

THE BOOK ON

Recommended Writing Apps & Resources

Every writer has a unique process, but the right tools can make your writing journey smoother, more organized, and more productive. Here's a curated list of recommended apps and resources used by both new and seasoned authors—divided by purpose, so you can find what suits you best.

Writing & Drafting Tools

- • Scrivener – Robust manuscript organization tool with corkboard and outline views.
- • Google Docs – Real-time collaboration, easy access across devices.
- • Microsoft Word – Industry standard for formatting and editing.
- • Ulysses – Minimalist interface with powerful export features (Mac only).
- • Dabble – Cloud-based novel-writing software with scene and plot tracking.

Research & Organization

- • Evernote – Note-taking and research organization.
- • Notion – All-in-one workspace for notes, outlines, and collaboration.
- • Milanote – Visual tool for moodboarding and organizing story elements.
- • Zotero – Citation and reference management for research-heavy projects.

Focus & Productivity

- • Pomofocus – Web-based Pomodoro timer for structured writing sprints.
- • Freedom – Blocks distracting websites and apps.
- • Forest – Gamifies focus by growing a virtual tree while you write.
- • Cold Turkey – Hardcore site blocker with scheduling features.

Editing & Grammar

- • Grammarly – Real-time grammar, tone, and style suggestions.
- • ProWritingAid – In-depth writing analytics and reports.
- • Hemingway App – Highlights readability, sentence length, and passive voice.
- • AutoCrit – Editing specifically geared toward fiction writers.

Publishing Prep & Design

- • Canva – Easy-to-use graphic design tool for book covers and social media.
- • Vellum – Beautiful book formatting for print and ebook (Mac only).
- • Reedsy Book Editor – Free online typesetting tool with export features.
- • Atticus – Modern alternative to Vellum, compatible with Windows and Mac.

Marketing & Promotion

- • BookFunnel – Distribute ARCs and reader magnets.
- • Mailchimp – Email list building and newsletters.
- • StoryOrigin – Marketing tools for indie authors.
- • Buffer or Later – Schedule social media posts in advance.

There's no one-size-fits-all toolkit—experiment with a few and see what helps you most. The best tools are the ones you'll actually use. If you find something you love that's not listed here, let us know—we're always updating our recommendations to help authors thrive.

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