

How to Start Writing Your First Book

Define your message – what your book is about. Make an outline on what you want to say and write about. Also, take notes and write them down when they come to you. You need to record them ASAP so you won't lose that idea or story. There are several ways you can do this. You can write your notes and outline longhand or on your computer.

Here's a new way to write your book. Recently, I've written 98% of my autobiography on my iPhone – 300 plus pages, using the app "SwiftKey Keyboard." There are other writing and note-taking apps you can use. I then transferred my writing to my page layout software on my computer.

I use my iPhone so I can write anywhere – waiting to attend a meeting, sitting on a park bench and other places. You are not tied down to a computer at home or work. By being able to do this, you can speed up your writing process. When you write at home, create a workplace where you can write and write at a certain time of the day. Write everyday. There are dictation programs for your smart phone and your computer. I dictated this writeup you are reading now on my iPhone with the app "Dragon." You can also buy this program for your computer. Just talk, and the program will create the text. It's not perfect, but saves a lot time. You still have to do some corrections by typing.



When you are writing, you will come up with other ideas. Write down those ideas as soon as possible. You can record these ideas in the ways I mentioned before, or use a recording program on your smartphone or pocket recorder. You can also use 3 x 5 index cards and put one idea on each card. You can put your story in order at a later time, or when you're basically finished with the first draft of your book. If you are not computer savvy, you will have to write it out long hand and get someone to type it up. Most people write their manuscript in Microsoft Word.

The main thing is to start writing and write every day. Get your story down. Later, I can help you with the storyline, grammar and punctuation. I am a great editor.

Your story is like a three-act play with a beginning, middle and the end. A motivational book must have a message that states a problem and how it is solved. A three act play has three parts: the setup, conflict and the resolution of the conflict. With conflict you have drama. Drama creates an interesting story and keeps the reader involved in your story.

It's easy to write your book using these suggestions. Start writing, and you will be amazed with your progress toward making your story a printed reality.