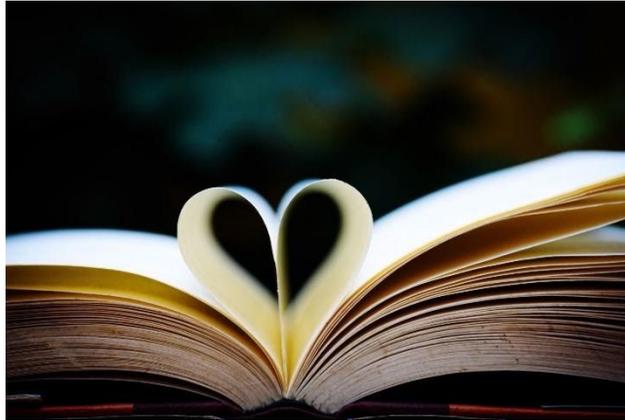


What to Know About Getting Published



Writer’s Guidelines/Submission Guidelines: Every publication and every agent, editor, and publisher has rules you must follow, or your submission will be tossed before anyone reads it. To find out what the rules are (and they are different for every publication, agent, editor, and publisher), Google the publication and do a search for “writer’s guidelines” or “submission guidelines.” Then follow those directions exactly.

Formatting: The generally accepted format for submission of written work is to type in black, 12 point, **Times New Roman** or **Arial** font. Now is not the time to get fancy or creative. You are creative, but publishing is a profit-driven business. Type your full name your contact information (phone and email address), [genre of your work](#) (be specific), and the number of words (use MS Word to type and use the word count feature for this) at the top left or right corner. Space one-third of the way down the first page and center your title. The title should be written in all capital letters. Then type your text, lining up the left margin (don’t center the entire text unless it’s a poem). Each new page should have your last name and the page number typed at the top left corner. Double-space your text.

When in doubt on formatting: Google [Writer’s Digest](#). You can also purchase copies of *Writer’s Digest* magazines at most bookstores to get ideas about writing. *Writer’s Digest* is the industry gold standard.

Never plagiarize: Make sure your work doesn't borrow phrases, lines, etc. from someone else. You will run into copyright issues that can get you or your parents sued. At the least, it will destroy your credibility with publishers.

Cover letter and resume: You need to include a formal cover letter and resume when submitting your work for publication. Use Microsoft Word's business letter template to help you format your cover letter, which we call a "query letter." Stay away from templates that are fancy or full of color. For tips on writing the query letter, go back to the [Writer's Digest website](#).

Places to try: These are publications members of the Northern-Central California region of the [Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators](#) suggested you try if you are interested in publishing your work.

- [Balloon's literary journal](#)
- [Bazoof](#): writer's age 7-14
- [Blue Marble Review](#): writers ages 13-22, pays writers
- [Butcher Papers](#): writers age 13-21
- [KidSpirit](#): art, fiction, poetry from ages 11-17
- [New Pages](#): Resource for magazines that publish teen and college-aged writers
- [Rattle](#): Poetry from writers 15 or younger when the poem was written and 18 or younger when submitted.
- [Skipping Stones](#): Accepts all ages, including adults, international, multicultural.
- [Teen Ink](#): For teens.
- [The Telling Room](#): Has a section for writers age 6-18 and contests for teenagers.

