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# GETTING STARTED CHECKLIST

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## 1. A PLACE TO WRITE

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- Survey your home. Where can you work undisturbed?
- Visit some local cafes. Which has the best writing atmosphere?
- Check out nearby libraries. Is there a quiet place to work?
- Is working in your car (a “car bubble” or dictation) an option?
- Is working during your commute (train, subway, bus) an option?
- Creative Challenge: Post a picture of your work place on Facebook Online Writing Workshop*

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## 2. TIME TO WRITE

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- Create a writing schedule. Decide when you can write and enter it in your appointment book.
- Is your schedule too ambitious? Start small and work your way up.
- Choose whether to commit to a certain number of hours or a certain number of words.
- Respect your unconscious imagination: on a calendar, keep a record of successfully completed writing sessions.
- Creative Challenge: Post a comment about your writing schedule on Facebook Online Writing Workshop*

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## 3. TOOLS TO WRITE

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- Take a trip to the store for pencils, pens, index cards and notebooks.
- Download voice recording app for your phone or purchase a digital recorder.
- Download appropriate software on your writing computer:
- Microsoft Work or LibreWriter – <https://www.libreoffice.org/>
- Ywriter – <http://www.spacejock.com/yWriter6.html>
- Evernote – <https://evernote.com/>
- Creative Challenge: Buy a messenger bag for your notebook, computer and tools.*

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## 4. NEXT STEPS

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- Start thinking about the genre in which you wish to write.
- Start a list of ideas you have for stories.
- Be on the lookout for interesting character names and start a list.
- Be on the lookout for interesting titles and start a list.
- Check out the next Online Fiction Writing courses “How to Get Story Ideas” and “Writing a Short Story.”*