

UK & Ireland ISBN Agency **FAQs**

What is an ISBN?

An **International Standard Book Number** is the 13-digit code that identifies your book and is used by publishers, retailers and libraries.

What is a publisher name?

This is the name of the **person, partnership or company** responsible for publishing a product. It is the name you will use to represent your brand as a publisher.

What is an imprint?

An imprint of a publisher is a trade name under which it publishes titles, often of varying genres. An imprint should be considered a **subsidiary of a publisher**, a name which publishes under the umbrella of the main publisher name.

What is a prefix?

The prefix is the part of the ISBN that **identifies** a specific publisher and geographical location. So, if you purchase a block of 10, 100, or 1000 ISBNs, the prefix would be the first 11, 10, or 9 digits of those 13-digit ISBNs.

Which Agency do I get my ISBNs from?

ISBNs are geo-specific; it is only the **country in which you are based** and publishing from that determines where you acquire an ISBN. Each country has a national ISBN Agency - we are only allowed to supply ISBNs to publishers in the UK & Ireland.

Where can I get an ISBN?

The quickest and easiest way to get your ISBNs is via the online ISBN Store. Visit www.nielsenisbnstore.com for more information.

Do I need a barcode?

If you want to **sell your book in a bookshop** you will need a **barcode**. The ISBN Store can also provide barcodes, in a choice of four different formats.

Got another question?

The Agency are available to help and advise 9am-5pm Monday - Friday.
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