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Remember that all authors have been exactly where you are right now. A system that guides you from your idea through your outline and all the way up to your final, polished, publication-ready draft. Anyone who says learning how to write a book is easy has never actually tried. If they did, they'd know writing a book takes a lot more than a helpful piece of grammar software. But for the time being it can help to have a "working title" (a temporary title that you may change before publication). Just reach out to anyone you know who would be willing to support your first book launch and ask for their help. Step 6: Come Up With Your Book Idea Before you can start typing, you need to have a topic For example, you can get in big trouble if you try to pay for reviews, swap reviews, who don't. Step 3: Schedule Your Book Writing Time Here are 3 things you can do to create your own customized book writing plan. The only way to deal with it is to beat it. Always remember: Done is better than perfect. Go for a walk. The take-home lesson? Small, consistent actions toward writing your book are how it comes to life. And right on cue, something is going to try to derail your progress already: your writing excuses. If you can commit to an hour a day, you should be able to reach that goal. Writing a book is hard without the right help. Because of all the advanced features, it has a steeper learning curve than other word processors go. Limit your prep work to a reasonable timeframe so it won't stop you from writing. You may not realize it, but you have a story worth telling. It might take writing a blog post to begin a journey that has you self-published in less than a year. That's why I'm sharing some of the best strategies and tricks other bestselling authors paid thousands of dollars to get — yours FREE in this training —. Phase 5: Launch Your Book Successfully By this point, your book is completed—congratulations! You've done something that most people will never do. Step 18: Get A Good Cover We all know you shouldn't judge a book by its cover. Every successful writer—from William Shakespeare to Walt Whitman to Stephen King—began by staring at a blank page. Just let the ideas flow. This way you'll have a lot of options—giving you the freedom to choose the best possible book topic. Assess what's going on in your life in the next 30 days, then block out when you can't. Don't worry about being perfect. The reader's experience is what you should care most about. The title is in the upper third of the book in large print, so you can read it even in a thumbnail. Do they share a similar layout? You decided to write a book. The only thing left to do... is to actually sit down and write it! There's not necessarily a right or wrong way to write your book. For example, maybe another person in your niche agrees to promote your new book to their email list—but in exchange, they want a percentage of your profit. Self-Publishing School recommends writing until you hit a daily word count of 500-1,000 words, but this ultimately depends on how many words are in your book. Realize You Don't Need to Be Perfect The thought of writing a book causes many people to think, "I'm not a good enough writer. Most of the time, writer's block is a symptom of a paralyzing fear of others' opinions. Fortunately, there are countless book ideas that could turn into bestselling books. To learn from a mentor who can help you achieve your dream of writing and publishing your very first book. For example, if you were writing a romance novel, you would want to study these covers: Find out what the most successful books in your genre look like, then imitate that look—but change it up just enough so that it stands out and grabs your readers' attention. I can't tell you how many books I read, lectures I attended, where I didn't put my attention into it. The ultimate outcome is that you can create your book draft as quickly as possible, with no actual "writing" on your part. Either way, the result is the same: when you're done grouping your ideas, those categories will form the outline for your book—each category is a new chapter. Inside the template are more detailed instructions for how to use an outline, and how to go from "no book idea" or "too many book ideas" to the "perfect first book idea" using a mind map. Trust me, you want the right book writing sessions, you will have completed a 30,000-word draft. There is a common myth that a dedicated writing space can make the task robotic or take the "art" out of crafting your work. Of course, these are only 3 options—there are many more great writing tools out there. Step 10: Write One Chapter at a Time You now have a chapter-by-chapter outline for your book. You want everything to be just right before you continue on ahead. Scrivener If you like advanced features, definitely check out Scrivener. Ask yourself questions about the reader: What would my reader be most interested in?What do they like to learn about the most?Their biggest question they are asking?When you start to think this way, it becomes much easier to write your book in a way that provides immense value for the people who matter most—your readers. I get it. 60 words x 5 minutes = 300 words. Well, that's the real secret to my success as an author. Having someone on your side that understands your writing style and the purpose of your daily word count: Flex your writing style and the purpose of your book is essential. Before you put pen to paper, you need to know your book is essential. muscles each day. (Psst... If you missed your chance to grab your outline earlier in this post, here you go again. If you've been following along, this is an exciting part of the process...unfortunately, it's also the part where many people get overwhelmed and give up. But in reality, people do exactly that—all the time. But in reality, you've just stopped all your forward progress. If you want to finish your book, you need a roadmap. Create your writing routine and stick to it. If you get stuck on a particular section instead. Planning and research can be necessary—or a method of procrastination. In order to clearly communicate what your book is about to your ideal readers, you need it to fit in with their expectations—while also standing out enough to grab their attention. Additionally, the best editors remove unnecessary sentences in order to leave the reader feeling they understand what they should and get a clear line into the writer's mind. Because these are the topics that you're going to do a great job writing about! Notice that I highlighted the question, "What do you get paid for? This is the only way to ensure that your page break will work even after people resize your book on their Kindle.Step 17: Come Up With A Title The most important words of your book are the ones that appear on the outside cover: Your book with their help, and work on continually building your launch team every chance you get. You just repeat those steps on a smaller scale for each chapter. But doing this can cause you to really miss out—especially if there's another program out there that would work much better for you. One of the easiest ways to start, is with an outline. Besides, you don't need to be a literary connoisseur to write a great book. This is a little harder to define, but it might be something that strikes a chord with you. They throw their book up on Amazon without really having a plan, and as a result, they get very few sales, make almost no money, and are frustrated at the lack of response to their work. But shedding these excuses should help get you into a positive frame of mind for the writing process. Click here to learn more about the Book Map and download a free PDF template. When there's nothing standing in your way, it's sadly typical to start letting excuses for not writing environment is going to be personal to you. Let's save you a ton of time, and many headaches, and dive into how to write a book. Excuse 5 - Your first draft must be flawless. Then let's get started! Phase 1: Think Like a Writer Before you sit down and type a single word, it will pay off if you take some time to address a few attitude questions and adopt the right mindset. (10 minutes.) Write or speak the chapter by following the outline you just created. And in many genres of fiction and nonfiction, readers have come to expect a certain type of book cover. If you do not have the design ability to effectively do that, then consider hiring a professional cover designer from various places like 99designs or 100Covers. We help you save time, money, and headaches through the book, writing, marketing, and publishing process by giving you the proven, step-by-step process and accountability to publish successfully. Of course not! You need the right tools for the job. They're a credibility sign that lots of people have read your book and loved it—and that makes other people more likely to want to read it, too. If your evenings are free, but your brain is mush and you're only good for sinking deep into the couch cushions, then choose a different time or rearrange your schedule so you aren't so burnt out in the evenings. While it doesn't boast as many features as Word or Scrivener, it's the hands-down most convenient program out there for sharing and collaboration. These are some common reasons you procrastinate when writing a book: You're not sure how to get startedIt's terrifying to spill your guts to the world in a bookYou feel insecure about your writing and have writer's block before you've even startedAfraid of getting negative book reviews when you do eventually publishWorried that even if you do write your book, nobody will buy it and you'll end up with low book sales for lifeYou're not sure how to take your idea and turn it into an actual bookTake a deep breath (but no more coffee, you've had enough). If you use a laptop, put pen to pad. Yes, it's true that those are great topics to explore
when coming up with your book topic. Step 12: Avoid Writer's Block Writer's block can rear its ugly head in many ways. Instead, a writer's job is to explore topics from their own point of view. Step 15: Hire A Good Editor to Edit Your Book Finding an editor is important work. Sometimes a quick conversation with yourself is enough to work through writer's block. And I always tell them the same thing: Because I sought out a mentor. When the week is up, organize all your sticky notes into sections and themes. Step 8: Fill Out The Book Map The Book Map The Book Map The Book Map is a free downloadable book outlining template you can use to quickly gather all the important information you'll need for your book — fiction or nonfiction. But knowing how to write a book title can be tricky. This is an opportunity to do market research and come up with fresh ideas. Usually, when this sort of thing happens, it becomes very difficult to do any more writing in, having written and published 6 bestselling books and replicated my process across thousands of students through our Become a Bestseller program. For some, being blocked means no words at all, while for others, it means trying to nail down a functional draft in the midst of a tornado of swirling ideas. You're working from a solid outline, which means you know exactly what to write in every single chapter. Not quite. Here are some tips to use reading to help you write a book while reading less: Only read a chapter or two at nightRead in a genre different than your own (this helps avoid being influenced too heavily by another book)Be intentional about what you readHave designated reading time that doesn't interfere with writing timeStop reading for a while if you have very little spare timeExcuse 4 - You're "not an expert." A lot of people get tripped up on this. Every day, we help would-be authors go from "idea" to "published" to "many books published". When you build a launch team, you need to make 2 things clear for everyone: What are they agreeing to do for you? What are they getting in return? Part 1 is pretty simple: You want them to read your book, leave a review, and share it with their own friends and family. Step 21: Get Help From a Mentor Who's Done It Before I'd like to leave you with one final message: The best way to learn how to write a bestselling book is to get help from somebody who's been there before. And if you don't have an hour, try 30 minutes. As Facebook COO Sheryl Sandberg said, "Done is better than perfect." If it works for a multi-billion-dollar company, it should work for your first self-published book. Successful writers know, before your write a single word simply writing and getting words to flow isn't the hard part. It takes help from someone who's done it before. Google Docs You can think of Google Docs You can think of Google Docs as sort of a "Word Lite" program that you can access online, for free. [Pssst! Want to see some of our students' published books? It was created specifically for authors, and it contains all sorts of tools that are really helpful for those that write fiction or nonfiction. Then, organize these themes into the patterns that would make sense in the context of chapters of your book. Instead, use the "Page break" function. Here are a few tips to help you choose the best starting project: Which one can you finish the fastest? When you're brainstorming ideas, don't censor yourself. Or call a friend and bounce some ideas off them if you're truly stuck. Remember that what you're writing doesn't need to be perfect—you're writing about up-front. (Don't hit "tab" at the beginning of a new paragraph; instead, change the paragraph settings to automatically give each paragraph the indentation you want.) Only use one space after a period. And instead of continuing, you go back and start editing those first few pages of writing. In your mind, you're just fixing up your work. Cool, huh? Because you still need to launch your book in a way that sets it up for success; in a way that maximizes your readers, your income, and your influence. But I have some good news: Writing a book takes less time than you think. To lend their unique spin on them. Set a deadline for writing your book Setting an end date forces you to stay on schedule and keeps the forward momentum going. Alternatively, you can grab some time on your lunch break, or sneak small blocks of time into your workday, such as when you're transitioning between activities or waiting! Would you try to construct a piece of furniture without a hammer, nails, or wood? With just a little bit of time and a lot of determination, you are on your way to officially calling yourself an author. (Again, connect related ideas with a line.) The BookMap gives you the benefits of writing in free form and creating structure from all the connections you make. The ultimate outcome of using this method is deeper thinking, clarity, and concise organization of thoughts and patterns. It's common for new writers to set unrealistic time goals, which in turn generates stress when it's impossible to meet those arbitrary deadlines. I need to do _____ before I start writing." Well, I'm here to tell you that you don't need: A creative writing class. A writing mentor or coach (though it does help). Read thousands of good books. All you need is one thing: a system for finishing your book. Read their book for 10 minutes and then start typing, holding their voice in your head. Step 13: Don't Edit While You Write Tell me if this sounds familiar: You sit down to write and you bang out a page or two. Take the time to complete these steps and you'll be setting yourself—and your new book—up for success. From there, answer the questions and add as many related ideas as you can think of. That way, if you're tempted to flake out and put off a writing session, that looming deadline can help keep you going. On the other hand, don't feel bad if your topic sounds too commonplace either. Usually, this is the topic where you have the most experience. Think about how you want to format your book before you write it, and then be consistent. There's no hard and fast rule for how to do this; just combine your ideas in the way that makes the most sense to you. Or, you could simply use different-colored highlighters to categorize your ideas with different colors. If you try to write in an environment that's too loud, too busy, or too cluttered, and you'll find yourself getting frequently distracted. You can even sub-niche down several times: "History > Ancient Civilizations > Mesopotamia." Now pay attention to the titles and look for common themes or trends to use for your own book. Excuse 1 - You don't know what to write. Realize that a writer's job isn't to come up with never-before-seen ideas. Your writing style and voice is your own. In a nutshell, your launch team is a small team of people who are supporting your book. Because writing and editing use different parts of your brains—and when you allow yourself to slip into a more critical/judgmental frame of mind, it becomes almost impossible to start creating again. A lot of people seem to forget that there is usually at least one topic on which they are a bona fide expert—and that's their job! It might not seem that exciting or special to you, because you're so used to it, but to someone else who's trying to learn what you already know...your job-related knowledge can seem very valuable indeed. If any of the common challenges or obstacles we've mentioned rear their ugly head, you'll know how to deal with them. A book-writing system that was almost guaranteed to work, as long as I followed it properly. Remember that you're just starting, so you can always change the title later. They also have subtitles that clarify exactly what the book is about. Well, if the average person speaks at about 150 words/minute, then you can easily speak your entire book in approximately 2-3 hours. Luckily, I've got some tips to help you overcome the most common book writing problems. Maybe you have a perfect idea (so you think, but we'll get to that), have always wanted to write one, and just aren't sure where the heck to get started! The process of writing and publishing a book successfully is so much more than just writing and pushing a button to publish on Amazon. This method may be helpful if you're struggling with the notion of committing to writing a whole book since it lets you break down the process into manageable pieces. You can check out our word and page count calculator here to determine the target word count for your industry in order to work backward to plan your writing schedule! Consistency is key. An amateur astronomer wouldn't seem like an expert to Stephen Hawking...but to 99% of the rest of the world, they would be an expert. It requires practice to hone over time. But now you're ready to start writing a book—and we're going to help make sure you do. What book? Look at Omer Redden, a Self-Publishing School student. Don't start editing your book until AFTER you've already created the entire first draft. You can even utilize lists of writing prompts found here to get your mind moving in the right direction. People often ask me how I was able to make so much money and sell so many copies of my very first book. Thirty minutes (or even 5 minutes) spent writing is better than nothing, so resolve to make it happen and find the time. As long as there's a knowledge gap between you and the reader—and as long as you're helping to fill that gap by teaching them the things are more irritating than having to go back through your entire book to fix the formatting. What's your expertise?What are people coming to you for advice on?What's a topic you know a lot about or can't stop talking about?These are all great ways to come up with bestselling book ideas. There definitely is an art to it, consider the post linked above to find the process we recommend you use. Phase 3: Actually Write
Your Book OK, we've got the preliminary stuff out of the way—time to sit down and actually write this thing! Contrary to popular belief, writing books doesn't have to be this huge task. Many people are too self-centered when they write this thing! Contrary to popular belief, writing books doesn't have to be this huge task. Many people are too self-centered when they write this thing! Contrary to popular belief, writing books doesn't have to be this huge task. exercise, helps refresh and recharge your creative juices. Read another author who has a style you like. As with anything we learn, writing is a skill. For a nonfiction book, your title should... Be appropriate to your genre Pique the reader's interestTake its inspiration from your charactersIt always helps to do a little research on Amazon. Realize that there is no such thing as a crazy idea. But you can overcome it. Here are the most important things you need to do when writing your book. (Using 2 spaces was necessary with typewriters, but not with computers.) If you want to create a page break, do not hit "Enter" repeatedly until you reach the next page. If you do decide to go with Scrivener, it's the professional writer tool I personally use and suggest. It sounds obvious, but writing habits lead to good writing. A draft will have mistakes and that's okay—that's what the self-editing process is for. But it hasn't been written from your unique perspective. So don't ever let yourself—doing so is a surefire way to stop your creativity in its tracks. You may be wondering: How do you choose a deadline when you have no idea how long the book-writing process will take? I haven't even come up with a book idea yet!" But now you're ready to start writing a book—and we're going to help make sure you do. Then you stop and reread what you just wrote. Or, book a call with our team and learn how we can get some of these things done for you, including book covers, formatting, keywords and categories, and more. Well, the same principle applies when writing a book. Try some new music, a new location, or new beverage to sip at your desk. If you find you start writing slowly and warm up as time goes on, allow adequate time during your writing sessions to get the creative juices flowing. Review what you wrote yesterday to refresh your memory. Talk it out. Want to learn more about Self-Publishing School? Avoid this and stay realistic, since developing a writing habit is most important at this stage in learning how to write a book. True, some authors would become even more focused and productive if they cleaned up their writing space to make it easier to focus on their writing. You're in illustrious company! Ready to learn how to write your first book and go from blank page to published author in just 90 days? Step 19: Build a Launch Team Once you've chosen whether to go with self-publishing versus traditional publishing, the real key to a successful book launch is building and leveraging a launch team. They're simple, bold covers that stand out. Remember most likely you'll want to approach this as a writing career rather than a single book you put out. It's a good idea to choose an editor for your book (before you finish your first draft) and schedule when you'll have the completed first draft of the manuscript in that person's hands. Several people, including myself, create tests in order to hire the right editor. If you're wanting to become a New York Times bestselling author but don't want to consider the best tools, you may be doing yourself a disservice. Of course, your spoken & transcribed book will need some polishing and revision to get it publication-ready. So consider giving yourself a deadline for your book. Speed Up Your Writing Writing faster means getting to publication—and to profits—that much sooner. But it's still the fastest way of writing a book I've ever come across. It'll save you a lot of time in the long run. He was working full-time at one job, had another part-time job, raising 3 kids, and moving across states—busier than most people—yet he found the time to write his book Give and Grow Rich: Change Your Mind, Change Your Money in 3 months. For example, it would make a terrible cover for a romance novel! Why? Sometimes it just takes looking back at the bigger picture to remind you where you're writing; sometimes a simple shift can boost creativity. You'll amaze yourself at how an hour per day adds up to something productive! Excuse 3 - Good writers spend all their free time reading. Think you need to read all day long to be a writer? Take it from me—it's worth your time to complete these steps. To do that, just head here and select your book genre on the left-hand side of the page. Then you can take a look at some of the best-selling titles in your genre. Because fixing your formatting really is that much of a pain in the butt. Don't censor yourself. So let go of the idea that you're not good enough and work to improve by reading expert writing tips and practicing daily. In a nutshell, you're trying to find topics that you're knowledgeable or passionate about a topic, then you are 100% qualified to write a book about it. Getting your mind ready is one of the first steps to producing valuable work, whether than publishing an ebook, the next great American novel, or a passion project. It's worthwhile to spend a little time addressing some common excuses many of us make to prevent us from writing. Color scheme? You can literally write a book about anything, so go with what you know. The ultimate goal is your rear end in the writing seat for that allocated period of time each day. If you want a really easy book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you! 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Enjoy a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use, we've got one for you is a made-for-you book outline template to use a Word might be the program for you. That's why, even though editing is an important skill, you need to resist the urge to edit your work while you're still writing. Even when you have a solid plan, a proven system, and a detailed outline, you can still get tripped up by some of these sneaky book-writing roadblocks. I sought out the help I needed to give my very first book a major head-start. Unfortunately, no. You can then elaborate on areas where you notice missing pieces to the puzzle, and use all of the material you've gathered and organized to create an outline. But during this process, you'll need to switch from a self-centered perspective to a reader-centered perspective. Essentially you're not asking them to only purchase and read your book, you want the reader's attention. If you've ever tried to write a book, you know how it goes... You stare at a blank page for 5 minutes, but it feels like hours. Anything can make a great book topic. This is another reason why it pays to head over to the Amazon bestselling books list and study some of the most successful books in your genre. Check out the SPS Library here!] Step 1: Find Your "Why" for Writing a Book Before you open your laptop and start daydreaming about which photographer should take your best-selling author headshot, or about getting interviewed on Oprah, you need to answer one question: What's your reason for writing a book? One way to do this is to rewrite each idea on a fresh piece of paper, this time grouped together in related topics. Even 5 minutes 3 times a day can be a source of massive writing productivity. Use a timer if it helps you stay on track. The more you work, the more efficient you'll get. And take the time to figure out how to format your book for publication. And in my experience, there's one writing method that works better than any other. That might seem obvious, but it can still be a stumbling block if you don't know what to write about. There are countless options out there, but most people end up using one of the "big 3" word processors: Microsoft WordScrivenerGoogle DocsWe'll cover all of them for you below. Making something good is what second drafts and the editing process is for. This is a good thing to keep in mind because the faster you can finish your book, the faster you can get it out in the world where it can earn you money and help people. It's the most widely used word
processor in the world, which means it's highly reliable and consistent. We all work well in different settings, so with that in mind, consider these general guidelines to boost your productivity: How to Start Writing TipExecution Minimize Distractions- isolate yourself from family/friends/even the family dog - remind everyone it's YOUR time - Turn your phone off - Close ALL web browsers - Close your email Get Comfortable- invest in a GOOD chair - or resort to using a stand-up desk for more energy - fill the area with motivational quotes - make sure you're physically comfortable for the next 30 minutes or an hour Choose Beneficial Background Noise- turn off all sounds if it distracts you - turn on lyric-less music to help you concentrate - choose energizing music to help you focus (To get the sound of a cafe from the comfort of home, check out Coffitivity.) You might need to experiment to find the writing environment that allows you to focus and write freely. You spend the next hour trying to make those pages PERFECT...and when perfect doesn't happen, you get frustrated and stop writing. But you can't simply publish your book and expect people to find it. Usually, these are the topics you are more passionate about. Here's how to write a book step by step: Ready to get started as a serious writer right now? It's okay if that's 15 minutes per day. Once your chapter outline is complete, the next steps are: Speak your first draft aloud into a recording app or device such as Voice Memos or Audacity. Get that audio file transcription and revise/polish it up. As I mentioned, one of the benefits of this method is its speed. Today, we're all busy. And the best way to discover your own natural writing voice is by sitting down and writing (not reading what others have written). They could be friends, family, associates, online affiliates—anyone. Step 20: Get Ongoing Reviews If there's one thing we know about the Amazon algorithm, it's this: It loves reviews. It also provides a lot of formatting options and even has a navigation pane you can use to easily find the chapter you're looking for. Even if you're writing about an age-old topic—like a weight-loss book or a romance novel—that's OK! The truth is that there are no "new" ideas. And a good book cover does 2 things: It grabs people's attention. It instantly tells people what the book is about. Here are a few examples from some of my own books: Notice a couple of things. One month is a good benchmark to start with. I recommend brainstorming a long list of book ideas. Your WHY will be unique to you. Really, really important. If you're not sure how many words you should be aiming for, fill out the calculator below so you're shooting for the right word count for your audience and genre based on industry standards. They just use whatever word processor they're most familiar with. For example, did you realize that fiction and more successful than others. Font style? Plus, how long does writing a book take in the first place? It lacks the more sophisticated features of Word and Scrivener. Everything has been written about before. Now, this style of cover works great for my niche, but it won't necessarily work for every type of book. Unfortunately, most people who succeed in writing a book never get this whole "launch" thing figured out. It makes everything easier, later). All while allowing you to maintain control of your book-and its royalties. Learn to publish a book to grow your impact, income, or business! YES! I WANT TO START TODAY! And... a week later someone asks how your book is coming, and you think, "Book? If that schedule doesn't work, then commit to a time period and a daily word count that does. One of the biggest indicators of success with self-publishing is getting Amazon reviews. This may be true for some, but I'd say arrive at that conclusion after first mastering the basics of successfully publishing a few books. The average person can type 60 words a minute. First of all, it's orange—which helps it to stand out and grab attention. For your first book, I highly recommend choosing a topic that you're really passionate about to help make you happy? And it's easy to share your work with others and collaborate by leaving comments in the margins: The big downside to Google Docs? So what is a launch team? A daily word count goal can help get your draft completed. If that's the case, then go for it! Remember, writing should make youNow with these tips in mind, choose the topic for your very first book before proceeding to the next step. I can't write about that." The truth is that the whole concept of "expert" is very subjective. Start your BookMap by writing your intended topic in the center. When you do, your book will start to show up at the top of Amazon results: Reviews are a fantastic form of social proof. Using the Self-Publishing School process, he's gone on to write 5 books, and his wife and kids are publishing books now too! If Omer could make it happen, then writing your book is certainly an attainable dream. Step 7: Figure Out Which Book You Should Write First By now you should have a long list of book topics. Once you've honed in on your WHY, let that purpose help focus your writing. It's so much more about being organized with the same structure and writing voice for the particular story they need to tell. (This is called affiliate marketing, and it's a great way to grow your audience and your revenue while letting somebody else do the marketing for you.) But don't worry about that for now. However, feeling important isn't the same as your purpose—your WHY. Here's how you can figure out what to write about: Look at a list of writing prompts or story ideas and choose an ideaWrite a list of all the things you're most passionate aboutImagine which idea you'd be most proud to have your name on Choose the idea you know the most about and are the most about Once you have an idea narrowed down, you can go ahead and start your mind map and outline. Unfortunately, most people don't really put much thought into which program they use to write their book. But if you'd win the gold medal in the Olympic sport of snooze-button slapping, then choose a different time or make sure you get to bed earlier so you're fresh in the morning. Someone to teach me a proven book-writing process that had been tried and tested. And you might be wondering, which topic should I write about first? Whatever time of day is convenient for you, stick with it so that it becomes a predictable part of your day. And this is a huge reason why so many of our Become a Bestseller students end up starting and finishing their drafts quickly—in 30 days in most cases! These are some popular reasons for authors to write a book: Authority: To build credibility. Money: For financial gain, business success, or to make a living writing. Grow a network: To meet and connect with others in the industry. Passion project: To share an empowering story for the greater good. To have an escape: A mental escape can help you deal with real-world problems. To give others an escape: A mental escape can help you deal with real-world problems. To give others an escape: A mental escape can help you deal with real-world problems. To give others an escape: A mental escape can help you deal with real-world problems. To give others an escape: A mental escape can help you deal with real-world problems. To give others and escape can help you deal with real-world problems. 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Feelings are fleeting, whereas a purpose is a deeper, intrinsic motivator that will keep you burning the midnight oil to power through Chapter 23 when the rush of feelings has long dissipated. Do that 3 times a day and you'll produce close to 1,000 words a day. A draft is a work-in-progress, and the goal is simply to get it on paper. Here are a few questions to ask yourself to come up with a book idea: What are you passionate about?What's your favorite hobby?What do you get paid for? Well, in short, it doesn't look like a romance novel. Think about it. Capture More Notes with The Sticky Note Method You can use this process, chapter by chapter, until your book is completed. Steps 1 & 2 should be familiar by now—they're the same steps you followed to create your overall book outline. Here's how it works: Complete a mini-BookMap for that chapter, brainstorming everything you know about this topic. Take a Reader-Centric Perspective While thinking of your own). Because everything is stored online, you can access your work from anywhere. Remember that part of a cover's job is to tell people what the book is about. So how can you generate more reviews without offering people something in return? Step 11: Speak Your Book This method works well if you're a strong speaker and you prefer speaking to writing. In fact, you may be pleasantly surprised to find as you write that you have more than one story and you're having a tough time narrowing down the content. Instead, you need to dedicate some time to mastering the publishing and marketing processes on Amazon to sell more books. But you have to be careful about how you go about trying to get
Amazon reviews. Second, it's super clear what the book is about. This will help you make the mindset switch from "I can't" to "Let's get this done!" Phase 2 - Set Yourself Up For Success Now it's time to start your prep work. To combat the boredom, you stand, stretch, and brew yet another pot of coffee. You don't need to know everything about your topic. If you follow this simple launch plan, you can rest assured that you're not done yet. Step 9: Turn Your BookMap Into an Outline Once you've completely filled out your BookMap, the next step is to group all the related ideas into categories Get your entire manuscript done, remember to finish writing. I want to write to feel important!" That's an interesting thought, and feeling important may be a byproduct of becoming a self-published author. Without a plan, it's too easy to let your book writing goals get pushed to the background, eventually fading into the soft mist of "someday." Develop a writing habit and plan it out Don't let your book end up in the graveyard of dreams. And when it comes to writing, your most important tool is your choice of book writing software. If you're on your way to becoming a great writer, don't let self-doubt creep in. But there's good news: actually writing a book, whether you're writing a book can be a lot easier than you think—if you have the right system. Check out your free training below before reading the rest of this post! How to Write a Book Despite Procrastination There are plenty of reasons why writing a book, whether you're writing a fiction novel or a nonfiction book, puts most writers directly into procrastination mode. You can learn more about us and our programs here, as well as read some Self-Publishing School reviews from our students. A dedicated writing space allows you to "flip the switch" and get focused on writing. Writing a book is rewarding, but it requires hard work. You can solicit reviews, but they cannot be "incentivized" reviews. If you missed our free outline template earlier in this post, here it is again. Set up weekly meetings to review work and cheer each other on. Phase 4: Avoid Potholes Along The Way If you've been following along with steps 1-3, then you're in the process of writing your book. Essentially, the way it works is you'll create a mind map—sort of a brain dump with a line connecting related ideas together—on your book's topic. Here are 8 methods I've found personally useful when fighting writer's block: Circle back to your BookMap or outline and see if there's useful info that sparks fresh inspiration. However, some get their best work done at coffee shops and love the ambient noise. Step 14: Push Past The "Messy" Middle Now you know not only how to get started writing your book, but how to complete your book project in a mere 90 days! Remember to keep your WHY at the forefront of your mind, and you'll be able to crush any and all obstacles that get in your way. By keeping your purpose at the forefront of your creative process, you'll make the writing process quicker and smoother than you thought possible. Part 2 can vary from person to person: What do your friends & family get in return for helping you? If you want your book to show up in search results and as a "Recommended" book when people are looking at similar products, you need to continue generating ongoing reviews to keep the algorithm happy. Share the end date of your first completed draft with others so you have an extrinsic motivation to keep moving toward that finish line. Here are a few tips on creating standout, marketable titles. There's no such thing as a perfect book or a perfect writer. Without someone who's done it before, you can end up making crucial mistakes. Solidifying the purpose of fueling your book will carry you through this difficult process. If you have a case of perfectionist syndrome, tell yourself it's okay to write something you'll think is terrible. Once you've cleared out the cobwebs and smashed those mental roadblocks, you'll be better prepared for the writing process ahead. What do those covers look like? Bottom line: Find the writing environment that makes you comfortable and go with it. So now you know exactly which topics to write about, and you know which points to cover in every chapter of your book. For example, you can use the corkboard view to organize how you'll write your book using virtual notecards: The biggest downside to Scrivener? Before you start putting any words onto the page, you need to focus on a few important preparations. In many cases, they get things like: A free copy of your bookTheir name mentioned in the "Acknowledgements" part of your bookTheir name mentioned in the get things like: A free copy of your bookTheir name mentioned in the "Acknowledgements" part of your bookThei inspiringThe personal satisfaction of helping to create something meaningfulAs your launch team grows bigger, you might need to offer more than that. (Heads up - You can grab a free outline template below. In fact, many prolific writers cut down on their reading—at least temporarily—in order to give themselves enough time to write. Click here to learn my 8-step process for generating more Amazon reviews. The harsh reality is, if you write, at some point you'll be on a first-name basis with a bout of the block. Then in step 3, you have a choice: you can type out your chapter on a computer, or you can use a recording device & transcription service to dictate your chapter. Why? And that's why, if you want your book to sell, having a powerful book cover design is important. This is the only way to make sure that your book makes its way into the hands of the people who will benefit from reading your words. Think again. Nonfiction writers tend to format their paragraphs, like this: Whereas fiction books, like The Savior's Champion by Jenna Moreci below, use indentation instead: Here are a few more book formatting tips: Avoid using hard indents. I cover more about how to use this tool in Step 9 of this post - but go ahead and grab your outline guide now. Disclosure: Some of the links above may contain affiliate partnerships, meaning, at no additional cost to you, Self-Publishing School may earn a commission if you click through to make a purchase. (10 minutes.) Organize your ideas and turn that BookMap into an outline. Well, I've discovered a few tips that work incredibly well. (And the faster you can get started on your second book!) Which one are you most likely to finish? What's your expertise?" That's because this is a particularly useful question for coming up with book ideas. At first, your launch team might be limited to your immediate friends & family. Step 4: Create Your Writing Space The physical space where you write your book is important. When I say "self-centered," I mean that they're thinking only of themselves: their interests, their hobbies, their passions. This is how you spread the word about a brand-new book when you don't have an email list or a social media following. You've written a book. It's not enough to have an inspiring book idea. It's true that self-publishing your book on Amazon is a great way to go. Choose the time of day you plan to write You might decide to get up early and write before the obligations of your day crowd out your writing time. The easiest way to start writing your first book is to choose a topic you're comfortable with. Ok, you're thinking—"Don't worry, I know why I want to write a book. Maybe there's a certain book topic that stands out for one reason or another. They will make the rest of your bookwriting experience much, much easier, and more satisfying. For about a week, carry around sticky notes and write down anything and everything that crosses your mind regarding your possible book topics. My Final Tip on How to Write a Book And now I'm sharing the opportunity to learn from someone who's mastered writing and self-publishing books with you. Doing that is pretty much impossible in this day and age. Even experienced professional writers who finished a book that ended up covered in the red pen of an editor or numerous red changes in a document, just like the one pictured below. In order to realize your end goal, you need actionable steps to follow. Step 2: Stop the Excuses for Not Writing the Book You've figured out your WHY and articulated your unique purpose for writing a book.
It requires emotional labor, long nights (or early mornings), extended weekends, and facing a constant self-critical process that is unlike anything you've experienced before. Both covers were designed using the same basic principles. Find an hour a day you devote to something mindless—social media, video games, internet, or TV—and start writing instead. When you are ready to edit your book, check out this advice from writing coach and editor Tiffany Hawk. Don't worry, I show you how to mind map your book also - inside the Book Outline Template instructions.) Excuse 2 - You don't have enough time. Just how fast can you write a first draft using speech dictation? I won't lie. This will establish a writing habit. However, that's just my opinion. This is one of the most frequently overlooked steps in becoming a published author, which is a big reason why so many people fail to finish their books.