CORY WASHINGTON & CO.

SMARTER RISK. STRONGER BUSINESS.

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BOOKSTORE — COVERAGE CHECKLIST

Pull out your current policy and check the box next to any coverage you can confirm is already in place — anything unchecked is worth a quick conversation with your advisor. Coverage checklist for new, used, rare, and children's bookstores. Priorities reflect typical exposure for this class; confirm against the store's actual inventory, events, and cafe operations.

CORE **PREVALENT** **SITUATIONAL** *— Core: almost always needed · Prevalent: commonly carried by businesses in this class · Situational: depends on specific exposure*

	COVERAGE	WHY THIS BUSINESS NEEDS IT	PRIORITY
☐	**Business Personal Property (Stock)**	Covers book inventory, fixtures, and shelving. Confirm the limit reflects the holiday peak and that water damage from sudden leaks is covered.	CORE
☐	**Commercial General Liability**	Covers customer injuries — trips over stacked books or carts, falls on stairs, and incidents at events.	CORE
☐	**Business Income**	Replaces lost income while a store closes to dry out and restock after water or smoke damage.	CORE
☐	**Used / Rare Book Valuation Endorsement**	Sets how used, signed, and rare books are valued after a loss. Without it, a claim may be paid on a basis that doesn't match what the stock is worth.	PREVALENT
☐	**Flood Insurance**	Standard property policies exclude flood. Paper inventory is often a total loss after even shallow water.	SITUATIONAL
☐	**Sewer / Drain Backup**	Often excluded or sub-limited, and a common source of basement and stockroom losses.	PREVALENT
☐	**Liquor Liability**	Needed if the cafe serves alcohol or wine is poured at events — GL usually excludes it for businesses that serve alcohol.	SITUATIONAL
☐	**Abuse & Molestation**	Relevant if the store runs story times, camps, or other children's programs.	SITUATIONAL
☐	**Inland Marine / Off-Site Property**	Covers stock taken to book fairs, festivals, and pop-ups, where on-premises coverage usually stops.	SITUATIONAL
☐	**Media / Publishers Liability**	Needed if the store runs an imprint or publishes outside contributors' work — GL's personal and advertising injury coverage is narrow.	SITUATIONAL
☐	**Workers' Compensation**	Required in most states with employees; lifting book boxes and ladder work are the typical injuries.	SITUATIONAL

COMMON COVERAGE GAP FOR THIS CLASS

The most commonly missed coverage for this class is protection for water damage to paper inventory. Owners assume their property policy covers any water loss, but flood is excluded, sewer and drain backup is often excluded or capped, and even a small fire can ruin stock through smoke and sprinkler water. Books rarely survive being wet, so a loss is usually total. Used and rare stock adds a second problem: without a valuation endorsement or purchase records, the settlement can fall far short of what the inventory was actually worth.

IMPORTANT — PLEASE READ