

4 Additional Productivity Hacks for Writers

This is an extra resource to go along with the original article:
[6 Productivity Hacks to Write Faster and Better](#)

1. Stand to Write

While standing vs sitting *may* provide some health benefits (it's still debatable), one of my favorite reasons to stand when writing has nothing to do with health at all. When you stand to write, you're less likely to zone out or nod off. The process of standing to write will take you out of your comfort zone and hopefully lead to a more productive writing session when paired with other hacks on this list.

2. Get a Writing Partner

Ever thought of writing with a partner? Plenty of books are co-authored, including Doug Preston and Lincoln Child, Heather Graham and Chad Michael Murray, and Stan and Jan Berenstain.

Writing partners obviously help share the burden, but one major benefit of writing with another is increased productivity. You're more motivated to show up and do your best when someone else is counting on you.

3. Don't Spend Too Much Time in Research

Research can be a time suck. Sure, you need to spend time in research mode but you shouldn't let it take over the time you've set aside for writing. However, the annoying need to research can often interrupt your normal flow because you'll inevitably reach a point in your narrative where you need to fact check.

When that time comes, don't pause your writing. Write "TK" and move on. TK is an old publishing placeholder term that means "to come." You can circle back later to fill in the details but don't stop your creativity while the words are flowing.

4. Write With a Better Pen

Here's a technical hack to help you write faster: Write with a better pen. Don't suffer though cheap pens that produce splotchy results. Not only is poor ink-flow demoralizing, it literally slows down the writing process.

If you can master it, get a fountain pen. Fountain pens are the fastest writing utensils, but also the most expensive. They tend to smudge the most and have the hardest learning curve, but once you know how to use them, they provide a beautiful, friction-less glide on paper.

The next best are rollerball pens. The ink flows fast (but not as fast as with fountain pens) and they're not as expensive. If you can't afford fountain pens or don't want to learn how to use them, definitely go with rollerballs.

Whatever you do, avoid ballpoint pens when you're trying to speed up your writing. Because they produce a thicker line, ballpoint pens may be easier to work with. However, they're definitely slower than fountains and rollerballs.