

NaNoWriMo

(year)

Prep Packet

- **Author Name:**
- **Novel Title:**
- **Tagline:**

- **Central Idea Synopsis:**

- **Protagonist(s):**

- **Antagonist(s):**






- **Other Supporting Characters:** (list, draw a character map, web, family tree, etc.)

- **Timeline of Main Events:** (don't forget to summarize each scene's purpose)

Basic Character Building Guide

- Name:
- Age/Birthday:
- Appearance:
- Flaws:
- Goal:
- Job:
- Social Status:
- Education:
- Fears:
- Peak Physical Challenge:
- Lowest Point:
- Emotional Arc:
- Additional Notes:

Writing Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
						
						
						
						

Scheduled Daily Writing Hours:

AM

PM

Daily Word Goal: 1,667

Total Word Count Goal: 50,000

Daily Reward:

Weekly Reward:

Are You Ready? Are You Prepared?

- ✓ Decide what to write
- ✓ Give it a Title
- ✓ Write a Tagline
- ✓ Create a Cover Image for inspiration
- ✓ Create your NaNoWriMo novel page, if you haven't already
- ✓ Make a file on your desktop just for NaNoWriMo content
- ✓ Figure out your characters
- ✓ Roughly summarize your plot and main plot points
- ✓ Make sure your story has a beginning, middle, and end
- ✓ Do your research, if necessary
- ✓ Start a Pinterest board for inspiration
- ✓ Find or create a good playlist for the novel you'll be writing
- ✓ Figure out your writing schedule and swear by it
- ✓ Brainstorm, Plan, Outline, Map, make a Beat Sheet... Get ready
- ✓ Blog about it; or just share your progress with a friend, writing buddy/coach, etc.
- ✓ Clear your schedule and gather your snacks
- ✓ Organize and prepare a clean, interruption-free, distraction-free, stress-free writing area
- ✓ Gather your writing materials, including a timer
- ✓ Wake up on November 1st and WRITE.
- ✓ Have fun, don't give up, and keep writing
- ✓ You can do this.

What happens when time is up?

Sit back, take a deep breath, and relax. Save your work and move away from the computer.

Do something active. Let your mind relax and engage your body. Get moving and take your mind away from writing for just a little while.

After you've reached your daily writing goal, any other ideas that come to you can be jotted down in a notebook or writing guide. These notes can be referred to the next time you sit down and write.

Alternately, you can take time at the end of each day to journal or blog about your experience; How many words did you get done? How did you reward yourself? What is happening at this point in your story? Did you take inspiration from real life sources? What tricks do you have for writing action scenes / staying on schedule / writing within a specific genre? There is so much that you can reflect on. If you still want to think and write about the story, take time to reflect your progress and share your thoughts with friends, family, writing buddies and coaches, social media followers, etc.

Reading is another option. Inspiration can come from all types of real life scenarios as well as scenes within other books. We may learn something about ourselves as writers through reading other stories, or we may get insight into our own characters, our own plotlines, and our own story's development. Reading is a great way to stay inside the writer's mindset while stepping away from one's own work for a while.

Finally, there's always the option to push through and keep on writing. If the time goes off and you're simply not ready to stop, and you just can't stifle the inspiration that's burning through you, then don't. Just keep writing.

WRITER'S BLOCK DOESN'T EXIST

Just. Keep. Writing.

All you need is a complete first draft.

It doesn't need to be perfect.

If you still hate it when it comes time to edit, get rid of it.

If it sucks, leave it there, take it out later.

WRITER'S BLOCK DOESN'T EXIST.

Fix it later. Just keep writing.

Stick to your outline and push forward.

It doesn't have to be good, it just has to be done.

You can make it better later.

Keep writing.

Don't stop.

WRITER'S BLOCK DOESN'T EXIST.

Take a break if you need to. But set a timer.

Take a walk, shower, nap, yoga class. Read a book, eat a snack. But set a timer.

Then, keep writing.

If it's frustrating, skip that part, come back to it later. Make a note.

WRITER'S BLOCK DOESN'T EXIST.

At your breaking point? Storyboard. Mood board. Brainstorm.

Meditate. Have dinner with family. Go to a movie. Call your friend. Sleep.

Start the day on a positive note. (Try coffee, water, a hearty breakfast, a good stretch, sun.)

Now... Keep writing.