quite happily without one, but you won't be able to sell them on Amazon, or through any other publisher or book distributor should you choose to later on. That's why it pays to get one before you publish the book, because at the very least it allows you to keep your options open.

It makes sense for an amateur and beginning eBook writer to get that ISBN, because the more ways that you can sell your eBooks, the more money you can make. And you can bet your bottom dollar that someone who sees a book with an ISBN number on it will recognize your eBook as a 'proper' publication, which is good for your reputation.

The first step to getting an ISBN is to find out which agency you need to contact to get a number in your country. The best place to start is by visiting isbn-international and finding the relevant source from there.

Some people are put off by the cost of an ISBN number, which varies between countries. You need to consider paying that money up front, or take a chance and publish it without an ISBN number. If it is a success, you could always republish it with an ISBN later on. If you can afford to buy 10 ISBNs at one time you will save a lot of money over buy just one (in the US $270 for 10 compared to $125 for 1).

PROPERLY PUBLISHING YOUR EBOOK IN PDF FORMAT

PDF format is basically a way of presenting an eBook so that it looks good and is easy to access – and those are the two best reasons for using this format. You can do a lot with Microsoft Word, but nothing beats the professionalism with a PDF document. Most free PDF converts will not properly convert you Word links, so it is important to use capable software and check your links in the PDF document.

A free option includes OpenOffice where you can import your Word document and then print to PDF and your links will work properly in your