

Tips for Breaking Writers Block

If you have ever felt “Stuck” for the next word or sentence and the blank piece of paper in front of you seems to taunt you . You may be experiencing “Writers block”.

Don’t panic, it happens to everyone, whether you are a blogger, journalist, copywriter, novelist, you name it — writer’s block can’t happen.

The good news is you can learn how to get “Un-Stuck”

Here are my 20 best tips for defeating writer’s block

- 1 **Defeat the blank page.** Just Jot down a few notes. Write down that one, great quote you were planning to use. Or a brief outline of what you want to achieve (just a rough draft) hey presto - no more blank page.
- 2 **Read more,** and not just anything read work by authors you wish to emulate.
- 3 **Write what you feel like writing.** If you have a terrific itch to write one particular idea, then write that one right now. The more you go with your creative flow and write what you’re inspired to write, the easier it will be beat writer’s block.
- 4 **Start anywhere** many writers sit staring at their screens because they’re obsessed with writing the first line of a piece first. Forget all about that. If you know how it will end, write that now. If it has bullet points, go ahead and write those first, if that would be easy. Once you jot down the part that’s coming naturally to you, the rest will start to flow.
- 5 **Phone a friend,** just like on the reality shows. Then, tell your friend about the topic you’re trying to write. As in all conversations, you will tend to naturally mention the most interesting points first. When you hang up, your piece is outlined and ready to go.
- 6 **Don’t edit while you write.** When you’re writing, just let those creative juices flow along. Don’t spoil the magic by stopping to fiddle with a word here or cut a line there. Get it down - get it right later.
- 7 **Create an ‘idiot’s outline.’** If you have a lot of research, interviews and other material to organize, go through all your resources and simply listing each source. Then, next to the source, write the most

important point or two they make. Now all you have to do is place the points into a logical order, and you've got a rough outline.

8 Read what you have written so far out loud - this will help get you back into the flow of your piece.

9 Write something else. Write a shopping list, or a letter to a friend. Once the fingers are moving, it'll be easier to get the piece you were stuck on rolling.

10 Free associate. If you feel disorganized, just go with that — start writing random thoughts about your topic. Then, sort through your brainstorms for lines you want in your piece.

11 Create a mind map. Get off the computer and make a visual drawing of your topic's ideas and how they relate to each other. Soon, you'll not just have ideas for your current post, but ideas on how that one might lead to related, future topics.

12 Create a deadline. The problem with our own writing is no 'boss' is standing over us insisting we get the writing done by a specific time. So create a deadline calendar of when your posts must be completed. Then, allow no recreation time until the deadline is met.

13 Reduce noise. Are you trying to write with the TV or radio running in the background? That extra stimulus may prevent you from focusing on the writing. They say our brains really can't multi-task.

14 Turn off the Internet. Do you find yourself playing Bejeweled or checking Facebook when it's writing time?

15 Change your location. Move to your deck, a coffeeshop, a friend's back bedroom, a co-working office space...wherever you don't usually write. See if inspiration hits.

16 Take a break. Take a half-hour break. Take a walk. Take a bath. Take a nap. Do a headstand — get some blood flowing to the brain again. Then, come back ready to have at it.