

Beat Writer's Block

9 Quick Tips to Boost Your Creativity

1

LET YOUR FIRST DRAFT BE TERRIBLE

Every professional writer knows this one. Don't fret over grammar, spelling, or punctuation at this stage. Just get the words going.

2

OPEN YOUR EMAIL AND WRITE YOUR MESSAGE

You send emails all the time; it's a familiar activity. You've done it many times before, so you know you can do it again.

3

GRAB A PENCIL AND PAPER

If you aren't best pals with your computer, step away from the keyboard. The physical act of writing freehand is a completely different experience.

4

COLOUR INSIDE THE LINES

Write on coloured paper. Write with markers, coloured pencils, or gel pens. Sometimes taking "official-business" out of the equation is all you need to get your creativity back in gear.

5

RUN AWAY FROM HOME

A change of scenery can work wonders. A nearby coffee shop or your library can remove the usual distractions of your home office or studio and help you stay on task.

6

GO ON A VIRTUAL WRITING RETREAT

Find a free ambient sound app and enjoy your favourite cuppa. A soundtrack of ocean, forest, summer night or rain can help you focus on your writing.

7

CREATE A DEADLINE WITH A TWIST

Imagine you're on vacation. You have a postcard for a friend and 10 minutes before the tour bus leaves. You won't be near a mailbox again for days. Go!

8

HAVE A PROPER OUTBURST

The best words often come when you stop thinking and just blurt - either in a notebook, or make a voice recording with your phone or voice recorder.

9

WRITE TO A PERSON: THE RIGHT PERSON

As you write, picture a real person: someone you like, who likes you and loves your work. They can't wait to hear from you. That person is your ideal customer.