PICKZOX EXCLUSIVE BONUS

Decade Theme Series Planner

A worksheet that turns 198 book ideas into a publishing plan: pick your decade, your theme, your first six books - on paper, before you make a single PDF.

Bonus: NostalgiaPuzzlePress review bonus #1

NostalgiaPuzzlePress gives you 6 decades x 33 themes = 198 ready book ideas. That is a gift and a trap: with that many choices, most publishers freeze. This planner narrows 198 ideas down to the six books that start your series - and the order to publish them in.

Part 1 - Pick your starting decade (circle one)

Amazon competition is not equal across decades. The vendor's own market research found the 1950s crowded while the 1980s had just one book with one review, and the 1940s and 1990s nearly empty. A wide-open decade means weaker competitors, but also a different buyer (readers of the 1990s are in their 40s-50s - often buying as gifts). Score each decade, then circle your starter.

Decade	Amazon room	Your score 1-5	Notes
1940s	Wide open	___	Big band, wartime readers now in their 80s-90s
1950s	Busy	___	Diners, Elvis - strongest nostalgia demand
1960s	Moderate	___	Beatles, space race - broad appeal
1970s	Moderate	___	Disco, station wagons - readers in their 60s-70s
1980s	Wide open	___	Arcades, MTV - readers in their 50s-60s
1990s	Nearly empty	___	Dial-up, sitcoms - buyers often purchase as gifts

My starting decade: _____ Why:

_____

Part 2 - Theme shortlist (pick 6 from the 33)

Scan the 33 ready themes (Nostalgia, Americana, Pop Culture, Teen Years, Childhood Memories, Home & Family, Small Town Life, Hollywood, Fads & Trends, Cars & Travel, Working Life, Farm & Country Life, Diners & Drive-Ins, Radio & TV Days, Weekend Fun, Classic Movies, Classic TV Shows, Music, Famous People, Vintage Products & Advertising, History & Major Events, Classic Cars, Toys & Childhood Memories, Sports, Fashion & Lifestyle, Food & Kitchen, School Days, Holidays & Celebrations, Road Trips & Travel, Main Street & Shopping, Summer Fun & Outdoors, Dating & Dances - plus your own). Rate each candidate 1-5 on two things, then keep your top 6.

#	Theme idea	Decade fit 1-5	Gift appeal 1-5	Total
1	_____	___	___	___
2	_____	___	___	___
3	_____	___	___	___
4	_____	___	___	___
5	_____	___	___	___
6	_____	___	___	___
7	_____	___	___	___
8	_____	___	___	___
9	_____	___	___	___
10	_____	___	___	___
11	_____	___	___	___
12	_____	___	___	___

My final 6 themes: 1) _____ 2) _____ 3) _____ 4) _____ 5) _____ 6) _____

Part 3 - Choose your series pattern (pick one)

The vendor's Series & Pen Name Playbook describes three proven patterns. Choose one and commit to six books before you publish book one - consistency sells the series.

[ ] BY DECADE - same theme across decades (e.g. '1960s Classic TV Shows' then '1970s Classic TV Shows'). Best when readers from multiple generations buy.

[ ] BY THEME - same decade, new themes ('1980s Music', '1980s Cars', '1980s School Days'). Best when you want depth in a wide-open decade.

[ ] BY SEASON - gift-timed volumes (Mother's Day, Father's Day, Grandparents Day, Christmas). Best when buyers purchase as gifts.

My pattern: _____

Part 4 - My first six books (in publish order)

#	Working title	Puzzles	Publish by	Done
1	_____	___	_____	[ ]
2	_____	___	_____	[ ]
3	_____	___	_____	[ ]

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#	Working title	Puzzles	Publish by	Done
4	_____	___	_____	[ ]
5	_____	___	_____	[ ]
6	_____	___	_____	[ ]

Tip: a 20-puzzle book runs about 54 pages including Memory Lane pages and the answer key - a comfortable KDP paperback size. Keep the series at one puzzle count so covers, spines and pricing look uniform on your Amazon author page.

Part 5 - Pen name & brand decisions

- [ ] Pen name (nostalgic, trustworthy, not trademarked): _____
- [ ] Series name (e.g. 'Memory Lane Large Print Puzzle Books'): _____
- [ ] Cover look (one font + color family across all volumes): _____
- [ ] Author bio written and saved (reuse on every volume): yes / no
- [ ] Searched Amazon to confirm the pen name + series name are not taken: yes / no

Part 6 - Gift-season publishing dates

Nostalgia puzzle books are gift purchases. Plan volumes ahead of the buying season, not during it.

Gift season	Be live by	Which volume
Valentine's Day	Early January	_____
Mother's Day	Early March	_____
Father's Day	Early May	_____
Grandparents Day (Sept)	Mid July	_____
Thanksgiving	Mid September	_____
Christmas	Mid September	_____
New Year / milestone birthdays	Early November	_____

Done? You now have a starting decade, six themes, a series pattern, a six-book publish order, a brand name and gift-season deadlines - everything the tool needs from you before you paste your first AI prompt. Good luck, publisher.

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