

# Crush NaNoWriMo & Write 50,000 Words in 1 Month!!!!

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## #Preptober:

October is the time to plan and plot out your NaNo novel. You can try to pants it (write without a plot), but it will make things more difficult, especially when trying to keep track of everything & creating a 2<sup>nd</sup> draft.

If you hate plotting, I recommend at least writing your plot points down, and then you can pants how you get from point to point. You can follow the 3-Act-Structure as a basis.

Favorite plotting techniques if you want to dive farther is the Plot Embryo, Save the Cat Writes a Novel Beat Sheet, the Hero's Journey, and the 3-Act-Structure. You can plot on notecards, in a word doc, scrivener, etc, whatever works for you.

What tense & POV do you want?

What is your story arc? What about your MC's character arc?

For characters, it's nice to have a general idea of who they are and what they want- that's what drives your story. You can plot this out with character sheets or just write up a character summary like I do with their personalities, want, need, and lie they believe. Jot down a list of names so you don't get stuck when new characters appear.

Next brainstorm your world. Are you writing contemporary, fantasy, dystopian, etc? Is there magic? What does your world look like? What amenities & technology are there? There's a worldbuilding worksheet you can fill out to help you.

\*Author Brittany Wang has a Series Bible you can access by signing up for her newsletter and will take you on a deep dive of your book. Other authors have these resources as well.

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## Writing 50k Words in 30 Days:

Set your daily word count goal. For me, I don't tend to write on the weekends, so instead of 1,667 words a day, my goal was 2,273 words a day. Don't let this number intimidate you or drag you down. **YOU CAN WRITE 50K WORDS** if you make it a priority. Set aside a time each day to make it a routine. I chose before work & during lunch.

### TIPS:

- DON'T worry about where you start
- DON'T go back & edit
- DO go in with a plan (at least the plot points & MC)
- DO use placeholders with ( ) or \* so you can ctrl F (find) them in your doc later & change

- DO write where the story is going next when you're done for the day so the next day is easier to pick up where you left off
- DO join word sprints if that helps you (there are tons on Twitter & @NaNoWordSprints)
- DO use the 5 senses to up your immersive descriptions & word count
- DO move onto the next scene if you get stuck, jot down what needs to happen & move on
- DO use writing prompts when you get stuck. Browse Pinterest. Ask 'what if...?'
- DO keep writing so you don't lose momentum & forget your story
- It's okay to info dump and tell yourself the story in this draft. It means revisions will be harder, but do what you need to do
- DO write dialogue to get across your character's personalities & info, this helps with pacing too
- DO up the stakes & tension when you're stuck, or when the story seems slow & drab
- If you're pantsing, keep a notebook of what you're writing & what needs to come so you don't have plot holes
- DO write what you know. Usually you want to push your boundaries, but it's easier to write something you know or something that has happened to you
- DO make the time to write, even 100 words a day, so you don't get too far behind

**THAT'S IT! Simple enough right? I believe in you!**

**Feel free to reach out with any questions you have or if you need brainstorming help!**