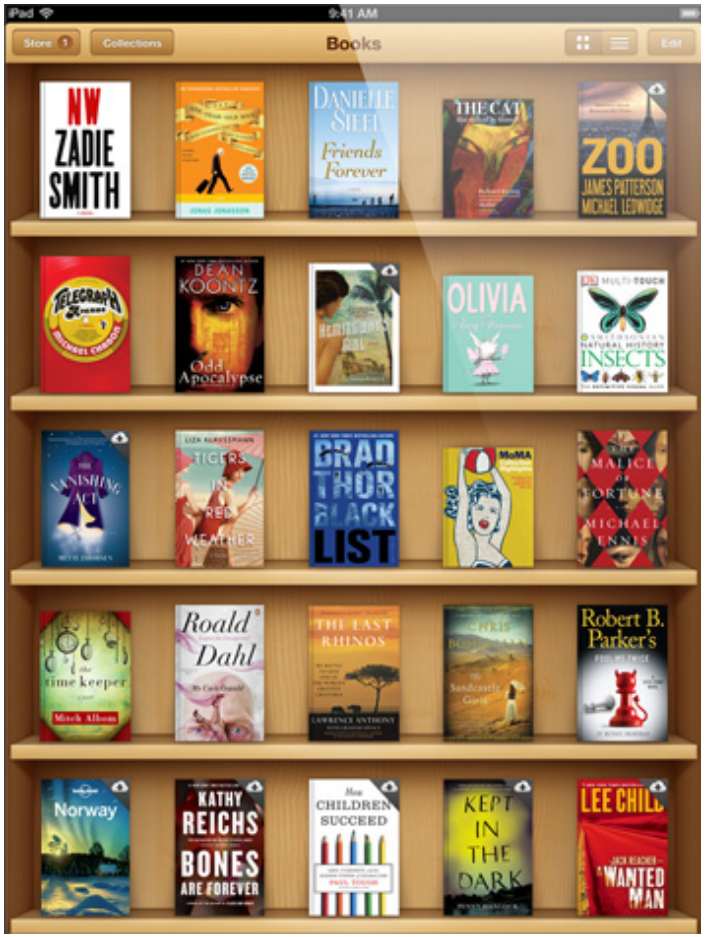
Robert Desprez
COMMUNICATIONS

Controlling the formatting of EPUB files

Speaker: Robert Desprez



How this webinar works

- You are muted
- We should be done within the hour
- I'll answer questions at the end of the webinar
- We are recording this session

My talk today

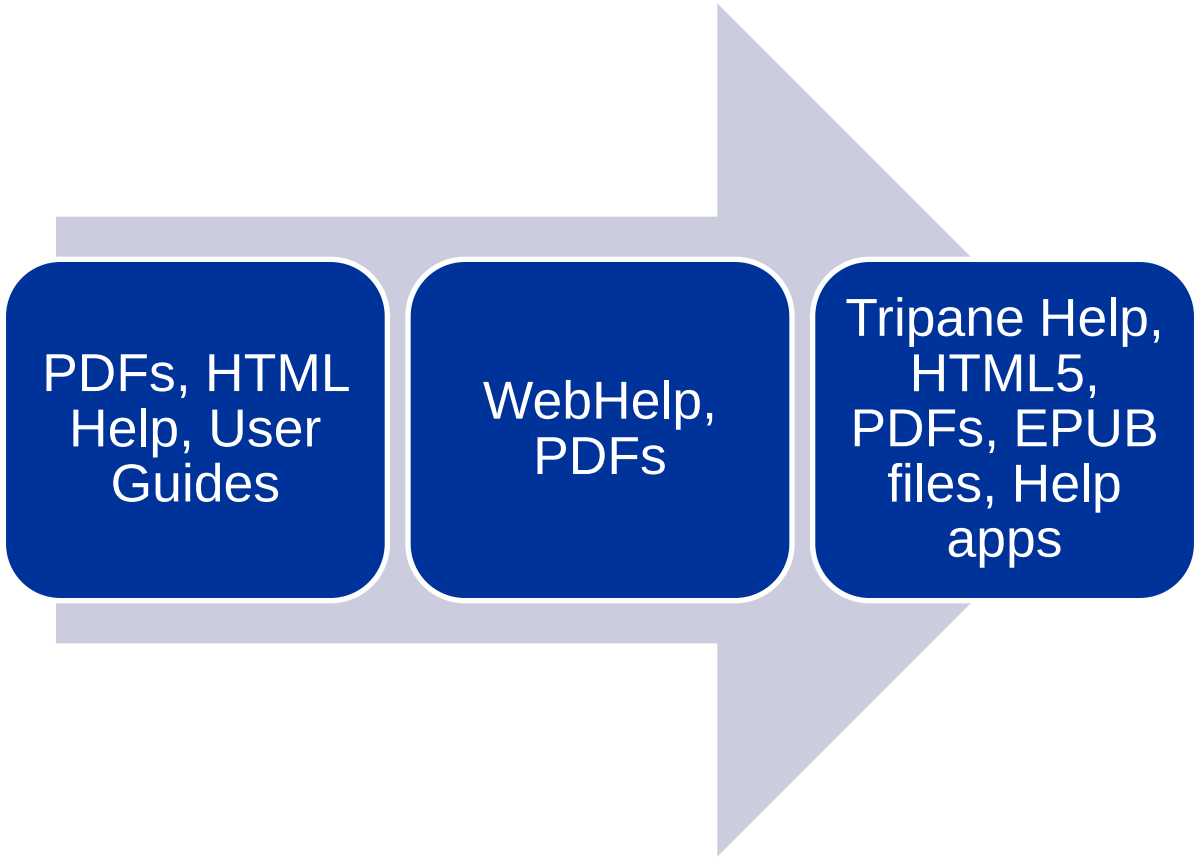
- Introduce EPUB files and why they are important for technical communicators
- Explain the advantages and disadvantages of EPUB files
- Open an EPUB file and changing the Cascading Style Sheet
- Change formatting: fonts, alignment of text, page breaks, and widows and orphans in the CSS
- Explain validating and previewing files
- This webinar doesn’t focus on tools

What is an EPUB file?

An EPUB document is a zip file with the .epub extension.

You create EPUB files using Microsoft Word, Adobe InDesign, and help authoring tools such as Madcap Flare and Adobe RoboHelp.

EPUB is part of our future



Strengths of an EPUB file

Same EPUB on different devices

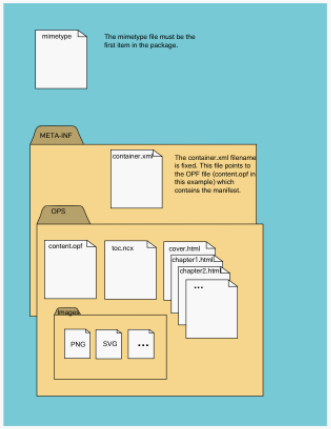
OCF 1.0

The OCF specification gives you a means to wrap up a multi-file EPUB document so that it looks and behaves as if it is a single document. The packaging of the files is straight forward but must follow a specific set of rules. Those rules and the technical details surrounding them can, of course, be found on the IDPF web site at:

http://www.idpf.org/ocf/ocf1.0/index.htm

OCF is a general purpose packaging standard, but our discussion of it here will be within the context of packaging EPUB documents.

Looking inside the package of any well structured OCF document you will find they have a few common characteristics.



EPUB Best Practices

OCF 1.0

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Disadvantages of an EPUB file

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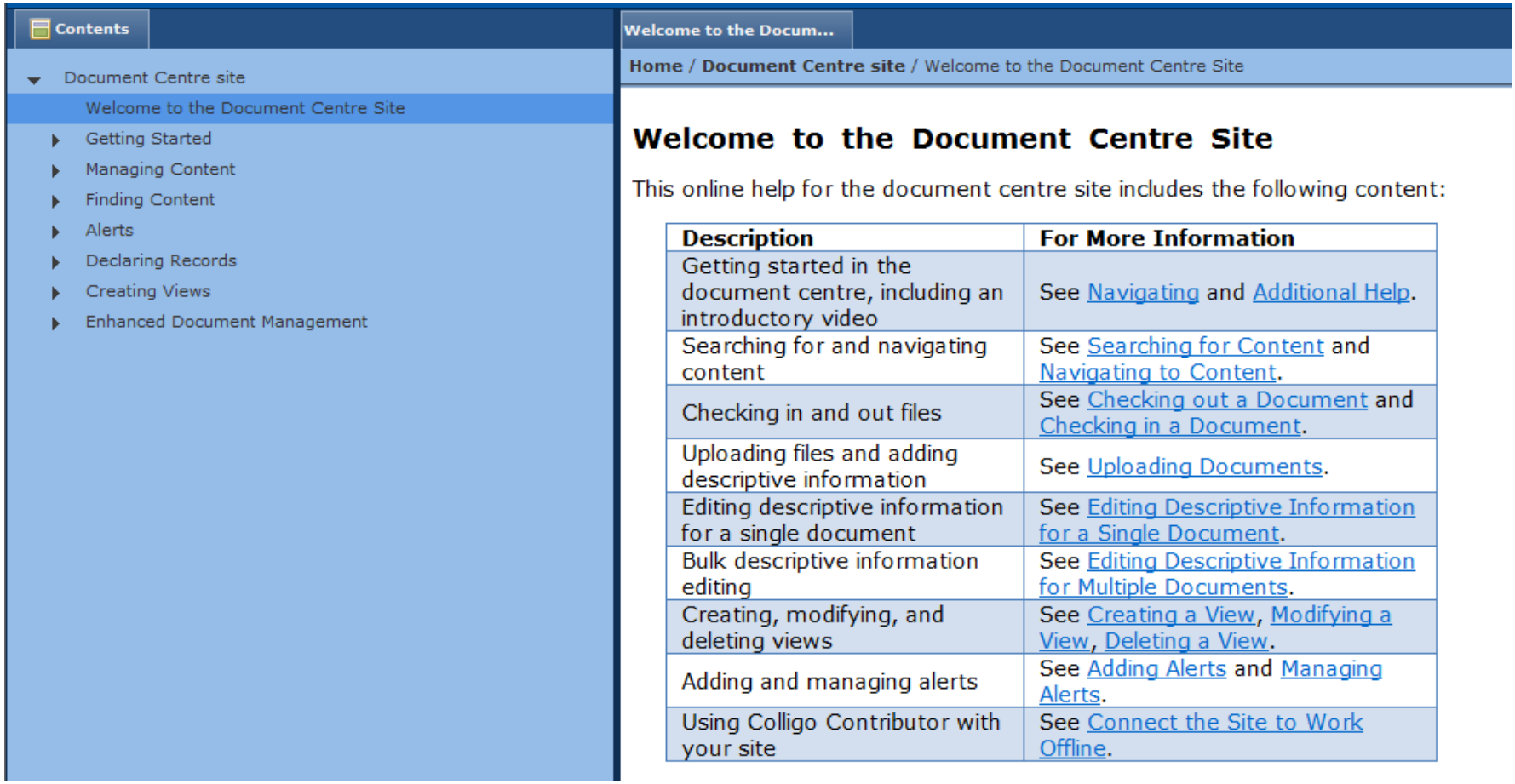
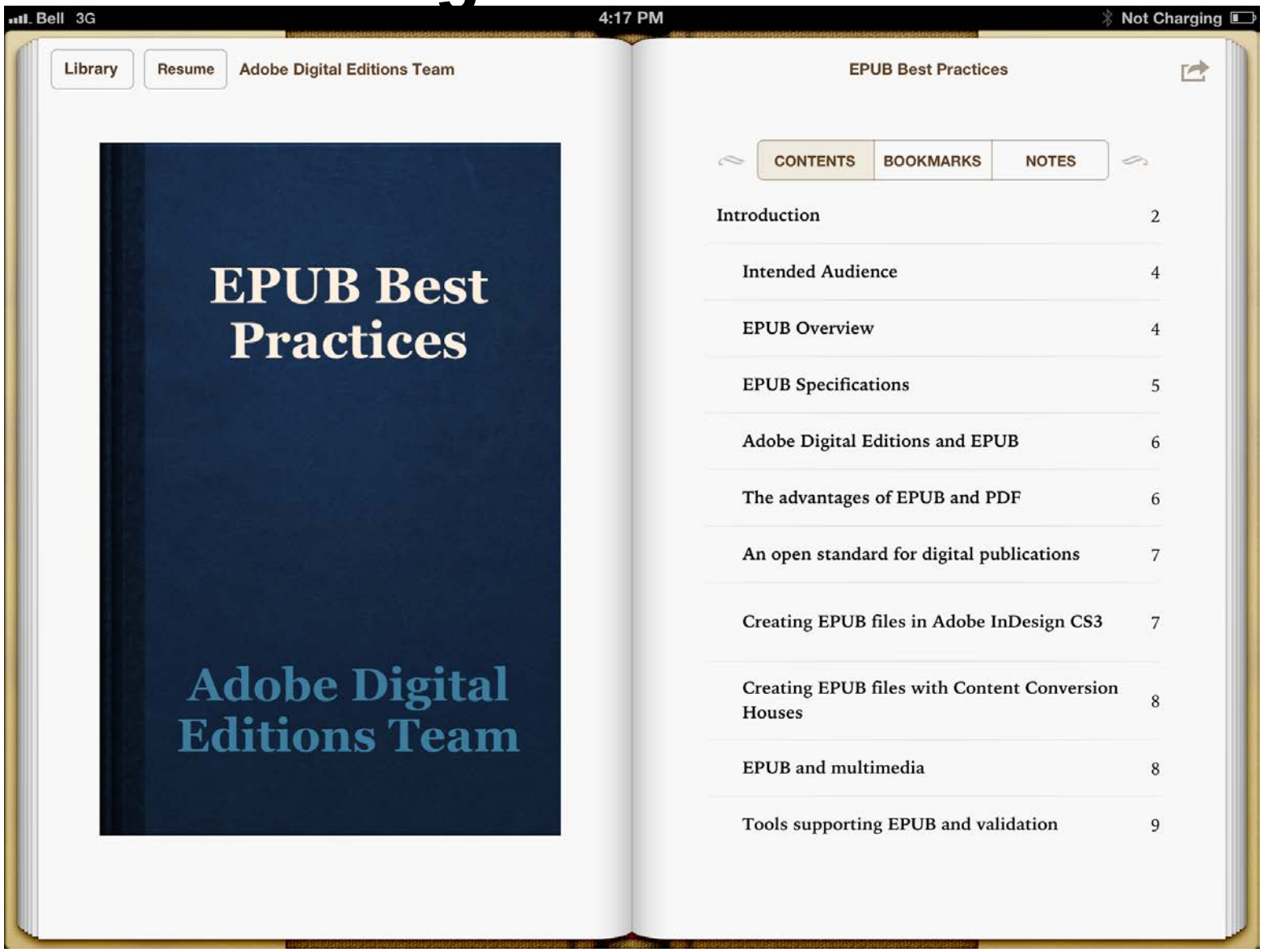


Disadvantages of an EPUB file

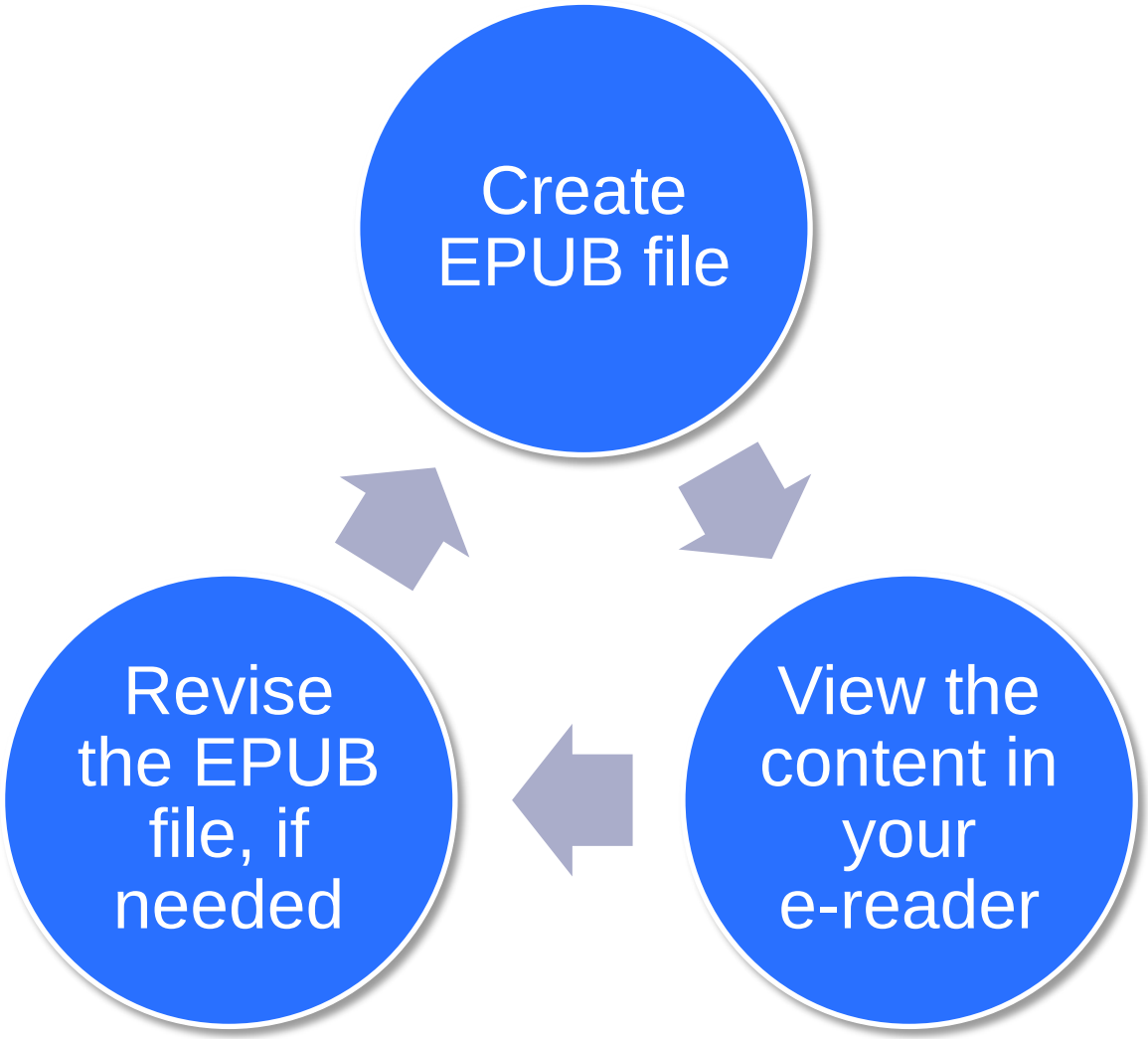


How to read an EPUB file

- Android devices
- Chrome Readium
- iPhone, iPad, iOS devices using iBooks
- Barnes & Noble Nook
- Adobe Digital Editions
- Amazon Kindle is the exception

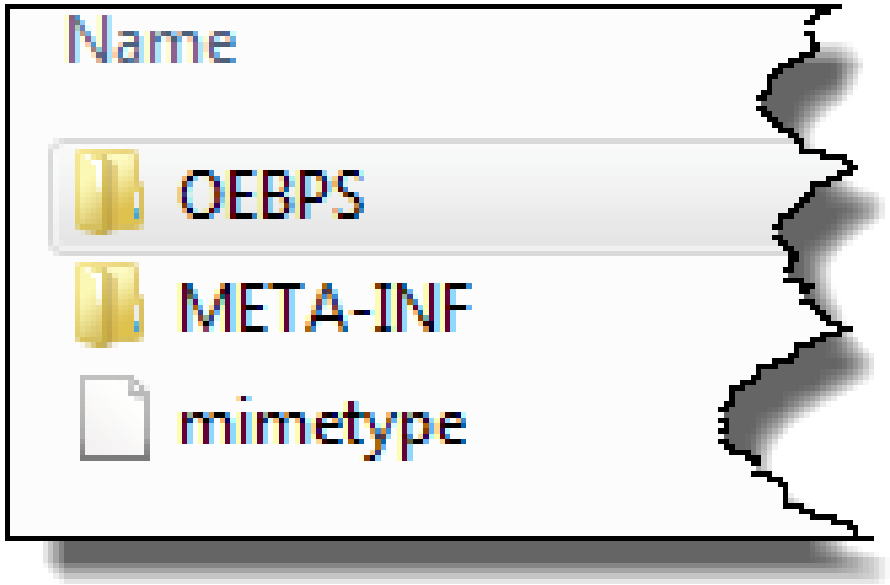
Two ways to revise an EPUB file

EPUB file workflow



Anatomy of an EPUB file

1. Mimetype file
2. META-INF file
3. OEBPS folder

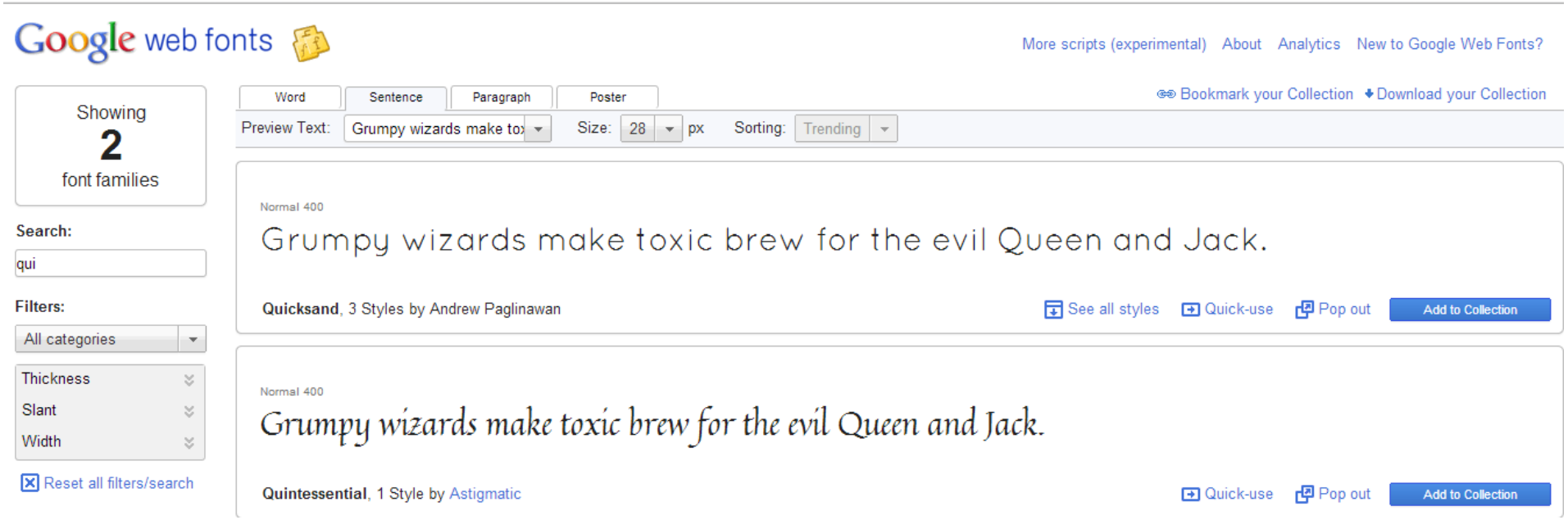


Embedding fonts

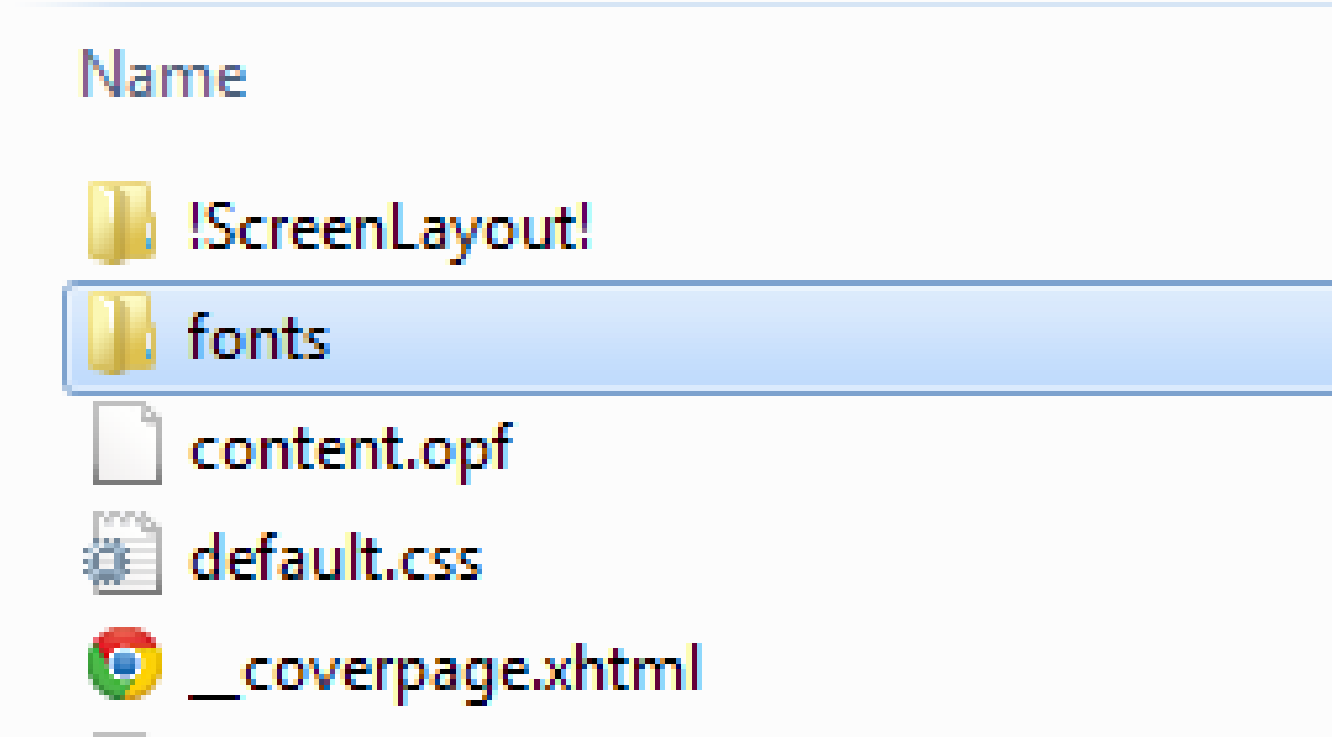
Understanding the Application

Use the EasyStream Mobile App to work on enterprise content by providing secure mobile access to files. With this application, you can use your iPhone and iPad to share files and collaborate in real time securely. Use the EasyStream Mobile App to work on enterprise content by providing secure mobile access to files. With this ap-

Step 1: Download fonts



Step 1: Download fonts



Step 2: Change your CSS file

```
@font-face {
    font-family : Quintessential;
    font-weight: normal;
    font-style: normal;
    src : url(fonts/Quintessential-Regular.ttf);
}
body {
    font-family: Verdana;
    font-size: 14.0 pt;
    background-color: #ffffff;
}
h1 {
    font-family: "Quintessential";
    font-weight: normal;
    font-style: normal;
    font-size: 12.0pt;
    margin-top: 0pt;
    margin-bottom: 0pt;
}
```

Step 3: Change your content.opf file

```
<metadata xmlns:dc="http://purl.org/dc/elements/1.1/">
    <meta name="generator" content="Adobe RoboHelp 10" />
    <meta name="cover" content="cover-image" />
    <dc:identifier id="pub-id">urn:uuid:c5c9ce40-a968-49f1-ae20-52408572bc92</dc:identifier>
    <dc:title>Installing and Configuring the EasyStreamApp_version5</dc:title>
    <dc:language>en-US</dc:language>
    <meta property="dcterms:modified">2013-02-18T12:28:17Z</meta>

    <dc:creator id="creator_001">Robert Desprez</dc:creator>



    <dc:publisher id="publisher_001">Teck</dc:publisher>

    <dc:date>2012-08-13</dc:date>


</metadata>
<manifest>
    <item id="cover-image" href="easy.png" media-type="image/png" properties="cover-image" />
    <item id="cover-page" href="__coverpage.xhtml" media-type="application/xhtml+xml" />
    <item id="ncx" href="__toc.ncx" media-type="application/x-dtbncx+xml" />
    <item id="toc" href="__toc.xhtml" media-type="application/xhtml+xml" properties="nav" />
    <item id="toc_css" href="toc.css" media-type="text/css" />
    <item id="epub.embedded.font" href="fonts/Quintessential-Regular.ttf" media-type="font/truetype"/>
```

Controlling fonts

```
p {
font-family: “Verdana”, “Arial”, sans-
serif;
}
```

Controlling fonts

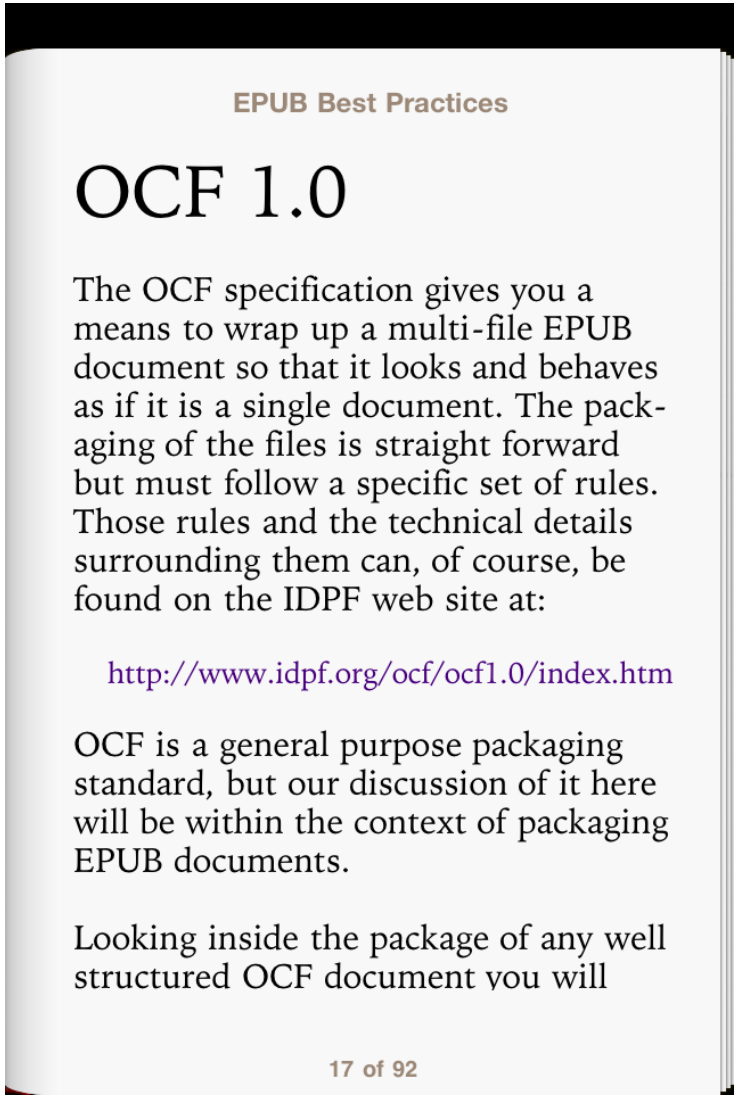
```
p.Steps1 {

        font-family: “Verdana”, “Arial”, sans-serif;
        orphans:2;
        widows:2;
        font-size: 12.0pt;
        margin-top: 0pt;
        margin-bottom: 0pt;
}
```

Opening Files using EasyStream

1. Tap on the workspace.
2. To view a file, tap on the file and select which application to view the file in.
3. Click OK.
4. Click.
5. Open the dialog box.
6. Click Print in the display section.

Aligning text



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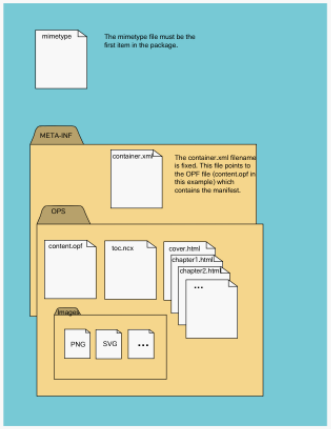
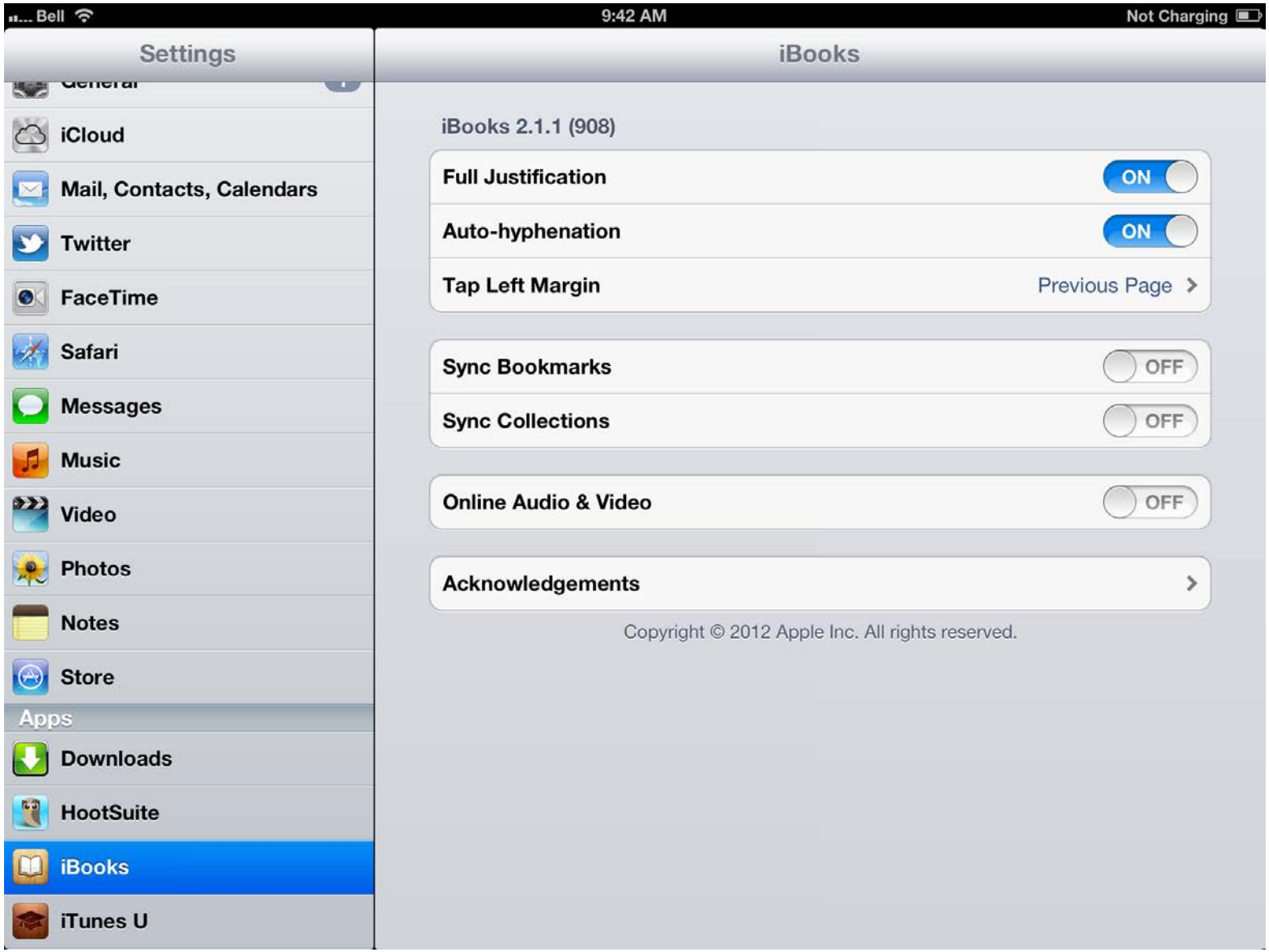


Aligning text



Controlling page breaks

h2 {Page-break-before: always;}
H3 {page-break-before: avoid;)
H3 {page-break-after: avoid;)

Testing Page Breaks

1. Tap on the workspace.
2. To view a file, tap on the file and select which application to view the file in.

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Louis

In another part of the forest, there lived a very eccentric wolf whose name was Louis. Actually, his full name was Louis Le-loup, III, and he traced his roots back to an aristocratic wolf family from France. Louis still spoke French fluently but he rarely went to visit his family in France because he thought they were much too stuck up and worried about their position in the wolf community. He had left France at an early age and had found himself a home in the Massachusetts forest that he shared with Red and her family.

Although Louis' family was quite well off, Louis lived very simply. His favorite pastime, and in fact it was much more like an obsession, was writing poetry. Louis, after a scary lightening storm, or upon seeing a new flower, could write the sweetest, most beautiful poetic verse. (He had quite a reputation in the forest although he was very modest and shy.) Once he was inspired, he would spend the next few days completely absorbed in the project and wouldn't see any of his friends until it was perfect. Often, he didn't eat at all when he wrote because when he thought of the beauty of the forest, eating seemed so common, that he thought it would spoil his poetry.

His best friend lived at the very opposite end of the forest. This, of course, was Red's grandmother. She was an old woman of 70 or 75 and she was very wise and very kind. Everyone in the forest called her "grandmother" and respected her in every way. Grandmother did have one small problem, and that was that she was rather deaf. Luckily, because she was so wise, she often knew what you were going to say before you said it and so it didn't matter so much that she was deaf.

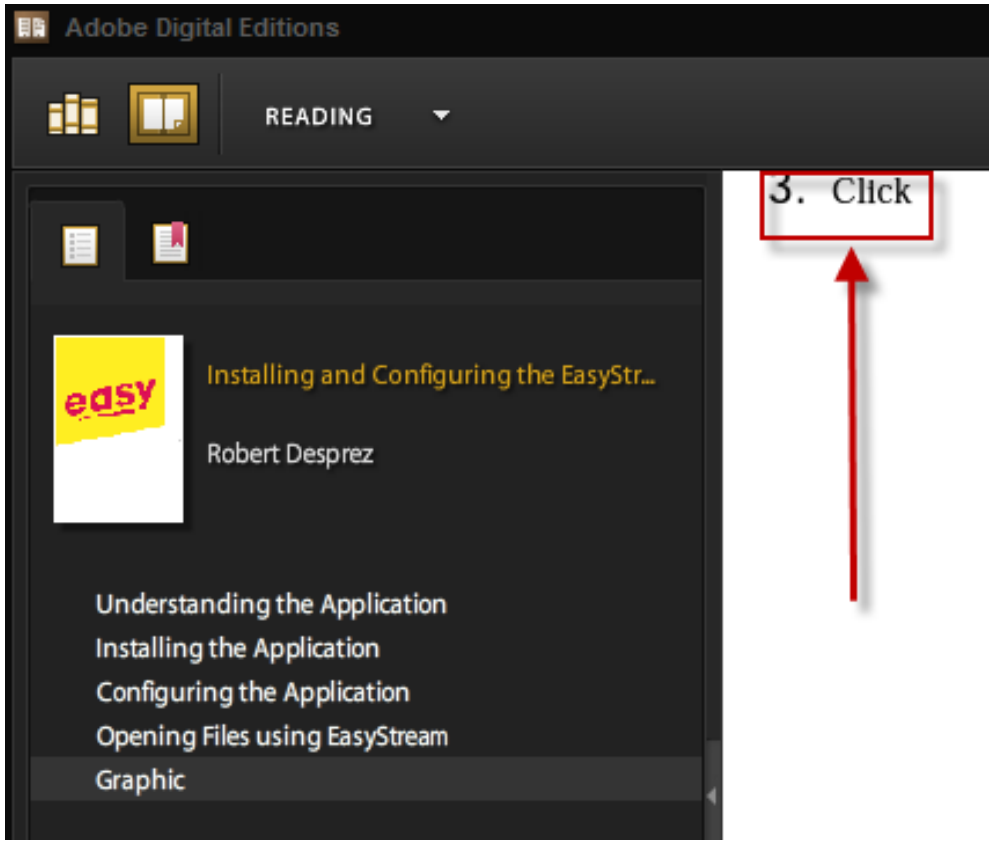
Louis and Grandmother were very close friends. Louis brought her new poems as soon as he wrote them and they would talk about them for hours and hours. Grandmother always scolded Louis for taking such bad care of himself when he wrote, and would insist that he stay for dinner. Since she was so kind, he always stayed, and they spent the rest of the evening talking of the forest, or their mutual friends, or French poetry, or his own poems.

Controlling page breaks

table.AlternateBlueWithBlankHeader
{page-break-inside: avoid}

Controlling widows and orphans

p {widows:2;}



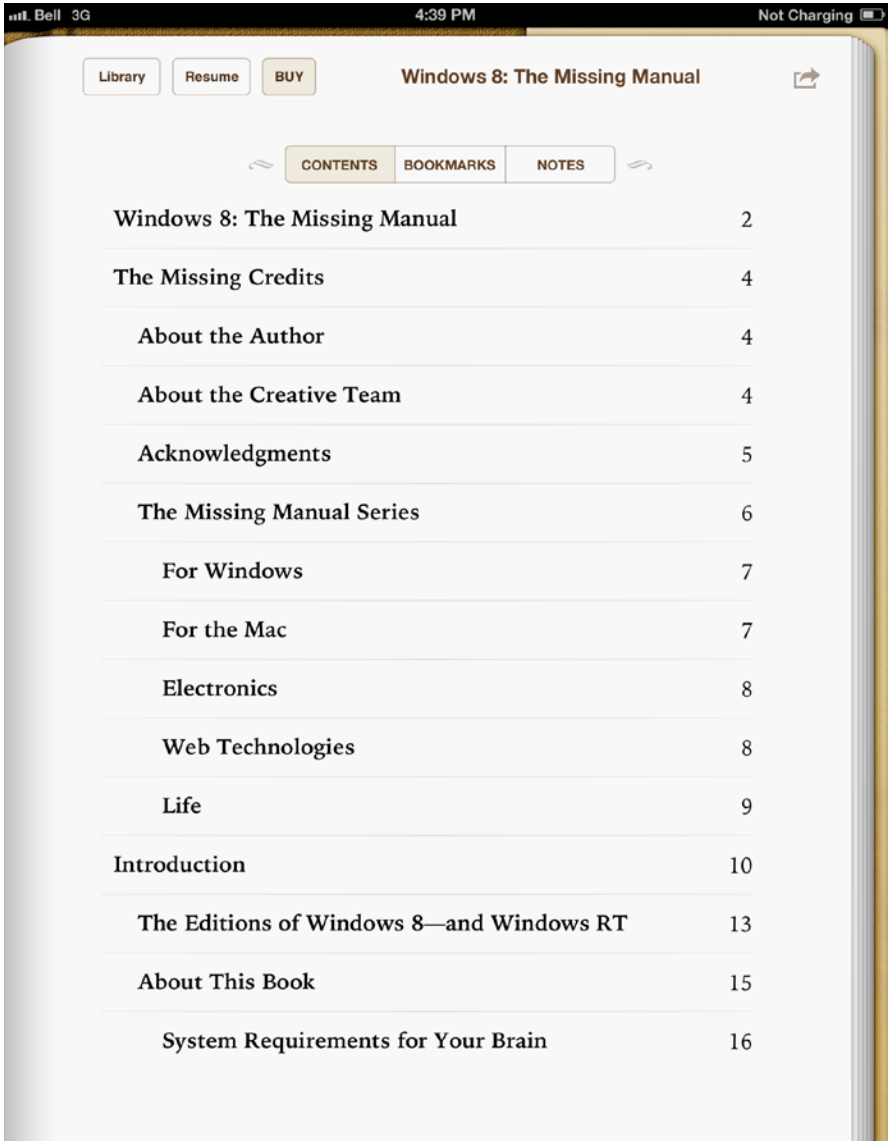
Controlling widows and orphans

```
p {orphans:2; }
```

Summarizing features

	Adobe Digital Editions	iPad	iPhone	Nook*
Fonts	✓	✓	✓	✓
Alignment	✓	Override	✓	✓
Page breaks	✓	✓	✓	✓
Widows & orphans	✓	No	No	✓

Example of an EPUB file



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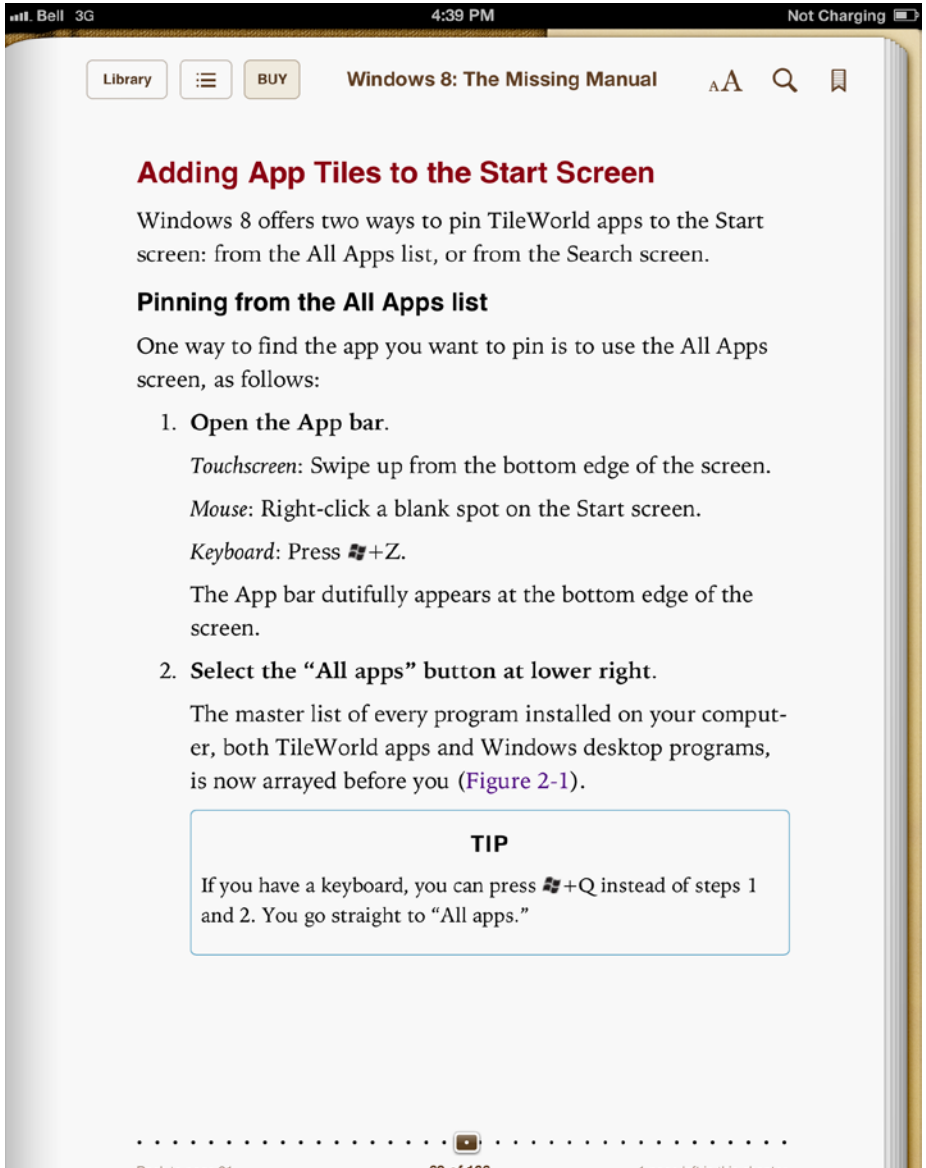

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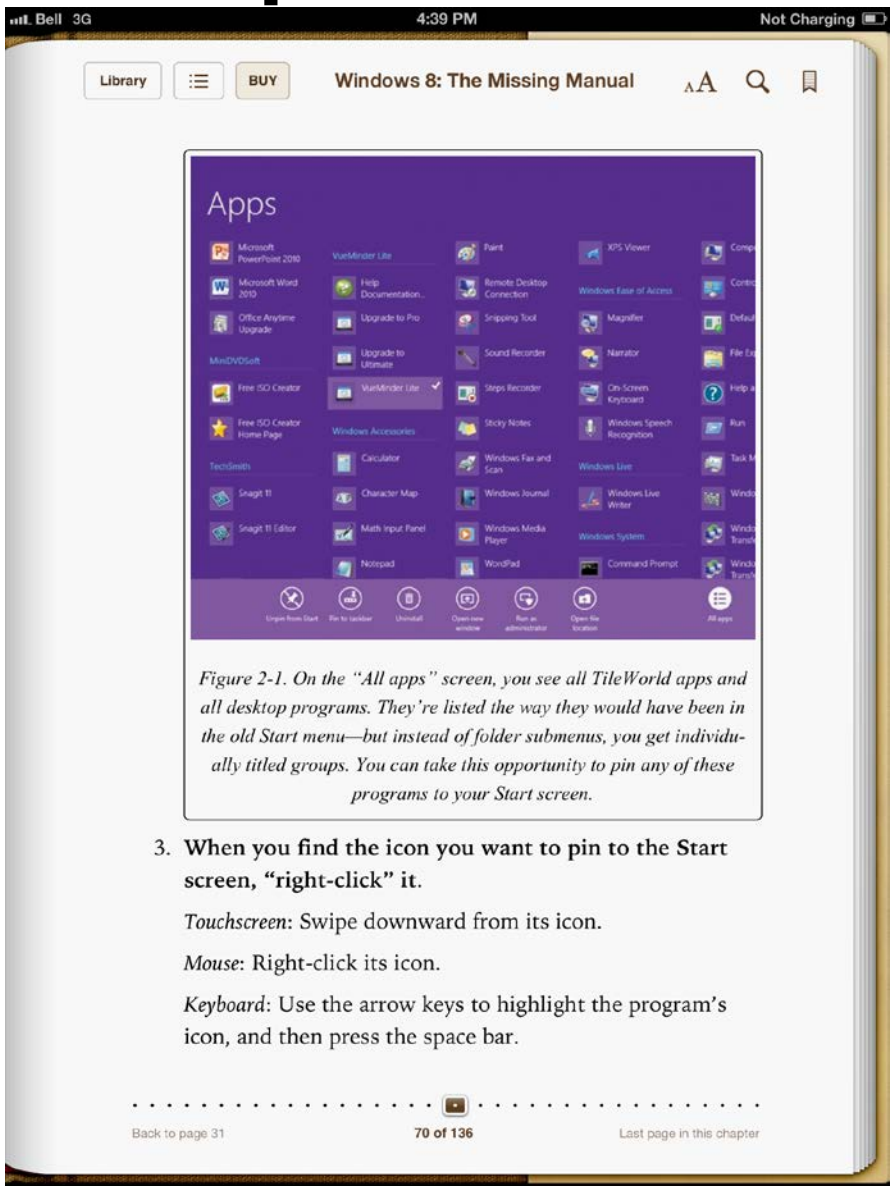

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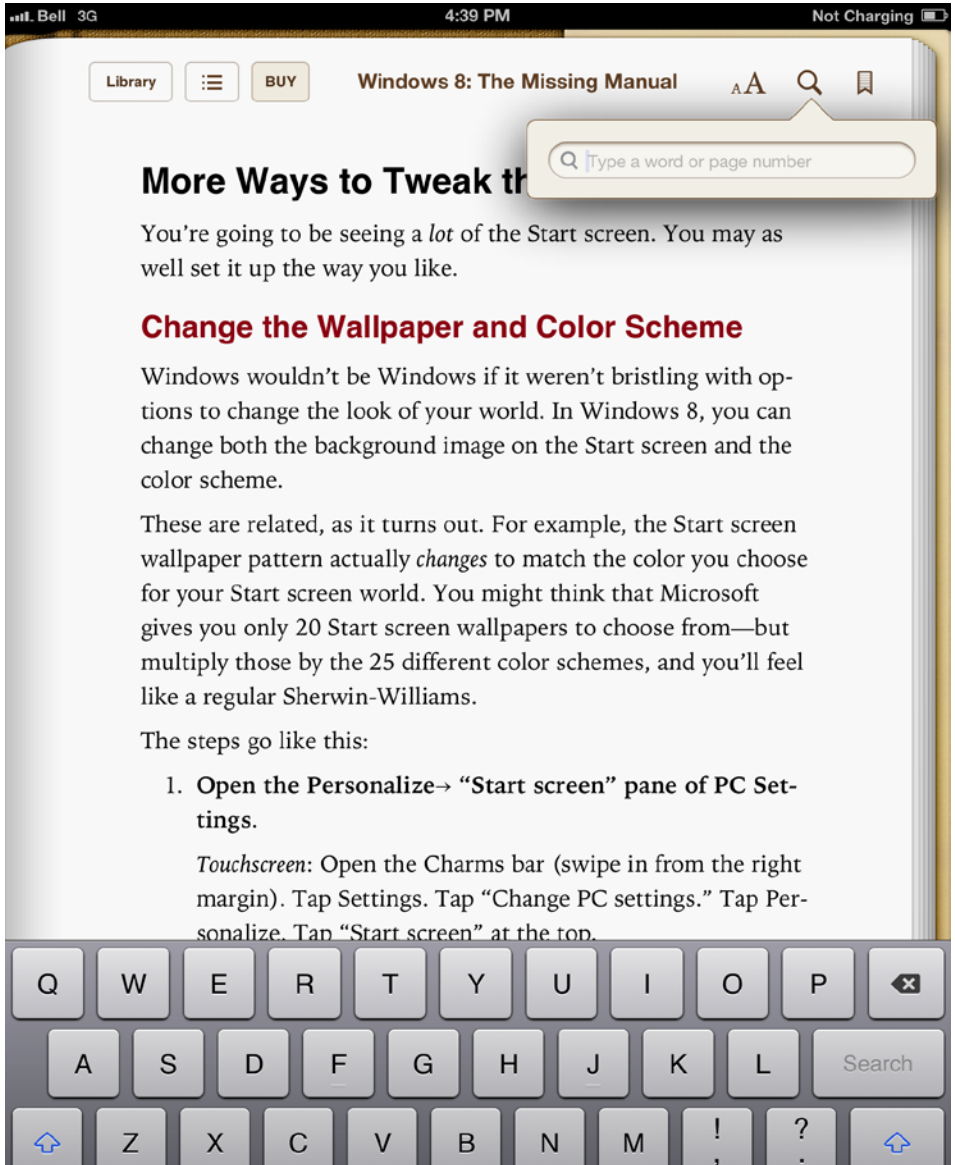

Validating an EPUB file

Few ways to do it:

https://code.google.com/p/epubcheck

http://validator.idpf.org

Previewing an EPUB file

Procedure for iPad:
http://tinyurl.com/bjhepcp

Other resources

EPUB Straight to the Point
by Elizabeth Castro

http://www.pigsgourdsandwikis.com

http://www.lynda.com

http:www.epubsecrets.com

http://blog.threepress.org/2009/09/16/how-to-embed-fonts-in-epub-files/

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