Tutorial: Conlin's Guide to Arranging Printer Spreads for Saddle Stitch Booklets

Saddle stitch booklets are a popular and cost effective binding method that gives your projects a professional finish. To set up your design document properly for saddle stitch, there are a few tricks you'll need to know.

Divisible by 4

The total page count needs to be divisible by four—otherwise you will have blanks at the end of your book.

Page Order

For the pages to be in the proper order when the booklet is assembled, your design document will need the pages set up in a different order. If your design program doesn't do this automatically, you'll need to figure this out manually. Fortunately, it's not too hard with this simple trick.

How to Manually Order Pages

1. Draw the total number of spreads you'll need.

2. Number the top right page "1". Keep numbering in a zig zag pattern until you arrive at the last spread.

3. Work your way back up in the same pattern.