10 Of The Best Tools For Writers

According to our friends here on Medium

Hub Talk



Photo by Katie Rodriguez on Unsplash

Let's face it, writing is hard and has been difficult since the beginning of time. Fortunately, with evolution and technological advancement came a by-product of tools and habits that ease the burden of an author. A few weeks ago, we've asked you all "<u>What's Your Favorite</u> <u>Writing Tool?</u>" and got an overwhelming amount of responses Thanks to everyone who shared, if you have any other great ideas, please feel free to share them in the <u>comments here</u>:

What's Your Favorite Writing Tool?

From having an idea-generating system in your Moleskine notebook to Grammarly serving as your contributing editor, we...

iPhone Notes App

I swear by iPhone Notes. It's such a tidy and useful little product, and its search function is great. I use it to write whole blog posts, snippets of ideas, checklists and more.

— <u>from</u>

Roam Research

I've been using Roam Research lately to facilitate writing. Every article I'm working recently has started as simple notes in Roam, and grew by using Roam's features for linking and interconnecting ideas. Something about the way Roam is built facilitates ease of writing and overcoming writer's block. It gets me excited to write for writing's sake, as a form of thinking, and gives tons of resources to easily incorporate previously written thoughts or generate new ideas because of it's ability to seamlessly network your thoughts.

— <u>from</u>

Google Chrome Highlighter Extension

I like to use the Highlighter chrome extension for research! It lets me highlight articles and instantly copy those passages and paste them in my Google doc scratch (I have a "scratch paper" for every story where I put all the material relevant to the piece. Oh and I never kill my darlings. They go here, too!).

Bonus: The Highlighter extension retains the highlight even after you close the page. So you can easily review and go back to it when you visit the link again!

— <u>from</u>

Hemingway App

I love the Hemingway App. It forces me to make my sentences tighter and doesn't do it for me, so I learn as I go. And iPhone notes are critical. They're with me all of the time and easy to organize.

- <u>from</u>

Penzu

I love using Penzu. I use the free version, though the Pro is just \$19.99/year, I found I didn't need the options it offered. It is so helpful for me because I can write in my personal journal online and access the same journals through the Penzu (free) app on my phone as well. That let's me write in one place wherever I am. That has been hugely helpful since it all synchs together so I'm always up to date wherever I access the program. I also like using the "talk to text" function on my phone to dictate my thoughts into a Penzu entry as I will usually have several documents or entries working at the same time.

— <u>from</u>

Shari Dworkin-Smith; Psychic Medium

Dictate

Dictate, on the iphone, for when ideas come faster than I can write them down. I send my dictation files to a human transcriber via Dropbox; she returns them to me as Word docs.

— <u>from</u>

Draw.io

I love draw.io to create diagrams suitable to my

technical articles. It really helps a lot as diagrams put extra meaning to what I write.

— <u>from</u>

Medium Drafts

When I have an idea without time to write, I type it up as a Medium draft title. The idea is there for me in the future when I actually decide to dedicate time to writing. I find it helps inspire me to review the titles and chose what motivates me at the moment.

— <u>from</u>

Read more <u>responses here</u>.