

Creating comic book pages

Conventions are sets of **rules** for what is normally found within a product

Comics use a set of **conventions** (usually)

Your work should usually keep to these **conventions**

Conventions and creativity in the components are **limited** in their fitness for purpose.

Conventions and creativity are applied in the final product in a **limited** way.

Conventions and creativity in the components are **adequate** in their fitness for purpose.

Conventions and creativity are **adequately** applied in the final product.

Conventions and creativity in the components are **fully** fit for purpose.

Conventions and creativity are **effectively** applied in the final product.

Creating comic book pages

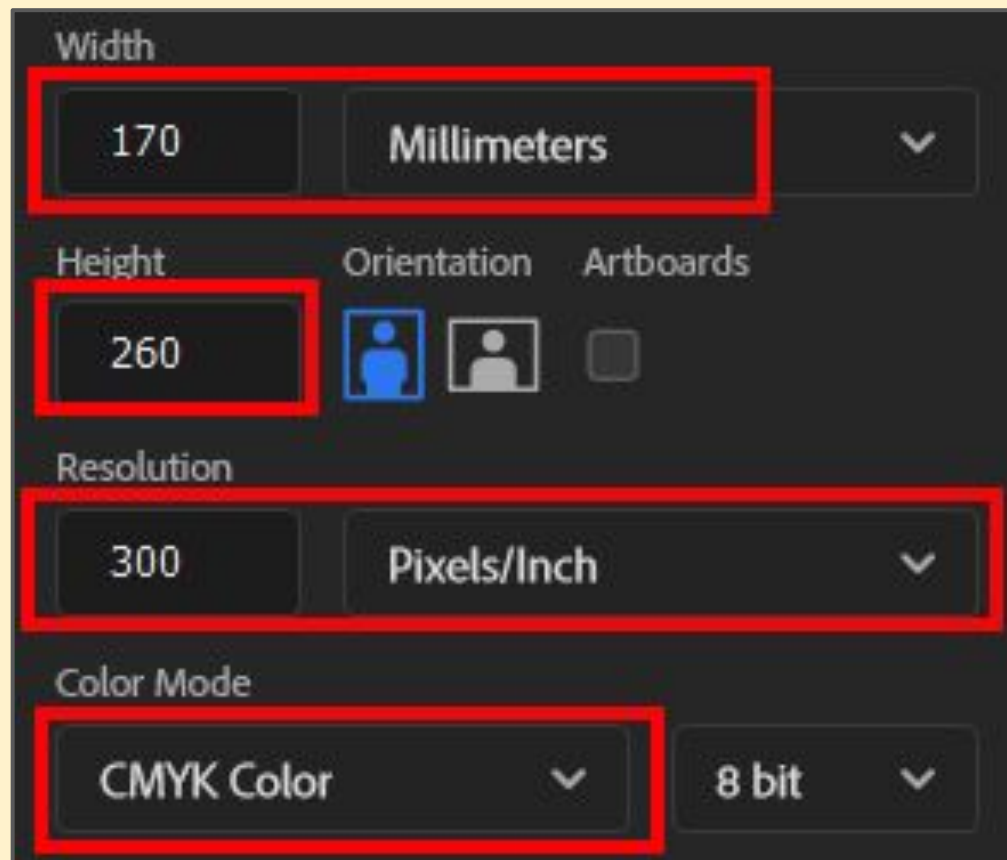
- **Page size:** 170mm x 260mm is standard UK/US size
- **Page orientation:** portrait
- **Page background:** white
- **Margins:** 7-10mm at sides; bigger at top/bottom
- **Gutters:** 2-3mm
- **Panels:** organised into 3-5 rows. Often rectangular. Can be square. Black borders
- **300ppi for print quality**

Creating comic book pages

Page setup:

Check units

Use CMYK colour
for commercial
printing (4
colours of ink)



Creating comic book pages

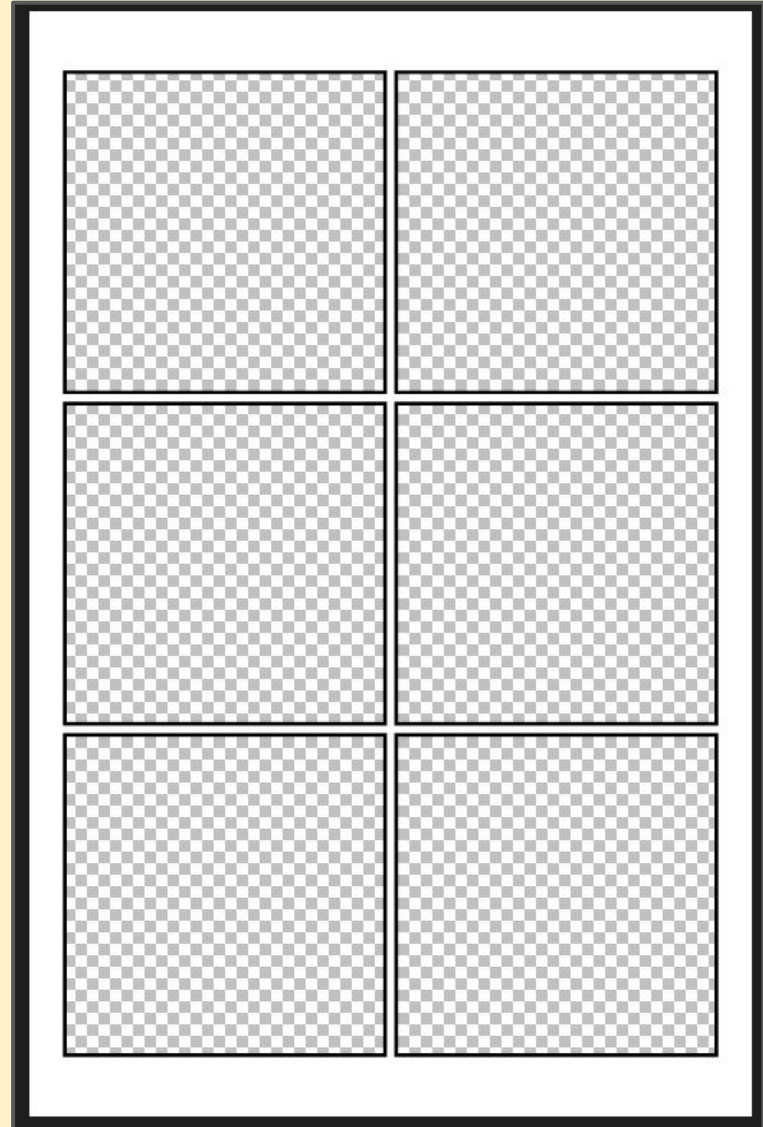
170mm wide

- 8mm left and right margin
- 2mm gutter

= 18mm used

Leaves $170 - 18 = 152\text{mm}$

= 2 columns of 76mm each



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260mm high

If we want square panels,
this means each panel
needs to be 76mm high

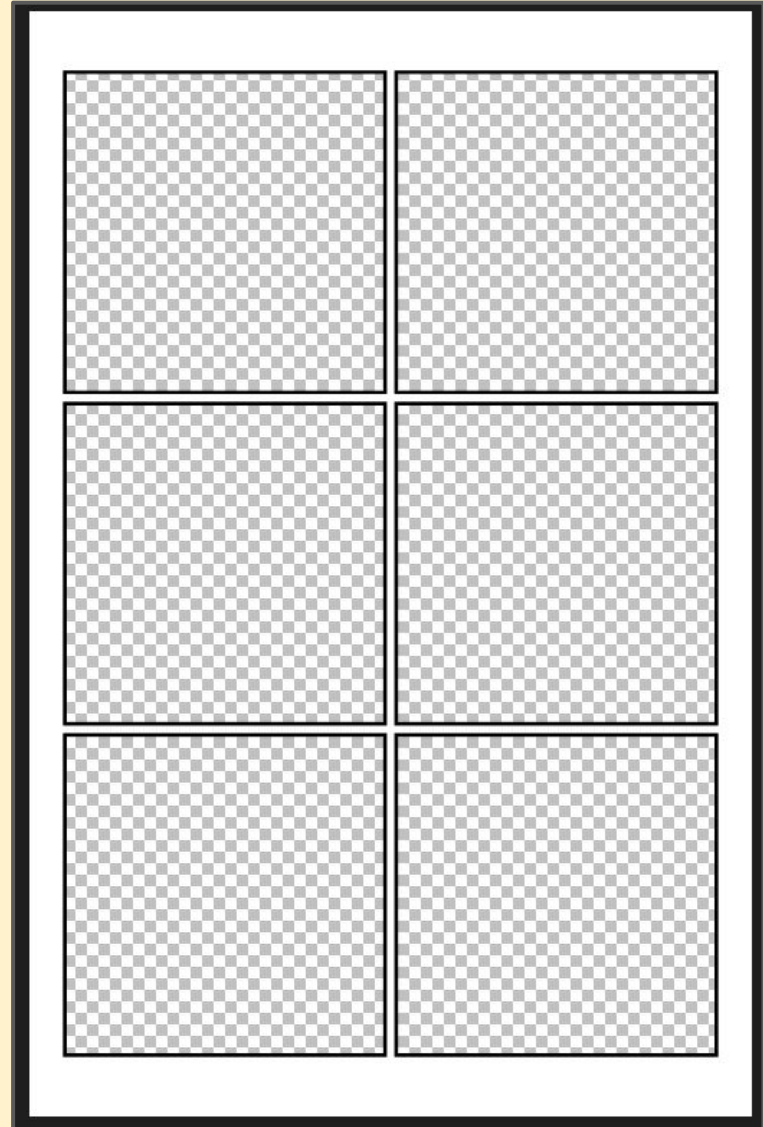
$3 \times 76 = 228\text{mm}$

2 gutters each of 2mm =
4mm

= 232mm

This leaves 28mm

So, top and bottom
margins are 14mm wide



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Page setup:

Use **New Guide Layout** to do the hard work for you

IMPORTANT: you have to type mm for gutters and margins

The image shows a page setup dialog box with three main sections: Columns, Rows, and Margin. Each section has a checked checkbox and several input fields. Red boxes highlight the 'Number' and 'Gutter' fields for both Columns and Rows, and the entire Margin section. At the bottom, there are two unchecked checkboxes: 'Center Columns' and 'Clear Existing Guides'.

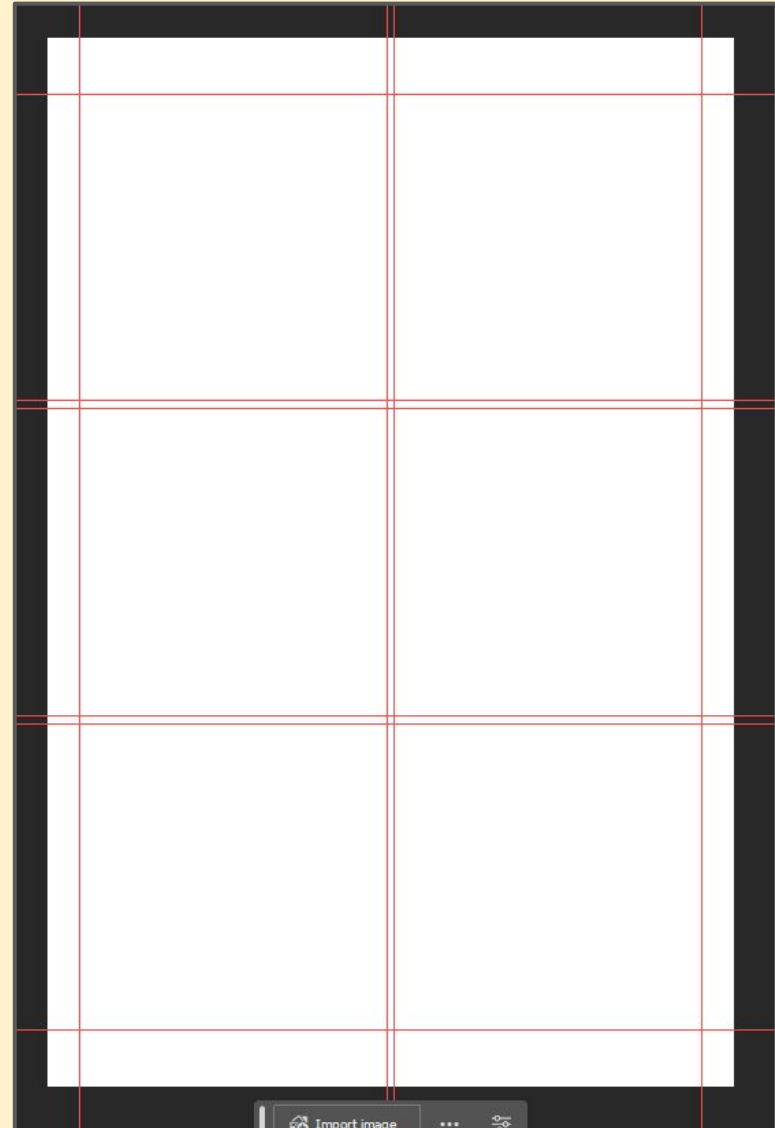
Section	Field	Value
Columns	Number	2
	Width	
	Gutter	2 mm
Rows	Number	3
	Height	
	Gutter	2 mm
Margin	Top:	14 mm
	Left:	8 mm
	Bottom:	14 mm
	Right:	8 mm

Center Columns Clear Existing Guides

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Page setup:

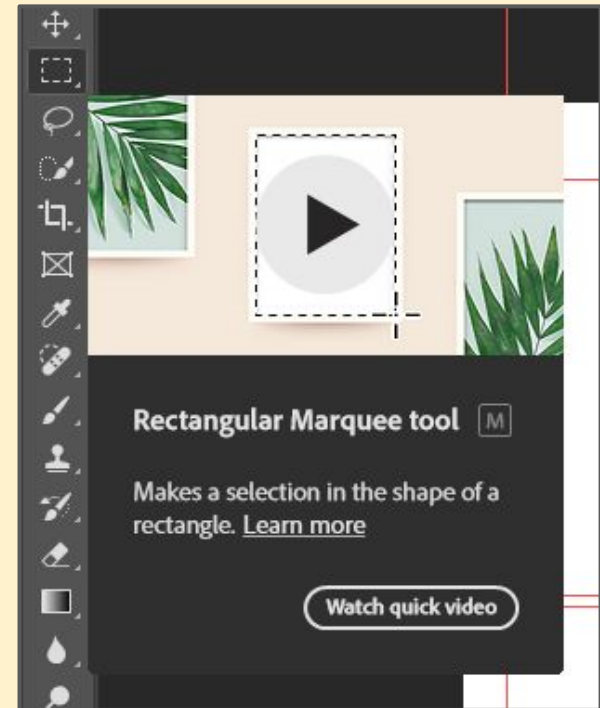
This creates a set of guidelines



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Page setup:

Use the
**Rectangular
Marquee Tool** to
select the squares
and press delete
to cut them out
(unlock the layer!)



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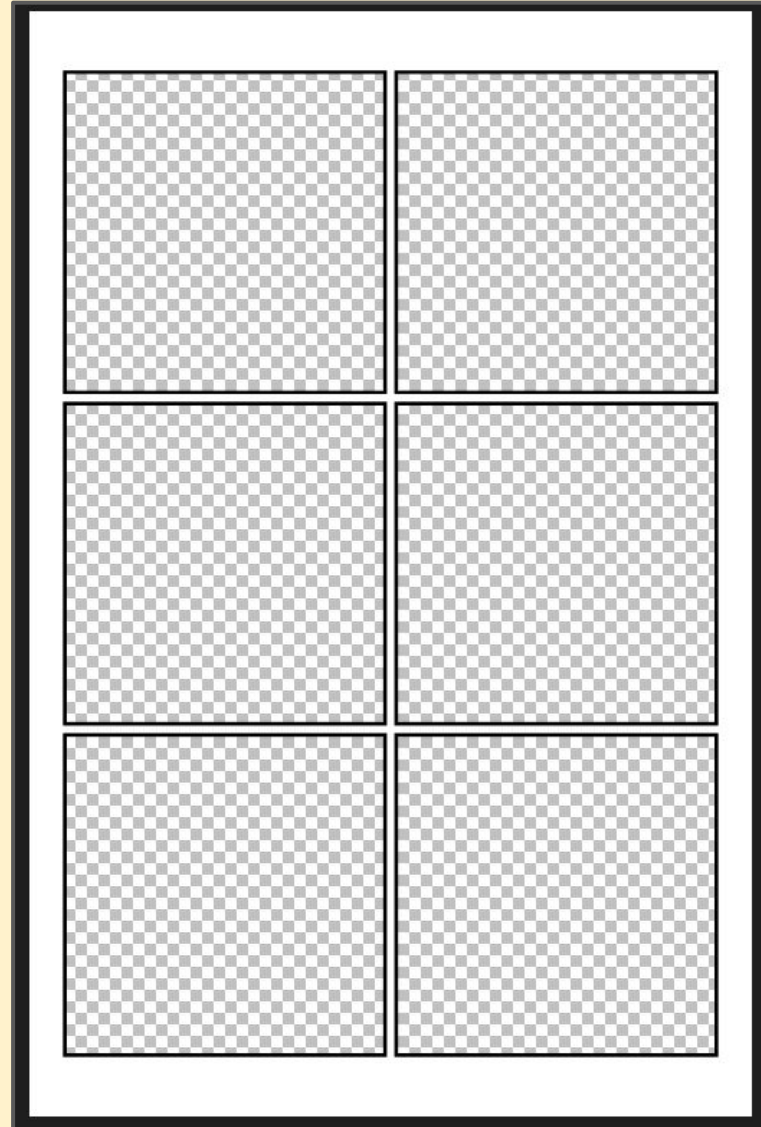
Page setup:

Then add borders

Layer > Layer Style > Stroke

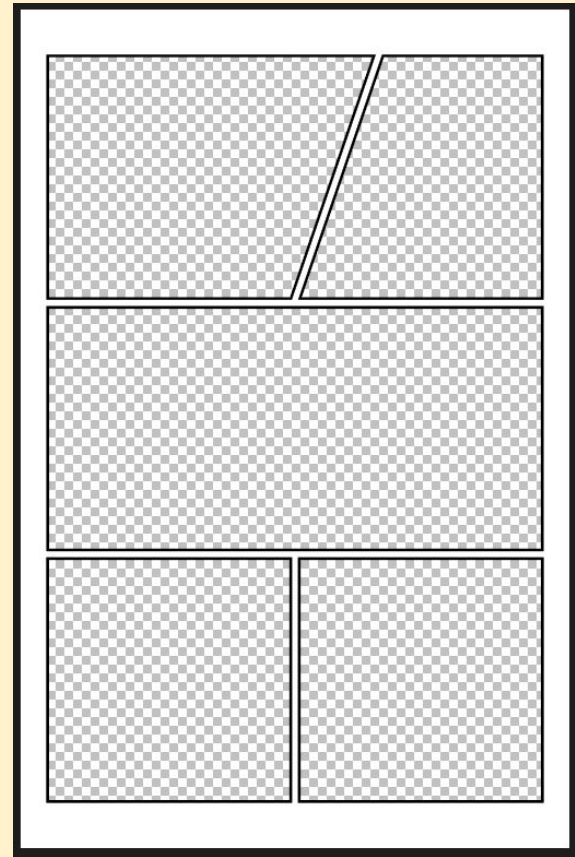
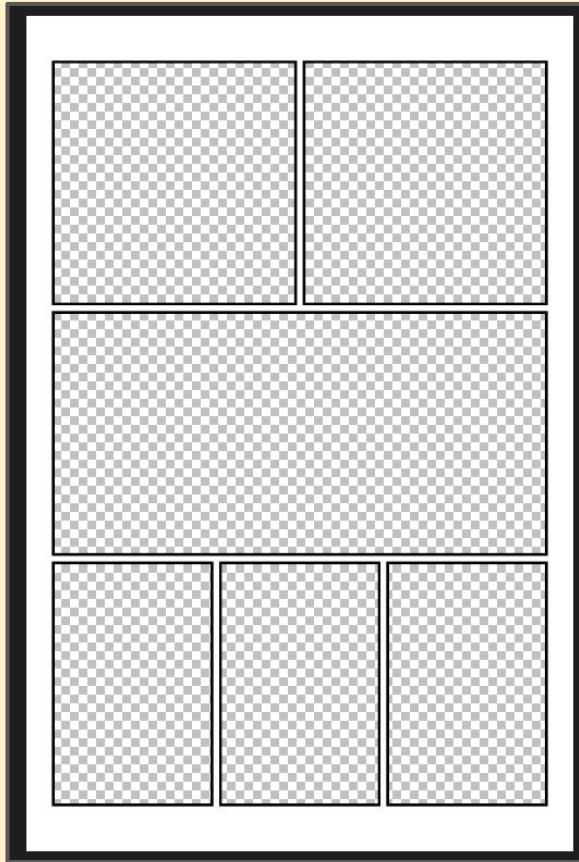
Make sure to change the stroke to **Outside**

Weight about 10



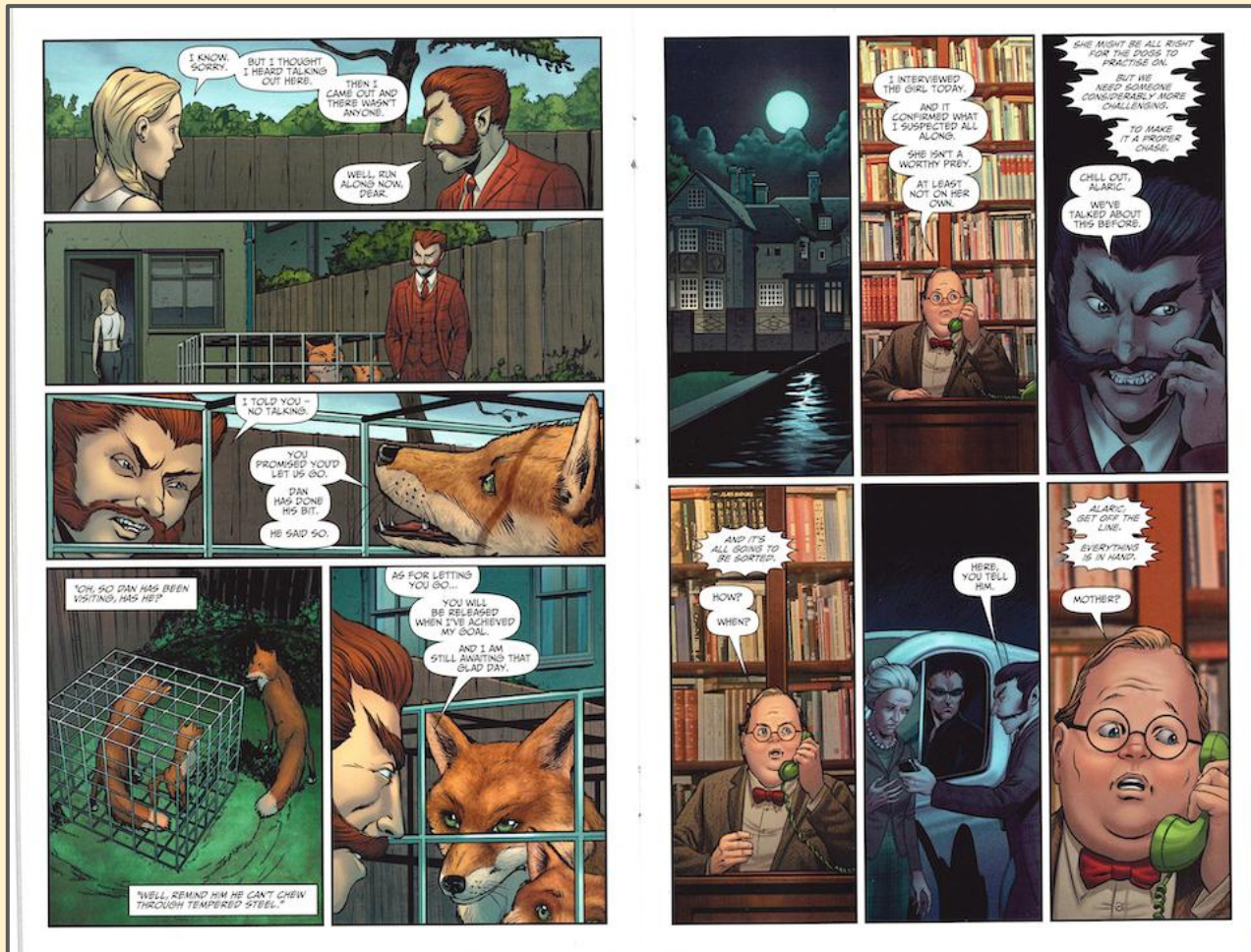
Creating comic book pages

You don't have to have square panels or such a boring layout



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You don't have to have 3 rows



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Task:

1. Use the guide to create a basic 222 set of panels suitable for a print product
2. Make sure you're confident with basic word balloons
3. If necessary, work on preparing the firedrill and piano images for use in your panels document
4. Experiment with creating different panel layouts using the advanced guide

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