

## BLEEDS EXPLAINED

*A bleed is an area that allows an image to print beyond the dimensions of the page.*

First we will explain what a bleed is, and then we show how it looks in a PDF file.

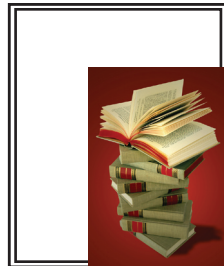
### What is a bleed?

An image or graphic that runs over the edge of a sheet (or page in a book). It is trimmed off after printing. A bleed is 1/8 inch, or 0.125 inches in decimals.

Let's assume the page size is 8.5 x 11 inches. The page to the right does NOT bleed. You only need to use bleed settings if there are images that bleed.



This page bleeds on two sides. The page size in the document set-up is still 8.5" x 11". Notice the 0.125" area for bleed.



Pages can bleed on all four sides.

### A page with bleed and crop marks

The document size does not change. In InDesign, the 0.125 inch bleeds are added in **File > Document Set-up**.

When making the PDF, **File > Export**,

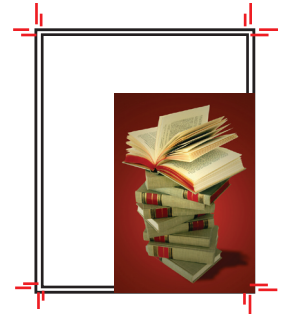
- See the *Marks and Bleeds* tab.
- Check the box to *Add Printer's Marks*.
- On the same page under *Bleeds and Slugs*, also check the box to *Use Document Bleed Settings*.

Other necessary PDF settings (nothing to do with bleeds):

- Adobe PDF preset is *Press Quality* (Acrobat 5, PDF 1.4)
- See the *General* tab. Leave the *Spreads* box unchecked.

Follow the instructions above and the PDF bleed and crop marks will look like the page to the right.

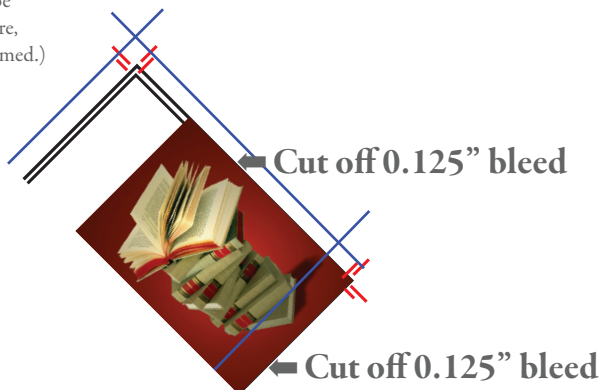
(The marks will be black, but are shown here in red, and are exaggerated in size. Registration marks and color bars will also show, but are not shown here.)



### But, what does this mean to the printer?

It shows them how the page will trim to the final 8.5 x 11 inch size.

(In a book, the page will be folded as part of a signature, or group of page and trimmed.)



### RESULT:

**Page with bleed trimmed off.**

