design lab::08 Working with Modular Grids

Assignment ::

Use the **Powell's City of Books** page from Monday's Design Lab 07 and reshape that page three times, each using a different modular grid as the foundation. Stick as closely to that grid as possible—every element should line up perfectly to the grid (not in the gutters). The provided grids are spreads, so treat each side as facing pages in a book. Incorporate additional images from the provided collection into your work, making imagery much more of a focus than in our manuscript grid versions.



In the end you will have three different versions of this spread, each one using a different modular grid.

Process ::

Using your work created in Design Lab 07: Portland is Weird, start by opening both that file and the first newly-provided design grid (Grid_Layout_01.indd). In the previous file, first override all Parent Page items (Pages panel submenu > Override All Parent Page Items; Command-Option-Shift-L) to make sure your page numbers and running headers/footers are selectable, then select all layout elements and copy-and-paste them into the new grid layout.

Working in the new grid file, start with the text side and begin rearranging and re-sizing the elements so they perfectly align with the grid. Bring in some of the additional imagery found in the Design Lab resources folder, scaling and fitting them to the grid as well (Pro tip: adjust the size of the frame to fit the grid, then scale the image to fit using Object > Fitting > Fill Frame Proportionally). Feel free to add color and other design elements as-needed. Be OK with re-thinking how this layout appears—just be sure to stay within the establish margin and grid. While you can alter the type formatting as you see fit, no major changes from the previous version are required.

Once you have the first grid to a place that feels done, repeat this process with the other two provided grids, this time copy-and-pasting from the revised grid file.

Dates & Deliverables ::

Rename the folder containing the Design Lab files lastname_design_lab_08. When done, save two High Quality PDFs of each layout using the following settings:

- For both PDFs, enable Spreads (Export > General > Pages > Export as > Spreads)
- For just the second PDF, enable **Grids and guides** (Export > General > Include > Print Visible Guides and Baseline Grids). Add to the end of the name of these files "_guides.pdf"

Select the layout that you think works the best and make **two color prints of the spread** on 12×18 paper: one of the normal version and a version with grids and guides visible, trimming both prints to their final size. The process is similar to how we made the PDFs in the previous step:

- For both prints, enable **Spreads** (Print > General > Pages > Sequence > Spreads) and be sure to include Crop Marks (both under Printer > Marks and Bleed).
- For just the version with grids, enable **Grids and guides** (Print > General > Options > Print Visible Guides and Baseline Grids).

This Design Lab is due by the end of class on Monday, May 5th, 2025 (Week 06; 12:20 PM).