

# How to Use InDesign to Add “Real” Page Numbers to a Reflowable Kindle Textbook with an Index, so Index Entries Map to the Print Edition Page Numbers

Kindle Digital Publishing Guidelines strongly recommend removing all page numbers from E-ink Kindles.

## 9.3.10 Page Number Guidelines

Kindle books do not always map directly to page numbers in physical editions of the book. Even if the Kindle Real Page Numbers feature is activated in the Go To menu, references within the eBook to page numbers should be handled as follows:

- Table of contents: If there are page numbers in the print source’s TOC, they should be removed in the digital conversion. The name of the section should be retained and hyperlinked to the relevant location in the eBook. For example, if a print source TOC displays the entry “Chapter 1 ... P. 36”, then the eBook should only display “Chapter 1” hyperlinked to the correct digital location.
- Internal links: If there is text that refers to another page in the eBook, such as “see page XX”, this text should be linked to the relevant paragraph within the eBook.
- Index: Every page number in the index should be linked to the relevant paragraph in the eBook (or the relevant illustration, table, or chart).
- Links within index: If there is an entry that references another section of the index, such as “see also XXX”, this text should be linked to the relevant section within the index.

Of course for a fixed layout (FXL) EPUB3, InDesign automatically generates page numbers that match the print edition (PDF) output. The EPUB pages are essentially exact copies of the print edition. All the E-readers that support FXL will support page number navigation from the TOC and the index.

Though little known, when InDesign exports Reflowable EPUB3, it also includes page numbers in the XHTML files. These numbers can be preserved in the conversion from EPUB to Amazon’s MOBI format. For example, Kovid Goyal’s *Calibre* preserves them. Kindle Previewer appears to remove them. But on request, the KDP quality assurance team may preserve them.

Under some circumstances, Kindle’s GO to feature in E-ink Kindles like *Paperwhite* will activate the option to go to a Page rather than to a Location (an arbitrary number that changes with the font size). But this option appears to be suppressed, the Page link grayed out when there are no page numbers in the text.

KDP has good reasons for discouraging the use of automatically placed real page numbers. Imagine that the page break comes in the middle of a sentence, or even in the middle of a long word hyphenated across the page break!

When major textbook publishers create an elaborate index, they can afford to pay for copy editors who insert page numbers at appropriate locations such as the nearest paragraph break, even changing a sentence break in the middle of a long paragraph to a page break in order to better approximate the print edition. One must avoid moving a word tagged with an index marker across a page boundary, which would disrupt the index entry.

How can InDesign publishers add real page numbers that will survive in Kindle MOBI files? The emphasis is on Kindle, because they have such a commanding share of all eBook sales. But if you add page numbers to your Reflowable eBooks, they will show page numbers for all eReaders.

## How To Do It

Adding real page numbers should be done only after the final print/FXL version is complete, because the page numbers are located at specific positions in the text flow. And they must be added individually, because InDesign cannot automatically relocate them when text is added or changed.

In principle, an InDesign script could be written to post-process the book, but it would fail badly for long paragraphs. So for the present, adding real page numbers is extremely labor intensive and time consuming. Some EPUB consultants may offer this page-numbering service, perhaps running a script first and then adding necessary breaks in long paragraphs.

Whenever the page number text is added to a document page, the automatic flow will alter page breaks, pushing text into the next page, so you must lengthen the page to preserve the location of the break. It may be possible to add the page number as conditional text, which is set to be invisible for export as fixed layout EPUB, and set to visible for Flowable EPUB. This means you have a single master book and its document files. It has the advantage that you can make changes and then regenerate the index.

Alternatively, you may duplicate the book and all documents, images, etc. in a separate folder, add page numbers, and export the reflowable EPUB. You need not make any changes in the index document,.

The Reflowable page number should come at the beginning of the page. It can be styled to left or right to mimic facing pages, but centering is least obtrusive. It can have the same font style and size as the print/FXL version.

Before adding page numbers, export the PDF of the fixed layout and keep it open in a PDF reader like Acrobat Pro, so as a page gets longer, you can refer to the PDF and lengthen the page precisely to match the print version.

Here is a page as it appears in the Print/FXL EPUB version.

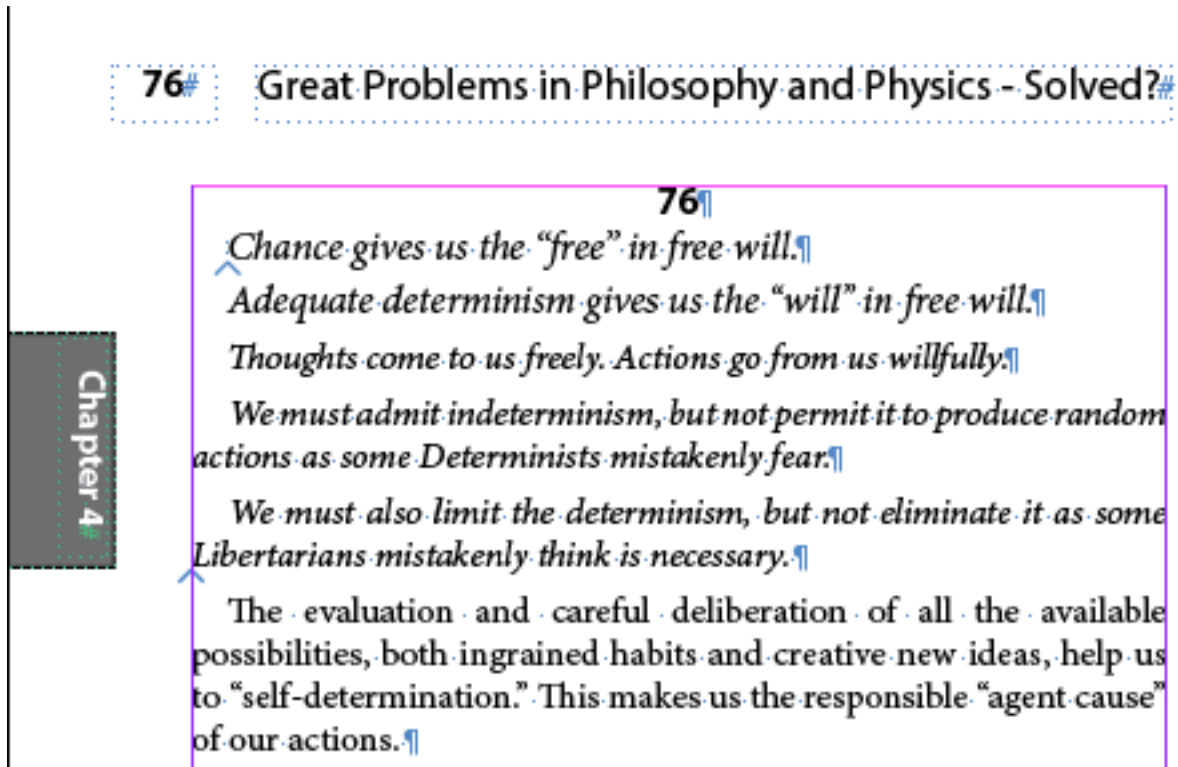
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### Great Problems in Philosophy and Physics - Solved?#

Chapter 4

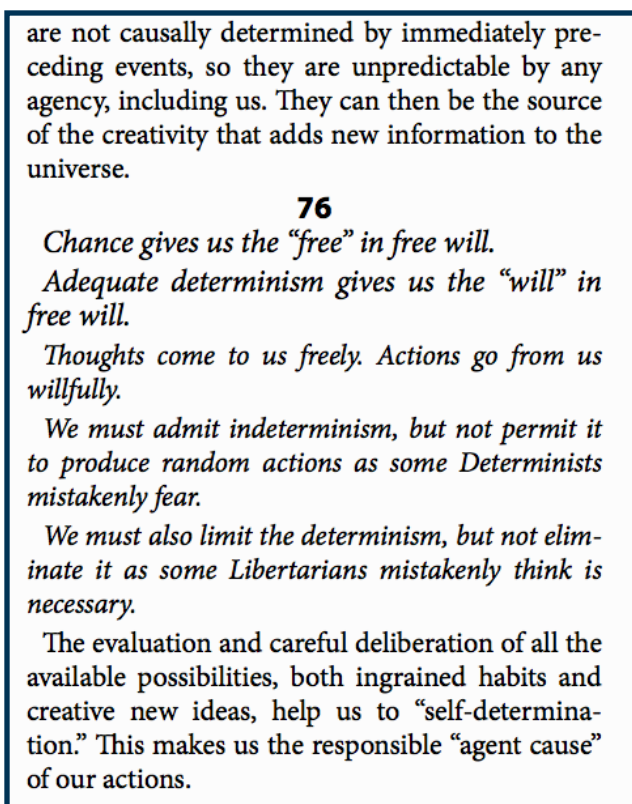
*Chance gives us the "free" in free will.¶*  
*Adequate determinism gives us the "will" in free will.¶*  
*Thoughts come to us freely. Actions go from us willfully.¶*  
*We must admit indeterminism, but not permit it to produce random actions as some Determinists mistakenly fear.¶*  
*We must also limit the determinism, but not eliminate it as some Libertarians mistakenly think is necessary.¶*  
*The evaluation and careful deliberation of all the available possibilities, both ingrained habits and creative new ideas, help us to "self-determination." This makes us the responsible "agent cause" of our actions.¶*

And here is the same page with a centered page number styled to match the page numbers that InDesign automatically generates in the master pages.



Master page items (the page number and the book title) are not exported to the EPUB Reflowable. Words with hyperlinked index markers (blue carats) should not be moved to another page.

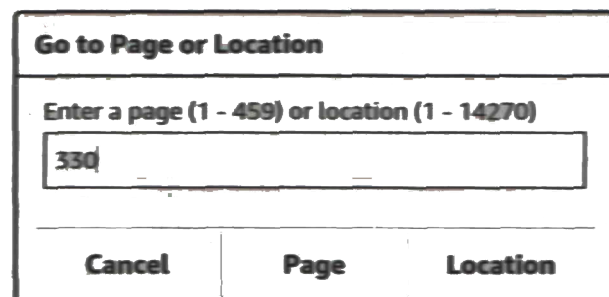
Here is the EPUB Reflowable page. (We should have given the page number style a bit more space below.)



Now how do we convert this EPUB Reflowable to MOBI for the Kindle?

So far, we have only succeeded in providing real page numbers on the pages.

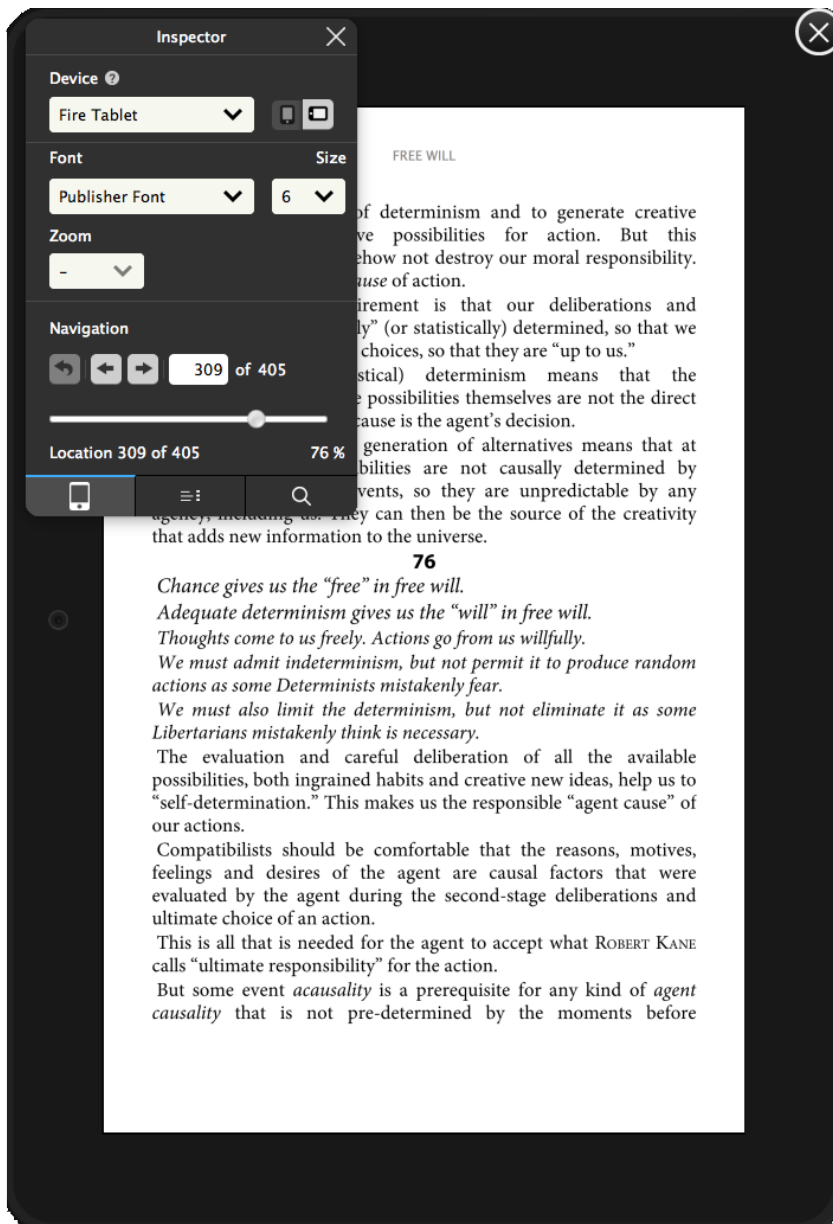
We would also like to *activate page navigation* in the Kindle. When the EPUB file has page references in the XHTML file, Kindle offers to go to a page or to a location.



We will see that InDesign exports an EPUB file with each page number in its own element, indicated by the three arrows in the Free\_Will.xhtml file on the next page.

How can we be sure that navigation by page numbers is now working? We have not been able to see this by opening our EPUB Reflowable in the latest Kindle Previewer 3, which seems to offer only navigation by location.

```
1 <?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8" standalone="no"?>
2 <!DOCTYPE html>
3 <html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" xmlns:epub="http://www.idpf.org/2007/ops">
4 <head>
5 <title>Free_Will</title>
6 <link href="css/idGeneratedStyles_0.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
7 <link href="css/idGeneratedStyles_9.css" rel="stylesheet" type="text/css" />
8 </head>
9 <body id="Free_Will" lang="en-US" xml:lang="en-US">
10 <div id="_idContainer025">
11 <p class="Page-Number">63</p>
12 <p id="_idParaDest-23" class="Chapter-Title"><a id="_idTextAnchor020"></a>
13 <p class="Main-Body">In our 2011 book <span class="italic _idGenCharOverri
14 <p class="Main-Body">Five years ago, we saw the quantum randomness in the
15 <p class="Main-Body">Now that our <a id="_idIndexMarker453"></a>mind model
16 <p class="Main-Body">None of these thinkers understood our notion that abs
17 <p class="Page-Number">64</p>
18 <p id="_idParaDest-24" class="Section-Title"><a id="_idTextAnchor021"></a>
19 <p class="Main-Body">Our two-stage model is now the most plausible explan
20 <p class="Main-Body">In our research on the history of the free will probl
21 <p class="Main-Body">Some of course are more clear and comprehensive than
22 <p class="Main-Body">Recently we discovered a possible two-stage argument
23 <p class="Main-Body"><span class="Name">Titus </span><span class="Name"><a
24 <p class="Indented-Quote">"If all motion is always one long chain, and new
25 <p class="Main-Body">But now we have found evidence that Lucretius made th
26 <p class="Page-Number">65</p>
```



We must convert the Reflowable EPUB using a tool that recognizes the page numbers in the XHTML file above and preserves them in MOBI, such as Kovid Goyal's *Calibre* program, which is free.

We must then *sideload* the MOBI file into a Kindle such as the Paperwhite.

If we are successful, the Go to Page option will be available. If not, the Page option will be grayed out.



Here we see the 2011 version of the Free Will book on a Kindle Paperwhite.

The EPUB file was converted in Calibre and submitted to KDP.

This file offers navigation by page number in many, but not all Kindle models.

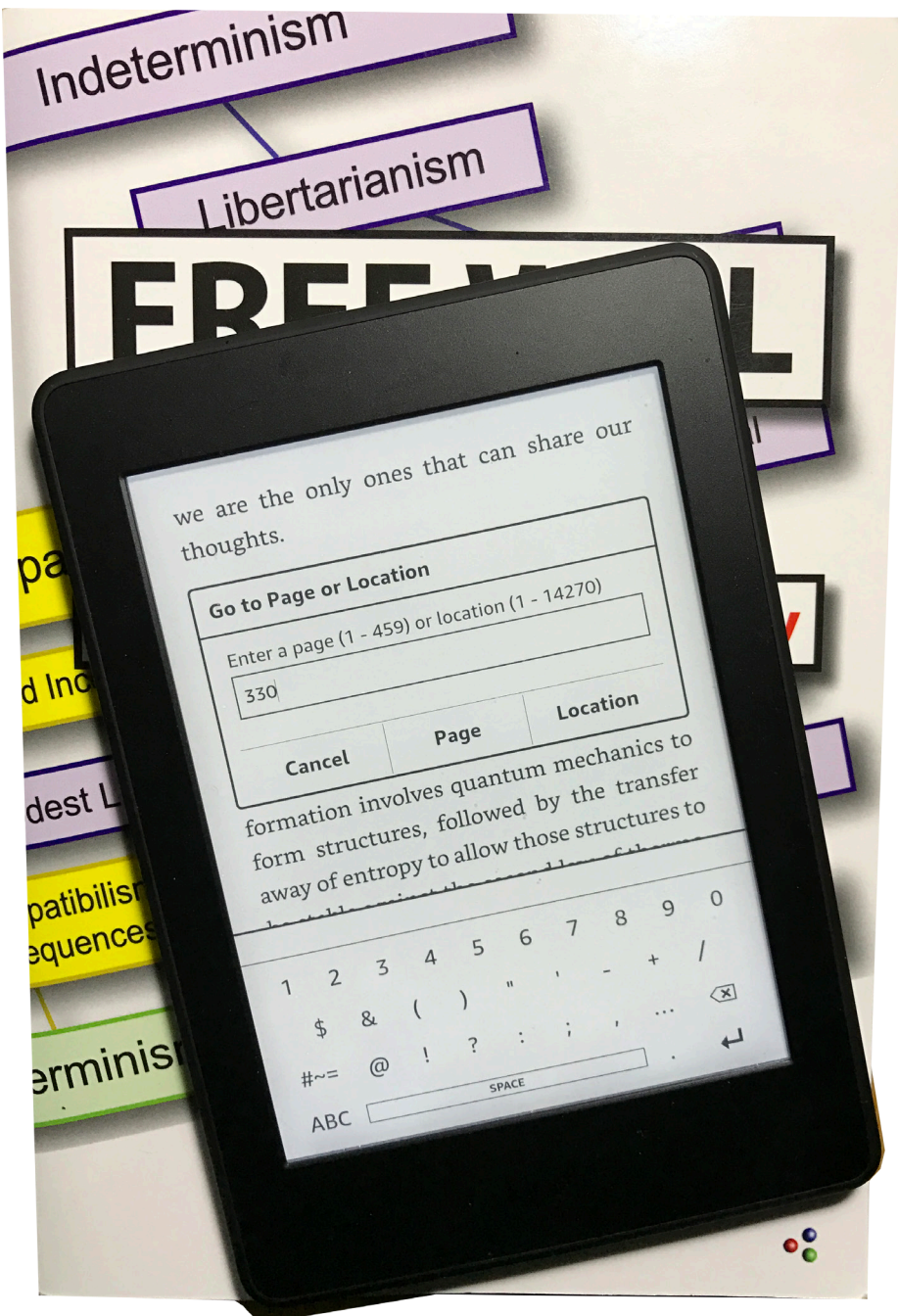
We are trying to get KDP to explain why some models work and some don't.

You can "Look Inside" this Kindle eBook on Amazon.

<https://www.amazon.com/Free-Will-Philosophy-Bob-Doyle-ebook/dp/B0055T8XY6>

You will note that instead of centered page numbers we used tiny gifs with page numbers in a blue rectangle that is left-aligned.

Our second edition will use the simpler text page numbers, like those in our latest book *Great Problems in Philosophy and Physics Solved?*



This most common proof that free will cannot exist is based on the two-part **standard argument** against free will, which we examine in Chapter 4.

### The Standard Argument **Against** Free Will

- 1) If our actions are determined, we are not free.
- 2) If our actions are directly caused by chance, they are simply random, and we cannot be responsible for them.

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Despite more than twenty-three centuries of philosophizing, I believe that the main reason that no progress has been made is that most modern thinkers have not moved significantly beyond the second part, the problem of reconciling **indeterminism** and **free will**. They assume that choosing from random **alternative possibilities** makes the choice itself random. This is the mistaken idea that "free" actions are caused directly by a random event.

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