit" tricks usually do more harm than good.

SETTING	CHOOSE	WHY
Scale	100% / Actual size	keeps tags, cards and cut lines at their true size. use Fit to page only when the PDF and paper sizes don't match.
Paper size	Letter or A4, matching the tray	a mismatch is the #1 cause of cut-off edges.
Borderless	Off	borderless zooms the page slightly and trims the edges.
Paper type	Matte / Cardstock / Labels	tells the printer to slow down and use less ink, so heavy paper and sticker sheets don't smear.
Quality	High / Best for tags, signs + line sheets. Standard for worksheets	best is slower and uses more ink, but the pinks look rich instead of streaky.
Color	Grayscale for sheets you'll scribble on	trackers and logs read fine in gray, and your color cartridge lasts for the tags.
Pages	type a range, like 3-5, 9	print just the sheets you need for this weekend's show.
Two-sided	flip on long edge (portrait pages)	see page 4 for workbooks.

windows

CTRL + P

open the PDF in Adobe Acrobat Reader, press **Ctrl + P**. under Page Size & Handling choose **Actual size**. click **Properties** for paper type, quality and color.

mac

⌘ + P

open in Preview, press **⌘ + P**, then **Show Details**. set Scale to **100%**. open the **Media & Quality** dropdown for paper type and quality.

iphone + ipad

SHARE → PRINT

open the PDF in the Files app, tap **Share**, then **Print**. choose your printer, paper size and page range. tap **Options** for black & white or two-sided if your printer offers them.

android

⋮ → PRINT

open the PDF in Files or Drive, tap ⋮ then **Print**. tap the down arrow to set paper size, color, two-sided and pages. you may need your printer brand's free print plugin.

LATE-NIGHT PRINTING printing the night before a show? set it to Standard + Grayscale for the worksheets and save Best quality for the tags. it's twice as fast.

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double-sided + workbooks ♡

the bigger kits (pricing, season plan, tax organizer) feel like a real workbook when they're printed on both sides. three ways to do it.

automatic two-sided

EASIEST

if your printer has a duplex setting, choose **Two-sided, Flip on long edge**. that's it.

long edge is for portrait pages. short edge is for landscape pages.

manual two-sided

A LITTLE FIDDLY

1. print **odd** pages only.
2. put the stack back in the tray. most trays want it printed side up, top edge going in first.
3. print **even** pages, often with "reverse order" on.

booklet mode

PRO MOVE

Acrobat Reader's **Booklet** option puts two pages side by side on each sheet, in order. fold the stack in half and staple the spine for a half-size mini workbook that fits in your tote.

best for 8 to 32 pages.

test before you commit

DUPLEX CHECK

print the duplex test on page 12 first. if the back comes out upside down, switch between long edge and short edge. if it lands on the wrong side, flip the stack over in the tray.

draw a small pencil arrow on the top edge of your stack before you reload it. future you, at midnight before a show, will thank you.

when to print one side only

SINGLE-SIDED

- [ ] price tags, labels and anything you'll cut out
- [ ] booth signs and price lists you'll laminate
- [ ] sheets that go on a clipboard at the booth
- [ ] giveaway slips and the email sign-up sheet
- [ ] anything you'll write on with a permanent marker

WORKBOOK ORDER print the cover on cardstock, the inside pages double-sided on 105 – 120 gsm premium paper, and a plain cardstock back. then pop it in your market binder (page 8) and it lasts the whole season.

my printer's duplex settings

WRITE THEM DOWN ONCE

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pens that survive market day ♡

every pen behaves differently on printed paper, in the sun and in the rain. pick the pen to match the job, and test on page 13 first.

TOOL	SMUDGE RISK	BEST FOR	GOOD TO KNOW
Ballpoint pen	NONE	receipts, order forms, trackers	the market-day workhorse. presses through two copies and doesn't smear when your hand drags.
Pencil	NONE	inventory counts, outdoor shows	works in rain, cold and humidity, and you can erase a miscount. keep a sharpener in the cash box.
Gel pen	LOW	workbooks, planning pages	smooth and pretty, but give it a few seconds to dry. lefties, watch your hand.
Fineliner / felt tip	LOW	trackers, journaling the recap	barely shows through 105 gsm paper. it runs if it gets wet, so not for outdoor tags.
Fine permanent marker	HIGH	price tags, labels, signs	crisp prices that won't rub off. it bleeds through copy paper, so use it on cardstock and sticker paper only.
Dry-erase marker	NONE	laminated checklists, "only 3 left!"	wipes off with a tissue. bumps and sleeves smudge it too, so it's best for things you change all day.
Wet-erase / chalk marker	NONE	laminated price boards	won't smudge until you wipe it with a damp cloth. great for prices you set once per show.
Highlighter	MEDIUM	best sellers on the recap	can smear fresh inkjet lines. let pages dry for an hour first.

outdoor market survival kit

WIND + RAIN

- ♡ clipboards with a strong clip, so sheets don't fly off the table
- ♡ a clear sheet protector over the tally: write on it with a dry-erase marker
- ♡ pencils work wet. most gel and felt pens don't
- ♡ cold mornings? ballpoints can skip, so keep a pencil as backup
- ♡ laser-printed or laminated tags hold up best in drizzle

make prices readable

FROM 6 FEET AWAY

write prices big, in one color, with the currency symbol small. a fine permanent marker on cardstock reads from across the aisle.

one pen color for money, one for notes on your tracker sheets, and the totals jump right out at the end of the day.

CASH BOX RULE three pens and a pencil live in the cash box, always. the pen at the booth disappears faster than anything you sell.

my market-day pen kit

WHAT WORKS FOR ME

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cutting + string tags ♡

clean cuts make a home print look shop-bought, and nothing says "real shop" like a neat string price tag.

paper trimmer — FASTEST

the quickest way to straight edges. a small rotary or guillotine trimmer handles cardstock and pays for itself after one batch of tags.

craft knife + ruler — CLEANEST

use a metal ruler and a self-healing mat. make two light passes instead of one hard one, and change blades often.

sharp scissors — TOTALLY FINE

move the paper, not the scissors, on curves, and keep the blade deep in the cut.

corner rounder — INSTANT POLISH

a cheap punch that rounds the corners on tags, cards and labels. corners don't bend in the bag, and it looks so finished.

hole punch — 1/8 IN OR 3 MM

a small single punch for string tags, gift tags and hanging signs. a big punch tears through the tag.

scoring tool — CRISP FOLDS

a bone folder or an empty ballpoint pen run along a ruler gives crisp folds on tent signs and folded hang tags.

how to cut on the line — IN THIS ORDER

1. trim the outer white margin off first, so pieces are easier to handle.
2. cut just inside the cut line so no line peeks out.
3. cut long straight edges before short ones.
4. stack 2 sheets at most in a trimmer for accuracy.

string it up — TAGS THAT STAY ON

- ♡ punch the hole at least 4 mm (1/8 in) from the edge
- ♡ add a hole reinforcement sticker on the back so tags don't tear off
- ♡ baker's twine or thin ribbon in a brand color looks lovely
- ♡ tie on with a lark's head knot: loop through, pull the ends through the loop
- ♡ pre-cut your strings the night before, in a zip bag

BATCH TRICK print, cut and string a whole season of blank tags in one evening. on market day you only write the price.

tag sizes + papers i use

what i'm cutting this week

THISTLEFOX MAKERY ♡ FREE PRINT GUIDE

laminate + reuse ♡

laminate your packing checklist once and tick it at every show for a year. it's the single best way to stretch a printable.

thermal laminator, step by step

1. let inkjet prints dry for a few hours so the ink doesn't bubble.
2. warm up the laminator until the ready light comes on.
3. cut pieces out first, then place them in the pouch with 6 mm (1/4 in) of space between them.
4. feed the sealed edge first, nice and straight.
5. let it cool flat under a book, then trim, leaving a 3 mm (1/8 in) clear border so the seal holds.

pouch thickness

- **3 mil (75 micron):** flexible. checklists, cheat cards, helper guides.
- **5 mil (125 micron):** stiff and tough. booth signs, price lists, the card reader sign.

no laminator? no problem

- self-seal laminating sheets: peel, press, trim. no heat.
- clear sheet protectors on a clipboard: slide the page in and it's dry-erase ready.
- clear packing tape over a small sign works in a pinch.
- most print shops laminate per sheet while you wait.

which marker for reuse?

- **dry-erase:** wipes off with a tissue. best for checklists and "only 3 left!" notes.
- **wet-erase:** won't smudge until you wipe it with a damp cloth. best for price boards.
- **ghosting?** scribble over it with dry-erase and wipe, or use a little rubbing alcohol.

worth laminating

- PACKING CHECKLIST
- BOOTH SETUP STEPS
- PRICE LIST
- CASH FLOAT CARD
- CHEAT CARDS
- "WE TAKE CARDS" SIGN
- "BACK IN 5" SIGN
- BOOTH HELPER GUIDE
- CUSTOM ORDER MENU
- SOCIAL HANDLE SIGN

SIGN STAND HACK slide a laminated sign into a cheap acrylic frame or a clip stand. it stays upright in the wind and looks like you paid a sign shop.

my laminate list

MAKE ONCE, USE ALL SEASON

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binders + the cash box ♡

turn a pile of pages into a market binder and a cash box setup you'll actually reach for when it's busy.

METHOD	YOU NEED	BEST FOR	ADD PAGES LATER?
3-ring market binder	3-hole punch (2-hole on A4), 1 in binder, sheet protectors, tabs	your whole kit library, season plans, show trackers	yes, easily
Disc binding	disc-bound punch, discs, poly covers	pricing workbook, season business plan	yes, pages pop in and out
Spiral or coil	a print shop (a few dollars)	tax organizer, year-long trackers	no
Saddle stitch (staple)	booklet printing + a long-reach stapler	mini workbooks, receipt books, 8 – 32 pages	no
Binder clip or ring	big binder clip, or a 1 in book ring + hole punch	cheat cards, blank tags, order forms	yes
Clipboard	a cute clipboard (or two)	tally, sign-up sheet and giveaway slips at the booth	yes

build your market binder

3 TABS

- ♡ **before:** packing checklist, booth setup steps, booth planner
- ♡ **during:** cash float, sales tally, email sign-up, helper guide
- ♡ **after:** show recap, show tracker, mileage + expense log
- ♡ keep one unmarked master of each sheet in a sheet protector at the front, so you can photocopy it again
- ♡ leave space on the left for holes: our pages have a wide margin, so a punch won't touch the design

store it so you use it

- ♡ one folder per show for the filled-in sheets
- ♡ save every PDF in a "thistlefox printables" folder in your cloud drive
- ♡ keep blank tags and a pencil in a zip pouch inside the cash box
- ♡ store cardstock flat, in its box, away from damp
- ♡ clip this guide inside the back cover of the binder

CASH BOX HACK tape a cheat card inside the cash box lid, keep the float card on top of the tray and ten blank tags underneath. everything you need while selling, in one place.

my binder tabs

what lives in my cash box

at the print shop ♡

no printer, low on ink, or printing 200 price tags on heavy cardstock? a print shop is often cheaper than a new cartridge, and they can laminate, cut and bind too.

in the us

Staples, Office Depot / OfficeMax and FedEx Office all take PDF uploads online for same-day pickup, or print from a USB stick in store.

everywhere else

local copy shops, stationery stores and university print centers do the same. search "same day printing near me".

the library

many public libraries have cheap self-service color printing. bring the PDF on your phone or a USB stick.

copy + paste this order

SEND IT AS-IS

```
please print [file name], pages [__], [__] copies.
paper: [US Letter / A4], [__] lb / [__] gsm [cardstock / premium paper / sticker paper].
color, at 100% / actual size, no scaling.
[single-sided / double-sided, flip on long edge].
extras: [laminate 5 mil] [coil bind] [cut on the lines]
```

save money

- ♡ print only the color pages at the shop and the black and white worksheets at home.
- ♡ ask for a proof of one page before the full run.
- ♡ ask them to cut tags on their guillotine: it's often a small fee and saves you an evening.
- ♡ watch for paper sales around back-to-school.

"is this copyrighted?"

shops sometimes ask about professional-looking files. your Thistlefox kits are for your own shop's use, so print as many copies as your booth needs. show your download email if they ask.

UPLOAD TIP send the PDF, not a screenshot or a photo of the page. the PDF keeps every line and every price crisp at full size.

my local print shop

NAME · HOURS · PRICES

tablets + going digital ♡

every Thistlefox PDF works on a tablet too. plan and track with a stylus at home, then print the sheets you need at the booth.

goodnotes + notability (ipad)

1. save the PDF to Files (unzip first).
2. in GoodNotes tap **+** → **Import** and pick the PDF. in Notability, use Import or share it from Files.
3. long-press a page to duplicate it. endless show trackers and expense logs.
4. use the highlighter at low opacity to mark your best sellers on the recap.

kindle scribe + e-ink

1. use **Send to Kindle** (the app, website or email) to send the PDF.
2. open it on the Scribe and write right on the page with the pen.
3. reMarkable, Kobo Elipsa and Boox take PDFs through their own apps or a USB cable.

e-ink is grayscale, so pastel pages show up in soft grays. trackers and planners look great.

android + windows

Samsung Notes, Xodo, Flexcil and OneNote all open PDFs for stylus writing.

at the booth

a tablet tally is great until it's sunny, the battery dies or it starts raining. keep a printed tally in the cash box as backup.

backups

export your filled-in trackers as a PDF every month or so. your numbers stay safe if the app or the device changes.

BEST OF BOTH plan your season and do the recap on your tablet, then print a fresh packing checklist, float card and tally for each show. same file, two ways to use it.

which kits i use digitally vs on paper

DIGITAL USE IS STILL YOUR SHOP ONLY: PLEASE DON'T SHARE THE FILE

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troubleshooting ♡

most print problems come down to scale, paper size or paper type. find yours below.

WHAT HAPPENED	TRY THIS
edges or text are cut off	set scale to Actual size and borderless off, and check that the paper size matches the PDF.
everything prints a little small	"Fit to page" or "Shrink oversized pages" is on. switch to Actual size / 100%.
tags or cards are the wrong size	print page 12 and measure the ruler. if it's off, the scale setting is the culprit.
colors look dull or streaky	choose High / Best quality, set paper type to matte or cardstock, and run a nozzle check or head cleaning from the printer's maintenance menu.
pinks print orange or brown	a color cartridge is low or clogged. replace it, or print color pages at a shop.
ink smears or stays wet	set paper type to cardstock or heavy paper, and let pages dry before you stack them.
cardstock or sticker paper jams	feed one sheet at a time through the rear or manual tray, and check the printer's max paper weight.
back side is upside down	switch between flip on long edge and short edge. see page 4.
prices smudge on the tags	inkjet ink reactivates under markers. let tags dry overnight, or use a ballpoint or a laser print.
marker bleeds through	use cardstock or sticker paper for permanent markers, and print one side only.
the download won't open on my phone	kits are .zip files. open the Files app, tap the zip to unzip, then open the PDF.
the PDF opens in my browser and prints oddly	download it and open it in Adobe Acrobat Reader or Preview instead.
laminated sign has bubbles	let the ink dry longer, feed the sealed edge first, or switch to a thinner pouch.
i lost my download link	search your inbox for your Thistlefox Makery email, or reply to it and we'll help.

still stuck? we've got you ♡

REPLY TO YOUR THISTLEFOX EMAIL AND WE'LL SORT IT

fixed ✓

my printer's quirks

MODEL · TRAY · WHAT WORKS

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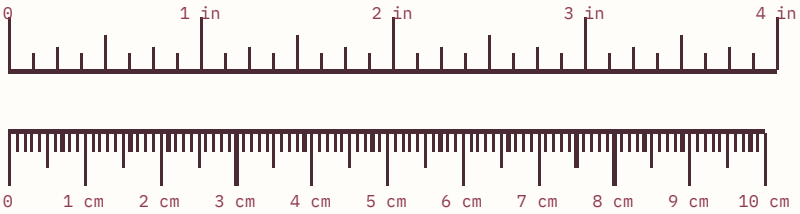
printer test page ♡

print this page at Actual size before any big print job. it checks scale, color, fine lines and two-sided printing in one sheet.

1 • scale check

RULER

this ruler should measure exactly **4 inches** on the top marks and **10 cm** on the bottom marks. if it's shorter, turn off "Fit to page".



2 • color check

BRAND COLORS

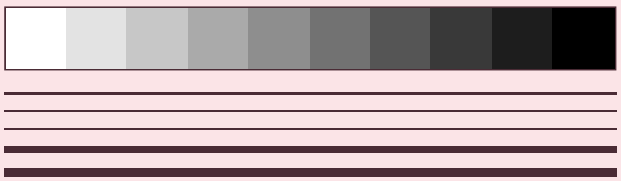
all eight squares should look clean and even, with no stripes. streaks mean it's time for a nozzle check.

CREAM · APRICOT TINT · APRICOT · PINK TINT · STRAWBERRY · DUSTY ROSE · RASPBERRY · COCOA

3 • gray + line check

FINE DETAIL

you should see ten separate steps and five lines, thinnest to thickest. missing thin lines? choose a higher quality setting.



5 • duplex check

TWO-SIDED

front ↑

print this page two-sided with any other page. hold it up to a window: the back should read the same way up.

4 • edge check

CORNERS

all four pink corner marks should be visible. if one is missing, your printer's margin is bigger than usual, so use Fit to page for designs that run close to the edge.

tag test: cut out one price tag from your tag sheet and hold it against a product. right size? print the rest.

pen + paper tester ♡

print this on the paper you use for tags. swatch each pen, write its name on the line, then flip the page over to see what bled through.

PEN 01

PEN 02

PEN 03

PEN 04

PEN 05

PEN 06

PEN 07

PEN 08

smudge test

SWIPE AFTER 10 SEC

write a price over the stripes, wait ten seconds, then swipe your thumb across. does the ink (or the printed line) smear?



rain test

ONE DROP OF WATER

write a price in this box, let it dry, then add one drop of water. if it runs, keep that pen for indoor shows only.

my verdicts

KEEP / INDOOR ONLY / BIN

PEN / MARKER	PAPER	SMUDGE?	RAIN?	VERDICT

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supplies + print log ♡

tick off what you have, circle what you want, and keep a record of what worked so the next show is easier.

paper

- [ ] copy paper 75 – 90 gsm
- [ ] premium paper 120 gsm
- [ ] cardstock 216 gsm / 80 lb
- [ ] cardstock 270 gsm / 100 lb
- [ ] matte sticker paper
- [ ] kraft or colored cardstock
- [ ] _____

writing

- [ ] ballpoint pens (×3)
- [ ] pencils + sharpener
- [ ] fine permanent markers
- [ ] dry-erase markers
- [ ] wet-erase / chalk marker
- [ ] highlighter
- [ ] _____

finishing

- [ ] paper trimmer
- [ ] corner rounder
- [ ] 1/8 in hole punch + twine
- [ ] hole reinforcements
- [ ] laminator + pouches
- [ ] sheet protectors
- [ ] clipboards
- [ ] binder + tabs
- [ ] zip pouches

print log

WHAT WORKED

PRINTABLE	PAPER	SETTINGS	NOTES FOR NEXT TIME

for makers who mean business ♡

FREE FROM THISTLEFOX MAKERY · FIND YOUR NEXT KIT AT THISTLEFOXMAKERY.COM

print it ✓