

NaNoWriMo: www.nanowrimo.org NaperWriMo: naperwrimo.org

National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo) is an annual event designed to encourage writers to complete their own 50,000+ word novel in just 30 days in November.

Share this card with a friend!

How does this work?

Starting Nov 1st, participants begin writing their 50,000+ word novel. They must finish by Nov. 30th. Winners receive a PDF certificate :-)

Does NaNoWriMo cost anything? The event itself is free, as are the online forums and the local events. Donations to the 501c nonprofit Office of Letters and Light are appreciated.

I have no idea how to get started! There are prep sessions in October; online forums at www.nanowrimo.org allow you to find information; and volunteer Municipal Liaisons can answer your questions. Use the form at www.naperwrimo.org/help.php to send them e-mail.

Why should I do this?

Because you enjoy writing, because you have stories to tell, and because it is fun and lets you meet other writers.

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asleep whenever it tries to write

Good sleep helps keep writers productive; and writing on a schedule will help you complete your writing goals.

Drifting off? Make sure you are getting enough sleep. Try some timed-writing events.



The cradle catbot: don't neglect your novel when it is trying to grow up

There are so many distractions these days. If writing a novel is a priority for you, set aside a block of committed writing time. Close your browser or turn off your internet connection while you are writing.



Editing is a very useful skill; however, in November you should be focusing on writing. Turn off your internal edit-bot.

There is plenty of time for its red pen after you've completed your novel's first draft.



Some people are plotters; others are "pantsers" (those who do not plan ahead but just write). Wherever you fall in the spectrum, you need to avoid spending time wondering which way to go in November. Make your decision and forge ahead!



Don't be a procrastinator like the Wimpy-bot. Keep to your writing schedule. Set aside a block of time for writing and write!

There will be time for respites in December!



Real life has a tendency to popup at the most inconvenient of times. Sometimes it cannot be avoided.

You alone know your priorities. The key is to keep them in order.



Cousin to the edit bot, the inner critic bot brings self-doubt and uncertainty. Don't scream! Turn off your inner critic in November. There will be plenty of time for introspection and judging after NaNoWriMo has completed.



Writing does NOT need to be a lonely activity. There are plenty of local/regional/online events and forums during November (and beyond) to give you plenty of company while you are writing.



The online NaNoWriMo forums are very, very helpful. You can find references, advice, suggestions and much, much more there. Just make sure that your browsing doesn't interfere with your writing!



NaNoWriMo is all about the writing. Sure, yes, it is fun. And you do get to meet and interact with other writers. But if you aren't writing, then your NaNoBot will have to ex-ter-minate you! Exterminate! EXTERMINATE!



