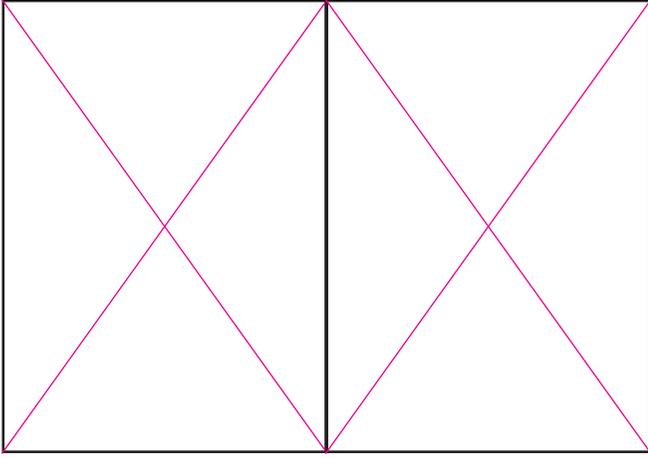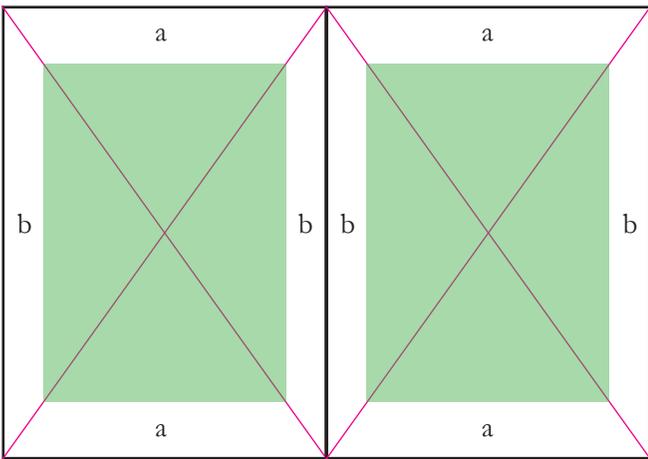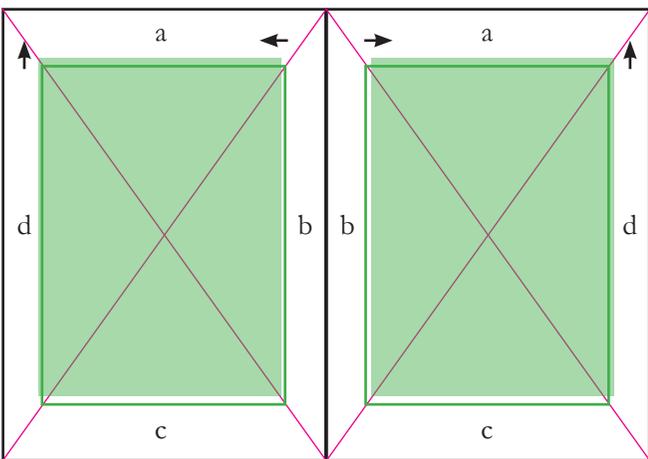*Drawing a grid with consistent format and text-box proportions:*

1. To create a text area that shares the same proportions as the page format, draw two diagonal lines across each page.

2. Select the depth of the top margin and draw a line parallel with the top of the page that intersects each of the diagonal lines across the page. The sides of the box are drawn with lines that emanate from the point at which the top margin intersects the diagonal and run parallel to the edge of the page. Two distinct margin widths are established: (a) head and foot margin; (b) inner and outer margin.

3. The text box can be moved slightly up the page and away from the gutter to allow for the pinch in the binding. This refinement ensures that text box and page share a common proportion, but establishes four distinct margin widths. In this example, the foredge margin (d) is smaller than the gutter margin (b); the head margin (a) is smaller than the foot margin (c). (For a 6" x 9" book it is good to have at least ~ 5/8" gutter)