# Self-Publishing and Distributing Physical and Print Editions of your Sheet Music and Books

## Sheet Music

1. ArrangeMe - <https://www.arrangeme.com/>. Earn 50% for public domain works (older classical pieces) or 10% from copyrighted arrangements of tunes that you can choose from in their ArrangeMe Program. ArrangeMe is owned by Hal Leonard which is why they have this cool opportunity to selected up to 4 million copyrighted tunes and arrange them. Hal Leonard controls most of the print rights in the world for copyrighted tunes. You own the copyright on original works, but the original publisher owns arrangements of their works.
2. MyScore - <https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/my_score/ms-index.jsp>. MyScore sells print copies and sells digital copies. You earn 25% on printed copy sales and 50% on digital sales.  You own the copyright on original works and you own the specific arrangement on public domain (PD) tunes.  This company is owned by JW Pepper, the largest distributor of sheet music to schools in the USA and Canada.

If you are really serious about this, you should also set up your own publishing company. Because, if you are the publisher, you earn all the revenue streams that come from exploiting copyrighted music: mechanical income (recordings), performance (live and broadcasted performances), print, synchronization (synchronization with visual images for use in movies, TV and video games). Attached is a document on how to easily set up your publishing company.

## Books

1. Kindle Direct Publishing (via Amazon).  Set up a KDP account at (<https://kdp.amazon.com/en_US/>).
2. You can also ship to other music dealers.  You can request what KDP calls "Author Copies."  Once you add them to your cart in KDP, they scoot you over to [Amazon.com](http://Amazon.com) to pay and then Amazon handles the shipping.  Author Copies are not Prime eligible, so you'll have to pay shipping.  It is reasonable, though.  A B&W, 8.5x11 book up to 108 pages is just $2.15 plus shipping (printing cost).  So, you can sell to dealers like JW Pepper at 50% as long as the retail price is above $12.   As for shipping, it is better with bigger orders.  A one-book PO is chewed up with shipping cost.
3. KDP is usually fast enough with printing & shipping, that you will normally not even touch the books yourself.  If you get a PO from a dealer, just have the books printed and shipped directly to them.  In that case, just be sure to put the PO# in the address itself, so it appears on the label.  KDP won’t include an invoice or anything else on your behalf.
4. You can upload the insides of the book, and the covers, and off you go.  It will be available on Amazon immediately.   You CAN update a book with a new file anytime.
5. PROS:
   1. Books feel high quality.  They will lay flat with a little force applied to the Perfect Binding.
   2. Printing & Shipping is pretty fast.  Usually within a week, except for December.  They get swamped before Christmas
   3. Totally self-serve
   4. Truly POD.  Still worth it to print a very small PO without keeping stock on hand.
   5. They have not raised prices in 4 years.
   6. Can upload revisions as needed.
6. CONS:
   1. No 9x12 option
   2. No printing on inside covers
   3. Only Perfect Binding available, no other options
   4. Amazon ships, and you cannot request a shipping method.  It might be USPS, UPS, FedEx, or Amazon Local Delivery.  You do get a tracking number, but the shipping method is unpredictable.  I've had problems with Amazon Local.
   5. Kindle Editions:  Obviously, KDP handles the Kindle version too.  They have an automatic tool, but it DOES NOT work for sheet music.  You need to download Amazon's free Kindle "Comic Creator" app to convert your sheet music to Kindle format.  It's called "Comic Creator," but it is meant for any graphic-heavy book that can't be split into plain text.