

The Importance of Following-Through for Optimal Success as a Writer

by Irene Roth



One of the most difficult things that writers must do is to following through. To follow-through is to take stock of your writing goals and to assess your progress on those goals each week. This process need not take a long time. It could take as few as five or ten minutes. But the process is important because it can really help you feel better and more self-confident of your writing career. And this feeling of self-confidence can help you to feel better about your overall writing career and goals.

So, the process of following through consists of these steps:

1. Assess your progress on current writing projects

This requires that you have a sense of what you have to achieve. Look at your long and short-term goals and determine which ones you have completed. Then write them down and check them off on a sheet paper. Make sure these goals are well in sight when you are writing so that you could feel that you are accomplishing your goals.

2. Reassess your long term writing goals

Every month or two, it is important to reassess your long-term goals. Did you set out to do too much? Are you progressing okay? Will you complete your goals in the time you thought you would? If not, change your target completion date.

3. Determine your progress every step of the way

At the end of the week, take a few minutes to evaluate your progress in your writing journal. This will help you to come to terms with where you are with your writing goals. This will help you tremendously with completing your short-term goals that lead to those big long-term goals and results.



4. Determine whether or not your goals are realistic

This is probably one of the most important things that you can do as a writer to be successful. Many times we set goals which are completely unrealistic. This can be very problematic for our success and overall productivity. If you find that you are not completing your writing goals every week, or you are completing your goals on Wednesday, it is time to create a new goal.

5. Keep taking stock of your long-range goals



Every quarter, sit down and determine how your goals are progressing. Are you completing your goals? Will you complete your long-range goals at the targeted time that you set? If you didn't, it is time to look at some of your writing habits and see if you can make a few small changes so that you could be more successful next quarter.

6. Do a micro and macro analysis of your writing goals on a weekly basis

A micro analysis of your goals is a short-term analysis. This will tell you how you are doing in the short-term.

A macro analysis of your writing goals is a long-term analysis of your goals.

By performing both kinds of analysis, you'll be able to clearly determine how you are doing on your writing goals and change things that are not working and keep things that are working.

By doing this kind of self-assessment, you will know how you are doing with your writing projects. But more than that, if you are not doing well, you'll be able to change your goals and make sure that you are successful in the short and long term.

Irene S. Roth writes for teens, tweens, and kids about self-empowerment. She is the author of over twenty books and over five hundred online articles. She also has four hundred and sixty published book reviews both online and in print. For more writing tips, please visit her website at irenesroth.wordpress.com/. In addition, she published book about how writers can follow through. Please double click on this link for more information. smashwords.com/books/view/498045

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