

Own and Use a Readable Bible

“A readable, physical Bible that you desire to handle and spend time with may be the most important asset you own; more important than your car, your house, or your phone” (Larry Kirkpatrick, *Talk to Me*, Deer Park Seventh-day Adventist Church, April 6, 2019).

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| PHYSICAL SIZE | If your Bible is too large or too small, you may not read it. Physical size is very important. Range from wide-margin to no margin. |
| FONT SIZE AND STYLE | If the font is difficult to read you will be less inclined to use the Bible. Beware of too-small fonts. |
| BLEED AND ALIGNMENT | When you view the physical page you will likely see through the page to the text printed on its opposite side. Some pages are sufficiently thin that this is quite distracting. Paper whiteness and thickness makes a difference. And is the text printed exactly at the same level on the opposite page or is it higher or lower? This, again, is a distraction factor. |
| TEXT COLOR | Red letter text, pink, or all black. |
| COLUMNS | Single column or double: Many people regard a single column text to be easier to read. |
| PARAGRAPHED/VERSIFIED | Paragraphed or versified text: Versified means that each verse appears as though it is its own paragraph. This makes it easy to find a verse but very much more difficult to tell where the author’s paragraphs, the units of his thought, begin and end. Most people find that having the text arranged into paragraph-blocks help the reader to follow the flow of thought more clearly. |
| NOTES and MARGINS | Many notes, few notes, no notes, center column, bottom page. It may be counter-intuitive but less notes on a page can greatly increase readability. |
| BINDING | Type of binding: sewn or glued. Glued comes apart more easily; sewn costs more. |
| COVER | Cover: Genuine leather = Tiny bits of leather bound together with glue. Usually disintegrates. Then there is leather, calf-skin leather, goat skin, and other newer, durable material used for covers. |
| RIBBONS | Ribbons: None, one, two, three, or more. Helps you keep your place. |

Resources: BibleDesignBlog.com EvangelicalBible.com <https://www.facebook.com/AllanBibles>

