

# THE COMPLETE GUIDE TO WRITING A NOVEL

## STORY PLANNING

### THE TITLE

- Create a working title that clearly states the genre.
- Check online to see if this title has been used before and in which genre.

### PLOT

- Spend time on the premise so that it is as compelling as possible. For commercial fiction there should be a great hook to the central idea. E.g. Would you kill your wife to save your child?
- Write down ONE main story question which will be answered by the end of the novel. Will the heroine find love? Will the detective discover who the real killer is?

### STORY LENGTH

- Novella: Usually 20,000 to 40,000 words
- Short Novel: 45,000 to 60,000 words
- Novel: 60,000 to 80,000 words
- Saga: 80,000 to 120,000 words

### HOW TO FIND STORY IDEAS

- Reading in your genre
- Reading other genres and lateral thinking
- Movies
- TV shows
- Conversations
- News and Magazines
- Anecdotes
- Personal experience
- Dreams

### COLLECT STORY IDEAS

- Take a notebook with you
- Keep a folder of ideas
- Use your phone to take images
- Record ideas on your phone

### DEVELOP AND EXPAND ON THE STORY IDEA

- What central question does the main idea pose?
- How can you expand that to several levels for secondary characters?
- What is at stake for the main character?
- Why should a reader care about that issue?
- Is there a central dilemma that will drive the story?

## CHARACTERIZATION

### NAMING THE MAIN CHARACTER

The name must match:

- the historical period of the story. E.g. Victorian English vs. ancient Egypt.
- the subgenre niche of this story. E.g. Paranormal romance vs. Chick Lit.
- the gender of this character
- the social status of the character. E.g. Upper class, middle class, working class
- be regional specific. E.g. Scandinavian vs. Indian vs. Italian
- the ethnic background of this character.
- be memorable
- fit the context of the story
- be catchy and easy to remember

Check online to see if this character name has been used before

### GENDER

- Man
- Woman
- Homosexual
- Bisexual

### AGE

- Child
- Teen
- Young Adult
- Middle-Aged
- Senior

### ETHNICITY

- European
- African American
- Asian American
- Indian

### APPEARANCE

- What do they look like?
- Tall
- Short
- Slender
- Fat
- Dark tanned skin
- Pale skin
- Use photos of celebrities and actors and actresses as inspiration.

### FEATURES

- Hairstyle and color
- Dark hair
- Fair
- African
- Straight
- Curled
- Tattoos
- Body scars
- Body piercing
- Facial hair
- Elaborate make-up
- Manicured fingernails

### CLOTHING

- Conservative
- Unconventional
- Provocative
- Colorful
- Drab
- Vintage
- Couture
- Workwear
- Sports

### MANNERISMS AND PERSONALITY

- Twitching
- Finger tapping
- Hand rubbing
- Hair flicking
- Fidgeting
- Obsessive cleaning
- Pen organizing
- Totally messy
- Constantly twirling a ring or bracelet
- Obvious health problems/disabled
- Introspective
- Chatty and extrovert

### CHARACTER BACKGROUND

- Are their parents still living?
- What is their relationship?
- Do they live close by?
- Elderly parents who need care or nursing
- Siblings
- Twin brother or sister
- Half-brother or sister
- Stepfamily
- Stepparents
- Adopted parents

### HOME TOWN

- Small village
- Busy city
- International traveler
- Nomad
- Foster care

# Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025

**Rose Arny**



## **Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025:**

Write Like A Pro: 10 Rules To Be a Better Writer | Tips to Learn the Art of Writing Kalyanaraman Durgadas ,2025-04-10

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*California Bar Exam Essay Success: A Complete Handbook for Effective Writing* Arlene Macdonald,2025-04-13

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**AI-Powered Scholar** Bron Eager,2024-12-27 This book is a practical and comprehensive guide on using AI tools to streamline and optimise the academic writing and research process Through a series of step by step instructions and practical tips this book provides readers with the knowledge and tools they need to leverage the power of AI to produce high quality academic publications The text covers the historical context of AI development techniques for communicating with AI systems and strategies for transforming AI into helpful research assistants Readers will discover the art of prompt engineering and learn practical applications for using AI to ideate research projects conduct literature searches and accelerate academic writing Emphasis is placed on the responsible use of AI positioning it as an extension of human capabilities rather than a replacement Through real world examples complex AI concepts are demystified and key challenges and limitations are addressed head on Whether you re a university student or a tenured professor this book is your

indispensable companion to beginning your path towards becoming an AI powered scholar     Read It Write It Love It Emily Aierstok,2026-02-10 A complete toolkit for overworked ELA teachers looking for effective reading and writing exercises and lessons In Read It Write It Love It experienced middle school English Language Arts teacher Emily Aierstok delivers the ultimate roadmap to helping disinterested and struggling students succeed with reading and writing Aierstok draws on her decades of professional teaching experience to explain practical research based strategies and activities you can implement in your own classroom for immediate results with learners from all levels You ll explore solutions to common longstanding problems like running out of time for lesson planning and aligning compelling classroom content with academic standards and find insightful tips on integrating tech and multimedia into your learning experiences Read It Write It Love It offers engaging student activities that make reading and writing fun relevant and meaningful You ll also find Creative techniques to help you connect with diverse learners and accommodate different learning styles Time saving strategies including easy to follow activities and low prep plans to make your teaching day easier Ways to capture your students interest in reading and writing lessons and help motivate them to achieve better outcomes Strategies for stepping up your planning techniques to ensure you re prepared to meet needs and improve learning outcomes for every student Perfect for secondary ELA teachers in grades 6 to 12 struggling with a lack of time to properly prepare lesson plans Read It Write It Love It is also a must have resource filled with easy classroom activities you can try out on your own     **Subject Guide to Books in Print** ,2001

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## **Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025** Book Review: Unveiling the Power of Words

In a world driven by information and connectivity, the power of words has been evident than ever. They have the capability to inspire, provoke, and ignite change. Such could be the essence of the book **Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025**, a literary masterpiece that delves deep into the significance of words and their affect our lives. Written by a renowned author, this captivating work takes readers on a transformative journey, unraveling the secrets and potential behind every word. In this review, we will explore the book's key themes, examine its writing style, and analyze its overall impact on readers.

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### **Table of Contents Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025**

1. Understanding the eBook Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - The Rise of Digital Reading Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Exploring Different Genres
  - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
  - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
  - Popular eBook Platforms
  - Features to Look for in an Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Personalized Recommendations
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 User Reviews and Ratings
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 and Bestseller Lists

5. Accessing Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 Free and Paid eBooks
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 Public Domain eBooks
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 eBook Subscription Services
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 Budget-Friendly Options
6. Navigating Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 eBook Formats
  - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 Compatibility with Devices
  - Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025 Enhanced eBook Features
7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
  - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Highlighting and Note-Taking Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Interactive Elements Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
8. Staying Engaged with Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Joining Online Reading Communities
  - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
  - Following Authors and Publishers Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Benefits of a Digital Library
  - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
  - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
  - Minimizing Distractions
  - Managing Screen Time
11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Setting Reading Goals Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Complete Guide To How To Start Novel Writing Tips 2025
  - Distinguishing Credible Sources
13. Promoting Lifelong Learning

- Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
- Exploring Educational eBooks

#### 14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

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