

SIX STEPS TO GETTING STARTED WRITING A BOOK

(The RIGHT Book)

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6 STEPS TO GETTING STARTED WRITING

DEFINE YOUR PROJECT

Before you start writing - define your project. Ask yourself THREE simple questions:

- WHY are you writing?
- WHO are you writing for? WHO is going to read your book?
- WHERE will your reader find your book (on what shelf or category)?





WHAT

Another question to ask yourself is **WHAT** question are you answering for your reader? Or, **WHAT** are you helping your reader understand?

The WHAT is why your reader picks up your book. In non-fiction it's literally the question you're answering. In fiction is WHAT does your character want.

Brainstorm this. Have fun with it. Write down as many responses as you want. Then pick ONE that aligns with your answers from the first step.

CREATE YOUR PILLARS

Pillars are the points (places) you want to take your reader. If you're writing non-fiction these are the answers to the question your reader needs to know - the reason they're reading your book. Pillars align with your WHAT.

In fiction these are the plot points for your story. This is the map for your character.

In both cases, these pillars are milestones for you the writer, to guide you through the process. They are meant to give you guidance and keep your WHO and WHAT on theme.



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WRITE DON'T EDIT

With your direction of who, what, where and the pillars in place - start writing. It doesn't have to be perfect, it doesn't have to be good. This is you, getting your ideas out of your head and onto the page.

Don't edit yourself, this is your first draft. You might feel you have too much or not enough, you may even feel like you're writing garbage. All of those are okay.

PRO-TIP: Write your ending first. This gives you a target to aim for. And, you can always change it.

PREVENT WRITER'S BLOCK

Writer's Block is a real thing. But it doesn't have to be. To prevent this from happening take a break from the screen. Read other books, like yours. Do some journalling either as if you were the person READING your book, or for fiction as your main character. This is a FUN gamechanger.



COMMUNITY

Writing a book can be rewarding but lonesome experience. It requires time alone. And if you're writing about painful experiences you need support around you.

It's important to share with like-minded people, especially when you're struggling. Join on-line writing groups, or find in person events. Find a writing buddy.