Potted Pals

A coffee table book designed by:

Morgan Glazebrook
Table of Contents

ABOUT ME       1
ABSTRACT       2
PROBLEM STATEMENT  3
PROJECT OBJECTIVES   4
PROJECT LIMITATIONS  5
RESEARCH       6 - 11
WORK BREAKDOWN STRUCTURE   12
TIMELINE       13
PROJECT EXECUTION PROCESS   14 - 27
RESULTS       28 - 29
FINAL THOUGHTS  30 - 31
Morgan Glazebrook is originally from Mountain View California and moved to San Luis Obispo to pursue her degree in Graphic Communication. Over her time at Cal Poly, she not only grew a passion for design and page layout, but for houseplants. She wanted to do a project that combined both of these interests! When she is not designing or taking care of her plants, she enjoys working out, cooking, traveling and spending time with friends.
Abstract

The purpose of this project for GrC 462 is to design and produce an image and information heavy coffee table book on the topic of houseplants. This book will not only include gorgeous photography sourced from the Internet and self shot by me, but all the information one could need to learn how to care for each plant presented in the book. Throughout the quarter, I documented my process and the steps I took in order to complete the entire project on time.

IRB Statement

The project is not systematic investigations. It will not collect data from Cal Poly students or employees as subjects. It does not attempt to answer research questions. Therefore, this project does not need to be reviewed by the California Polytechnic State University Institutional Review Board.
The goal of this opportunity-based project is to create a hybrid aesthetic, graphic-heavy, yet informative coffee table book that is about various types of houseplants, fun facts, and care tips for each kind. Coffee table books are often quite aesthetically pleasing yet they usually lack intriguing and/or extensive information about the topics of the books. However, informative books are usually reading-intensive and while they provide great information often visually appear as dull and boring. Therefore, I plan on combining the two types of books to create one extensive visually appealing and information-heavy coffee table book in order to appeal to a higher majority of people who are looking for high-quality information complemented with beautiful imagery and graphics.

This project will start with extensive research regarding how to create a coffee table book, what the typical dimensions are, typical grid layout options, and production options. I will also need to spend a considerable amount of time researching different house plants, categorizing them, and collecting factual information about the different plants I chose to include. In the end, I plan to produce a physical copy of my coffee table book that looks sleek, elegant, inviting and is informative, and visually appealing.
Project Objectives

_time management_
I want to improve my time management on this project. Sometimes with long term projects, I allow myself to put it off until the end which leads to an increase in stress and a decrease in quality. Therefore, this time I will make sure that my time management is improved upon because I will set more specific deadlines and due dates for myself personally in order to keep me on track. If I set smaller, more attainable goals with a firm deadline, I think I will be able to stay on track much better. I also plan to meet with my team regularly in order to hold each other accountable and to check in to make sure that I am up to speed with my teammates.

Hand Drawn Elements
Another thing I want to learn or improve upon is the use of hand drawn elements. I think that in books and page layouts, hand drawn elements add something extra to the piece and makes the book feel more personal and special. I want to engage the readers and keep them interested throughout the book without feeling like the book is bland or too much like a science textbook. I plan to monitor my success by making sure that I incorporate hand drawn elements into the book and not shy away from it because it is unfamiliar to me.

Wide Range of Demographics
Finally, my third goal is to make the book appealing to a wide range of demographics. I do not want my book to look as if it is for people who have no idea about plants, or already know a lot about them. I want this book to interest the novices and the experts equally. I plan to monitor this goal by keeping the language simple, having beautiful imagery, and implementing fun facts that would be interesting to a wide variety of people, therefore more people will find interest in the book and enjoy it regardless of their experience with the topic.
Project Limitations

Time
Time was the largest constraint because, we only had about 8 weeks left of the quarter, by time I had a plan, which comes up fast. I needed to be able to budget my time accordingly and allocate enough time up front for the creation of my project in case I ran into any road bumps along the way, I had enough buffer time to resolve the problems and still make a high quality product.

Budget
I wanted to make sure I had enough money in order to complete my product and make it high quality. I knew that paper and production can be quite expensive especially with large and full color images. Therefore, I needed to try to get some quotes or a general ballpark idea of how much it costs to produce a coffee table book at UGS in order to allocate enough money to afford to produce my book exactly the way I want it.

Software
I wanted to create some digital mockups of my book before I printed it, and I needed to figure out what software I would be using in order to do that, because I had never created digital mockups before.
Research

Through numerous hours of research, I found ten articles that I felt would strengthen the quality of my project. Some of the articles gave me really good advice on how to create the template and the overall book including, page layouts, image sizes, and text content ratio. Other sources provided me with examples of previously published coffee table book and talked about each of their strengths and weaknesses which helped me in the creation of the book itself.

I found that the most informational resources provided me with examples of grids and layouts for the coffee table book in general. This gave me a starting point to come up with the layouts myself and provided me with inspiration for how I wanted to personally layout my book. Due to cost constraints, some of the resources said I should opt for black and white images, but that would compromise the quality of my book since it is about nature, so I decided not to go with that tip specifically.

Many of the resources that I pulled inspiration from had a similar design aesthetic as the aesthetic I was going for which was clean, minimal, and modern. These examples also provided me with great inspirational photos and ideas for how I wanted to complete my book personally.
AN ARTICLE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF COFFEE TABLE BOOKS


_Summary_: This article provides a brief insight into the history of coffee table books. The article touches on when coffee table books first started, around 1796, and when they gained a lot of popularity, the early 1920s. They also go into detail about the different uses for coffee books and how people became more interested in the visual appeal and graphic elements of the books and were no longer simply impressed by the text content. Books have become a very popular gift or present and there are many more elements that people are attracted to about a book now for example, the binding, end sheets, graphics, images, paper quality and much more. Overall, this was a good introductory article about where coffee books started and what direction they are headed in now.

A CASE STUDY ON COFFEE TABLE BOOKS INCLUDING TRIALS AND MOCKUPS


_Summary_: This article was a case study completed on a coffee table book that an author produced on nail art. She included examples of her trials and mockups of different versions of her coffee table book. She highlighted that the hardest part of her book was actually the cover and the end sheets which I found very interesting. It was a very informative read because it brought up points of contention that I had not thought of myself. For example, she touched on the target audience and if they would understand her simple graphics or if they would not make sense to people who are not as familiar with nail art. This is really important to keep the target audience in mind and since I am trying to appeal to a wider audience it is important to make sure that my content is not too advanced for novice readers and that it will appeal to the majority of readers regardless of their experience with the topic.

AN ARTICLE THAT DIVES INTO HOW TO CREATE A COFFEE TABLE BOOK FROM SCRATCH

_Citation_: Mukundarajan, A. (2018, May 29). How to create and publish

Summary: This article provided an outline with tips and advice for how to create a coffee book from scratch. It emphasized the importance of knowing your target audience, collecting high quality and crisp images since they are the main focus of the book, and making sure that the branding such as typeface, images, and colors are cohesive and appeal to your target audience successfully. It also linked the reader to inspiring and well-produced coffee books to look at before starting. It also highlighted the importance of using good paper for production and not forgetting to value only the digital elements.

A STUDY ON WHY READING IS IMPORTANT AND THE BENEFITS OF BOOKS


Summary: This article provided the reader with 11 scientific facts about why reading is good for people to engage in. One of the main points that they made was that reading stimulates the brain and engages it more. In addition, it is found to enhance one’s imagination and empathy, and also strengthens memory improvement and focus. These are all very beneficial side effects of reading a hard copy book which helps support my choice to include more text than a typical coffee table book because I do think that reading and engaging the reader further than with just images is really important and can help not only captivate the reader but keep them engaged throughout the entire book as well.

AN ARTICLE ON THE HISTORY OF COFFEE TABLE BOOKS AND HOW TO CREATE ONE


Summary: This was an article on the emergence of coffee table books,
the very important elements of them, and how to make one successfully. This article also touched on the importance of understanding the audience of the book and even went into further detail about cultural differences as well, which I had not considered previously. They also touched on the typical sizes that coffee table books are produced at which gave me a clearer direction for my project as well. It also explored the term “coffee table book” and deciphered if that term is actually demeaning to the quality of the book as there are some authors who feel that way and feel that their “coffee table books” are more than just photos but for “reading, reference, and information”.

AN ARTICLE THAT TOUCHED ON THE BENEFITS AND POSITIVE OUTCOMES OF A COFFEE TABLE BOOK


*Summary:* In this article, the benefits of coffee table books were highlighted. They touched on the common idea that coffee books are just adult children’s picture books and are not actually that informative. However, they went on to prove that coffee table books can provide a reader a lot of information about a very niche or specific topic and can definitely include a lot of facts and important information. This helped inspire me to add more information and text into my hybrid coffee table/plant care book because I do want my book to be able to teach readers new things and not only provide them with gorgeous imagery.

A REPORT THAT STUDIES IF PEOPLE BETTER RETAIN INFORMATION FROM HARD COPY OR DIGITALLY


*Summary:* This was a report on a study that a teacher did to see if people better retained information from reading physical text or digital text. The conclusion was that students retained information much better when they read the text physically. This information helped encourage me not to make my book a digital only-image heavy book but rather a printed hard
copy version of the book because it does provide a lot of good information and I want people to retain the information as well as possible which is why I want to print my project.

AN ARTICLE THAT TOUCHES ON THE KEY ELEMENTS OF A COFFEE TABLE BOOK


*Summary:* This is an article that touches on all of the key aspects of a coffee table book and the elements that are crucial to consider when designing a coffee table book. It not only touched on the elements such as typeface, leading, and color scheme but also the materialistic aspects such as the paper type, the size of the book, and if it will be hard cover or soft cover. These are all really important elements of the coffee table book. It also provided some grid layout examples to go off of and emphasized the importance of coming up with a grid right from the beginning in order to maintain consistency.

AN ARTICLE THAT PROVIDED EXAMPLES OF DIFFERENT LAYOUTS AND GRIDS OF A COFFEE TABLE BOOK


*Summary:* This blog provided a lot of examples of different grid layouts for coffee table books. It had real printed examples and it included hand drawn images as well in order to give the reader lots of ideas. It emphasized the importance of keeping the layout interesting but also cohesive and coherent. Some of the examples included more text which were really helpful to see since I want to include more information in my coffee table book and not just images.

A STUDY ON HOW IMAGE HEAVY BOOKS CAN HELP PEOPLE LEARN

*Citation:* Balcazar, S. (2019, November 13). How picture books

Summary: This article touched on the benefits of picture books for children. Although I am not creating a picture book for children, a lot of the benefits can still be applied to adults who are going to be looking at my coffee table book. Some of the advantages include improved comprehension, a boost in social-emotional reading, and an increased love for reading in general. These are all really good benefits of having images, illustrated or photographed in a book because it keeps the reader more engaged and provides visual clues that align with the text.
### Work Breakdown Structure

#### Background Research

**Competitors**
- Other books on houseplants
- Other Coffee Table Books
- Informational text heavy books

**Pros and Cons**
- Benefits of images in a book
- Drawbacks of image heavy books

**Audience**
- Who will this book appeal to?
- How much experience prior will one need to understand the book?
- Is this a book most people will have, or only a select few?
- Is this comprehensive for the average reader?

**Industry**
- What do other similar books on the market look like?
- Who produces books like these?
- Marketing strategies

#### Branding

**Digital**
- Cover:
  - Preliminary designs
  - Feedback
  - Revisions
  - Feedback
  - Finalized
- Color Theme:
  - Primary color pallet
  - Secondary (if needed)
- Typefaces:
  - Titles
  - Subtitles
  - Body
  - Captions
  - Other/One-offs
- Images:
  - Cover image
  - In-book images
  - Hand drawn elements
- Text:
  - Gather facts from resources
  - Info on specific plants
  - Info on generic how to care for plants
- About:
  - Mission statement
  - Credits

**Physical**
- Hard Cover or Softcover?
- Material?
- Inside Pages:
  - Material:
  - Glossy, matte, dull finish
  - Paper weight:
    - (80/90lb)
- Binding:
  - Saddle stitched, perfect bound?

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12
Timeline

WEEK 1 - 2  *Phase One*
Define Project Goals and Scope
Pick Mentor (Lorraine Donegan)
Contact Mentor
Background Research

WEEK 3 - 4  *Phase Two*
Revisit Project Goals and Scope
Gather Images
Gather Text
Create a Grid

WEEK 5 - 6  *Phase Three*
Create Title
Color Scheme
Logo
Choose Typefaces
Layout Document
Meet with Mentor

WEEK 7 - 8  *Phase Three*
Make Edits
Revise Iterations
Print!
1. Background Research

For the first part of my project, I needed to complete a lot of preliminary research before I even started to make the templates, gather the information, gather photos, and piece it all together. I looked at numerous sources and then settled on the strongest 10 sources that I found to help guide me in the setup phases for the book.

The research I found, helped guide me about white space, grid layouts, image resolution, and text size in a typical coffee table book. They provided me with good and bad examples of coffee table book and explanations as to why some element worked in the layout and why some elements did not work. This really helped set the foundation for my entire process. Below and to the right are examples of some preliminary sketches I drew after conducting research.
Preliminary research for Senior project 10/1/21

Important considerations:
1. Margins - white space is very important.
2. Grid & columns - no greater than 5 columns.
3. Type - typically about 8pt, smaller images for captions.
4. Color - choose about 3 colors, include in headers, background.
5. Variety/Spread - aim for variety on each 2pg spread.
6. Paper design (Sue overall):
   - 5x7 coffee table base
   - 3mm thickness cover board
   - 120gsm uncoated and glossy
   - not save - 130gsm satin/gloss inside pages

Colors:

Typefaces:
- Header
- Subhead
- Body
- Captions

Images (for chapter A5):
- Cascading elements (images)
- Elements of the table category

To make it a bit more dynamic:
- Use different photos
- Some photos as the examples

Title: to be determined

Grid layouts:

Image
2. Gathering Text

For this section, I went through a wide variety of sources in order to find the best, extensive, and most accurate information about the plants that I chose to include. I wanted to make sure that the information was accurate, so I spent a lot of time cross-referencing the sources I was finding to make sure that the information was factual. Some of the main sources I used were Bloomscape, The Sill, Gardening Know How, The Spruce, and Succulent City. These were the resources that I found to be the most accurate and had almost all of the information I was looking for in one place. In my book I decided to include a little blurb of fun facts about the plants, where they are native to, how much water and light they need, soil composition, propagation, maintenance level, their preferred temperature, its appearance and its toxicity level towards pets. I also color coded the text to indicate how many photos I had of each plant so I knew when I went to create the book, if I had a lot of options or very few options to pick from. Below and to the right are examples of the way that I gathered and formatted the text content before bringing it in to InDesign.

c. **Toxic for pets:** yes

d. The Weeping fig is a tree plant that's part of the Ficus genus. This is a popular tropical tree plant for the indoors and has the name weeping because the leaves droop. For the modern home or office these are great looking, although it does need some care. Many are grown as bonsai plants. The weeping fig's natural habitat is within rainforests. They do not really like to be moved around the home because moving them sends them into shock. The weeping fig is particularly good at filtering formaldehyde, xylene, and toluene from the air.

e. **Maintenance Level:** These plants require a moderate level of maintenance. It is advised that you keep the plant mostly in high humidity and water the plant whenever the top of the soil feels dry.

f. **Appearance:** the leaves can be a shiny green, variegated and there's other cultivars. The pointed leaves when grown indoors are approximately 4 inches long, and slim in width. The branches and leaves arch over and the flexible trunk can grow in a twisted form, similar to a banyan tree and with more than one trunk from the roots. At the end of summer you're likely to see some leaves falling which is normal, so do not be worried about this.

g. **Temperature:** Min temp: no lower than 50deg F

   1. Ideal: approx. around 65-75deg F

h. **Light:** Bright light is what keeps this plant happy. Having partial shade is important for the growth of this plant though. Remember to not move the plant or to even rotate it in its spot.

i. **Water:** Allow the compost to dry to a certain extent between each watering session. If you over or under water the plant, you may see the leaves start to drop.

j. **Soil:** A fast draining soil mix is advised

8. **Baby Rubber Plant → Peperomia**

   a. **Origin:** South America

   b. **Max growth:** approx 25-30cm max

   c. **Toxic for pets:** No

   d. Peperomias have become very common house plants including the Peperomia obtusifolia. Succulent rounded type leaves from the various cultivars may be dark
1. PHOTO CREDITS DONE
2. Spider Plant — Chlorophyllum Comosum
   a. Origin:
   b. Max growth:
   c. Toxic for pets:
   d. The spider plant is easy to care for and maintain. It is very popular in many countries. It has been grown for over 200 years and flowers from the stems in the summer and spring. This is one of the easiest plants to grow and maintain which makes for a very popular beginner's choice!
   e. Care Level: The spider plant can survive with minimal care and attention and can manage low temperatures. You will know that they need attention when the leaves start to brown and fall. If they look great they are receiving the right amount of care and attention.
   f. Appearance: When properly cared for, the leaves grow upwards and arch out. The most common type, the C.C. Vittatum has green leaves with a white stripe in the center while the C.C. Variegatum has darker green leaves with white stripes on the edges of the leaves mainly.
   g. Air Pollution: these have been tested and said to reduce air pollution significantly.
   h. Temperature: Min temp: no lower than 45deg F
      1. Ideal: approx.: 60-75deg F
   i. Light: Nicely lit room without direct sunlight
   j. Water: they like a lot of water between spring and summer, but in the winter they will need a lot less
   k. Soil: any decent potting soil
   l. Propagation: propagate by dividing the main plant or replant the plantlets that grow from the main plant any time between spring - fall.
3. Aloe Vera
   a. Origin: North Africa
   b. Max growth: 1-2ft
   c. Toxic for pets: yes
   d. Aloe Vera is a succulent leaf plant that is well known for its health and beauty benefits. These are said to originate from Africa and they are grown and
4. African Violet — Saintpaulia
   a. Origin: East Africa
   b. Max growth: approx. 16in max
   c. Toxic for pets: No
   d. The African violet is a wonderful flowering type species that will flower at anytime of the year with proper care and conditions provided. These can be harder to take care of than other common houseplants, but that just means they need a bit more love and attention. These need to have dead flowers and damaged leaves removed asap.
   e. Maintenance Level: These plants do need a bit more attention and care but are still relatively low maintenance. It is important that you provide them with water, sufficient light, and protect them from colder temperatures.
   f. Appearance: The African Violet has dark green leaves that have long petioles and are arranged in a basal cluster at the base of the plant. They have violet-like flowers that are bilaterally symmetrical with five petals. The flowers can be violet, white, or pink in color.
   g. Temperature: Min temp: no lower than 60deg F
      1. Ideal: approx.: around 65-75deg F
   h. Light: The African Violet thrives in bright light, but too much direct light will cause leaf problems such as yellowing leaves or patches.
   i. Water: A common mistake is over watering these plants or using very cold water. Very cold water prevents growth, and can cause leaf spots. It is best to water them once the soil becomes slightly dry to the touch. Also any excess water at the bottom should be removed.
   j. Soil: A fast draining soil mix is best to use.
7. Weeping Fig — Ficus Benjamina
   a. Origin: East Asia and Australia
3. Gathering Photographs

For this portion of the project, I chose to gather the photographs after I gathered all the information for the plants because I wanted to make sure that I solidified what plants I was going to include before I started looking for images that I was going to use. This was important because the research for the plants was very tedious so I wanted to ensure that I was definitely going to use that plant in my book before I spent hours on the Internet trying to find high quality images for that specific plant.

Once I found the images I would strategically name them as “plant-name 1” and as I found more options I would just change the number. This really helped me keep all of my files organized which made the creation of the actual book a lot easier. Once I named the files properly, I then added them into a separate folder based on what category or chapter that plant was in such as “palms, ferns, and common houseplants”. If I needed a different image or a higher quality one, I could easily go back and find a different image that I had gathered without having to search for too long. Below are examples of some of the folders I created.
Most of the images I gathered were from Unsplash and if I could not find enough images to choose from at a high enough quality, then I went to Google to find the remainder of the images that I needed. I wanted to find images as high of resolution as possible because the layout for my book was 10.5 x 10.5 inches so the images needed to be pretty big but also needed to print out clearly.

For the plants that I included that I owned myself, I actually shot photos of them instead of finding images online because I wanted to showcase some of my photography skills as well. Below and to the right are images that I took.
4. Creating the Book

Once all the research was done and all of the text content and photographs were collected or taken, I then began to create the book. I created a 10.5 x 10.5” layout with generous margins and bleeds since I wanted to make the images go all the way to the edge for most pages.

In total, the book ended up being 168 pages that included 9 chapters with 5-7 plants in each section. The beginning of the book included a front page and a two page title sheet, a copyright page, a note to my mother, a quote about nature, and the table of contents. At the end, I included an acknowledgments page and a colophon to talk about the different typefaces I used and some details that I felt were crucial to the completion of this book.

I wanted the book to be minimal, modern, and clean which was achieved through a simple sans serif body font and a modern take on traditional cursive for the headers. I intentionally left plenty of white space on each space to allow the images to really speak for themselves and to not create too busy of a layout.
5. Making Edits to the Book

For this portion of the project, I had created two fully flushed out chapters. I then printed them out and brought them to my meeting with my mentor, Lorraine Donegan, to look over. It is important to print the proofs because the size of type and the quality of the images can look much different once printed than it did on screen.

Typically some of the photos print out at a lower quality than observed on screen while text that looks appropriately sized on screen can look large and elementary once printed. In addition, another thing to consider is margins, specifically the inside margins because on screen they look fine, but once the pages are actually printed and put in book form, the way that the pages lay can cause some of the text to be illegible because it goes too far into the spine of the book. Below and to the right are images of the first version that I created and printed out.

Some of the issues with the first version was the chapter opening verso page was blank and looked forgotten, the inner margins were too tight and the main chapter photos were too boxy and random.
Weeping Fig

BUNNY EAR CACTUS
OLD LADY CACTUS
STAR CACTUS
SAGUARO CACTUS
EASTER CACTUS
MOON CACTUS

Spider Plant

cactus houseplants
For the second version I addressed all of these issues and re-formatted my chapter pages, added some color and shadowing to the verso side of my chapter openings, increased the inner margins to make the text more legible, double checked for corralled white space and also added a folio with page numbers at the bottom. Shown below are photos of another trial print after all of these changes had been made.
5. Printing the Book

After combing through my book numerous times, checking all of the images’ resolution, ensuring all of my type was styled correctly, spell checking each word, and addressing all of the other edits, I was finally ready to print my book!

I got my book printed at Cal Poly’s on campus print shop in Building 26 called University Graphic Systems. I got the inside printed on 80lb glossy stock, and the cover printed on 120lb glossy stock. I chose to use glossy paper for this book, because I felt that it really helped enhance the colors of all of my imagery and since that was the main focus of this book, I felt that it made a huge difference in the quality. Shown below are some mockups I created and one image of the final product actually printed!

At the last minute I actually decided to change the cover because I felt that the “P” in pals got lost in the plant, so I actually changed the cover last second and I am much happier with the printed version.
SaguarO Cactus

Growth:
- Light: Full sun exposure; avoid partial shading.
- Water: Requires minimal watering; water sparingly. Grow in well-drained, sandy soil; avoid wet soil conditions.
- Humidity: Not particularly demanding; moderate humidity preferred.
- Temperature: Tolerates wide temperature variations; grows best in conditions similar to those found in desert environments.

Light: The plant requires at least 6 hours of direct sunlight daily. If grown in partial shade, the plant may become leggy and less vigorous.

Plant Choice:
- Best for those looking to add a touch of the desert to their home.
- Suitable for landscaping or indoor arrangements.

Maintenance:
- Pruning: Remove dead or damaged branches regularly to promote healthy growth.
- Repotting: Every 2-3 years, repot in a mix of equal parts cactus soil and limestone gravel.
- Pest Control: Monitor for scale insects, mealybugs, and spider mites; control with insecticidal soap or neem-based organic sprays.

Photo Credits:
- Images courtesy of the Desert Botanical Garden.

Modernline

Page Numbers:
- 10pt.

Noto Sans Light
- 9.5/14

Noto Sans Medium Italic
- 9.5/14

Noto Sans Italic
- 9pt.

Avenir Next Regular
- 8pt.
Results
Trailing and Climbing Houseplants

Resources
Overall, I feel that I created a modern, minimal, informative, and gorgeous coffee table book that looks professionally produced and published. I believe that I achieved all of my goals and produced something even better than I expected.

In terms of my goals, I wanted my book to be able to be read by a wide range of people age, culture, and overall identity wise. I think that through my word choice and topic that most people would enjoy this book.

In addition, I wanted to work on my time management. I was very successful with my time management and was able to get my project done and printed before my presentation in class, which allowed me to share my printed copy with the class. The use of the Gantt Chart and my timeline were very handy and really helped me stay on track throughout the ten week quarter.

Finally, I wanted to challenge myself to improve my drawing and incorporate some hand drawn elements throughout the book. However, I actually removed that from the scope of this project for two reasons. The main reason was I did not have enough time to create the entire book and also include high quality hand drawn elements so if I did include them they would not have been up to par with the quality of the rest of the book, so I did not want to compromise the book's beauty by including mediocre drawings. The second reason actually came up after I had made the book, but looking back, there really is no place in the book for hand drawn elements. I would have only included them to add more to the book, but it would not have really improved the look of the book and would not have matched the vibe of the book because the entire book is simple, modern, and clean and I do not think the drawings would have matched that aesthetic.
Starting to create the book was definitely one of the most challenging aspects of the projects because you are starting from scratch and only have some drawings of ideas to go off of. Then I was challenged with finding layouts that I liked and also worked with the image resolutions I had.

Once I got through the first chapter, the next eight chapters were a bit easier because I had a format to go off of. I had about 7 different layouts that I really liked in the first chapter and then for the following chapters, I either used the same layout exactly or I would modify it a bit such as alternating the side of the page that the image and the text was on. I felt that this helped break it up but allowed the entire book to still feel cohesive without feeling redundant.

Gathering the text and images, while tedious, was not as challenging as thought. Once I got going, I had a formula of what information I was looking for and what websites were the best resources. Once I had the formula down, I did increase the speed at which I was gathering all of the information.

All in all, I really loved making this book and now I have my own limited edition copy of a piece of work that I created on my own. I am very proud of the work I completed in only 10 weeks and it further developed my passion for page layout and book design.