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By selecting [View ▶ Text Editing ▶ Show Page View](#) while editing a text document, you can transform the visual presentation of the editor to using a virtual page, which can optionally show two opposing pages at once, with [View ▶ Text Editing ▶ Two Pages Across](#). Since Scrivener does not keep track of actual post-print layout pages, this should not be relied upon as a full-spread layout preview, as the even/odd arrangement you see in the editor might very well end up being swapped in the final product.

In fact, for most uses, page view is for simulating the look and feel of writing on real pages, and is thus an aesthetic preference, not a print preview tool. In some cases, especially where the compiled product will look identical to the formatting you see in the editor, it can be used as a fairly accurate gauge of writing progress in terms of literal pages. Read on for tips on the best ways to set up this feature for this style of working.

Editing in page view is otherwise identical to use the standard drafting style editor in all ways, and will work with Scrivenings mode, too. There are two optional editing features, typewriter scrolling ([subsection 15.3.5](#)) and line numbering, that will be unavailable while using this editor mode.

16.1 Page View Dimensions

Page View will by default place your text in a to-scale representation of your project's print and margin settings, found in the [File ▶ Page Setup...](#) dialogue—which is incidentally what most compile formats will defer to for those file types that use page dimensions.

It is possible for compile settings to override page setup (for example, the built-in preset designed to emulate a standard paperback novel), so if you would prefer page view always use your compile settings, use the Base page view size on... setting, in the Appearance: Page View: Options preference tab ([subsection B.5.10](#)).

In the case where your compile type doesn't use paper, like web pages, eBooks and the Markdown-based choices, the last used relevant compile settings will be used, and failing that, your page setup settings.

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16.2 Tips for Accuracy

When used in conjunction with precise export fonts, formatting and accurate page dimensions, the resulting page estimate (which will be calculated in the

footer bar statistics area) can be quite close to the actual end product, and thus will be of considerable use to anyone who requires pages as a metric, such as scriptwriters. Do note however that page numbering will always be relative to the section of text you are viewing. It is not intended to be a method of finding “page 83” from a stack of printed out papers by your desk. It would be computationally prohibitive to provide this information in real-time, based on the fact that Scrivener is fundamentally not a “What You See is What You Get” editor, like a word processor.

For best results:

- To increase page count accuracy in a scrivencings session, you should use the “Minimal” setting for the **Scrivencings Separator** option in the Appearance: Scrivencings: Options tab. This alternate method for showing the boundaries of documents in scrivencings mode uses no height, and so will not vertically distort the size of the session.
- The use of the titling feature in scrivencings ([View ▶ Text Editing ▶ Show Titles in Scrivencings](#)) should be disabled as title will add extra height that likely will not be in the final composite in precisely the same manner.
- The compile must be used extremely simply and with content that does not require any compile-time or post-compile layout, such as footnotes, columns, excessive use of placeholders, the insertion or removal of text, such as chapter headings and section headers, etc.
- Finally, you should ensure that your File/Page Setup... settings match your compile settings, so that what you see in the editor matches the shape of the document that will eventually be compiled.

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