



100 Ways to Improve Your Writing: Proven Professional Techniques for Writing With Style and Power

Gary Provost

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This is the one guide that anyone who writes - whether student, business person, or professional writer - should put on the desk beside pencil, pen, typewriter, or word processor. Filled with professional tips and a wealth of instructive examples, this valuable, easy-to-use handbook can help you solve any and all working problems. Step-by-Step, it will show you how to:

100 Ways to Improve Your Writing: Proven Professional Techniques for Writing Ith Style and Power Details

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From Reader Review 100 Ways to Improve Your Writing: Proven Professional Techniques for Writing Ith Style and Power for online ebook

Priscilla says

If I had to pick only one book on writing, this would be it.

Paula Cruz says

Possivelmente um dos melhores livros de dicas para quem quer escrever bem. Direto, modesto, assertivo. Recomendo muito!

Newton Nitro says

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SINOPSE

Um guia para todos aqueles que escrevem, escrito por Gary Provost

RESENHA

Curtinho e direto, muito recomendado em blogs gringos para escritores. É um daqueles livros que fala o que você já sabe mas de uma maneira diferente, e no caso do Gary, muito engraçada!

TRECHOS

Todo escritor sofre para começar uma sessão de escrita, o difícil é começar (achei bem legal o Gary falar isso, eu achei que era comigo). A dica é usar tempos maiores para a escrita, ou seja, sentou, tente escrever por 1 hora direto.

Escreva, reescreva, reescreva, e corte, corte, corte, deixado o que importa. E releia tudo de novo! :)

“This sentence has five words. Here are five more words. Five-word sentences are fine. But several together become monotonous. Listen to what is happening. The writing is getting boring. The sound of it drones. It’s like a stuck record. The ear demands some variety.

Now listen. I vary the sentence length, and I create music. Music. The writing sings. It has a pleasant rhythm, a lilt, a harmony. I use short sentences. And I use sentences of medium length. And sometimes, when I am certain the reader is rested, I will engage him with a sentence of considerable length, a sentence that burns with energy and builds with all the impetus of a crescendo, the roll of the drums, the crash of the cymbals—sounds that say listen to this, it is important.” – Gary Provost

RECOMENDAÇÃO

Para quem curte escrever!
Para quem queira refrescar a memória com excelentes dicas para escrever.
Quem queira melhorar a escrita!

Andrew says

I've thumbed through this book often over the past few years so I feel confident in saying I've "read it" but just haven't done so cover to cover, in order.

The book provides lots of ideas on improving your writing. All the 100 ways are able to be read in a few minutes at a time. This gives a student the ability to read one or two items and immediately put them to use on whatever they happen to be writing. What's also nice is that the majority of these ideas can be used on any kind of writing; fiction, non-fiction, technical, letters, etc.

One thing I didn't care for was the book tends to push writers in the direction of the Hemingway School of Fiction. Write short sentences, use fewer adjectives, get to the point, etc. This isn't bad advice but it also doesn't work for everyone. Some forms of fiction thrive on description, for example.

Either way, I can certainly recommend this book. Authors who are looking for a bit of guidance (and we all need it sometimes, even the savvy pros) will find lots to enjoy here.

Robin says

Even though Gary Provost wrote *100 Ways to Improve Your Writing* 'way back in 1985, his tips are still relevant today. The tips are short and illustrated with examples, demonstrating good writing while explaining good writing. While the internet outdates such ideas as owning a dictionary and thesaurus; good grammar and spelling, ruthless editing, creating a strong beginning, and using powerful verbs and nouns will always be essential to good writing.

True to the claim on the cover, this book functions as both instant reference and cover-to-cover reading. It considers both writing itself and how to prepare oneself while not writing. Chapters on overcoming writer's block, developing personal style, and saving time and energy alternate with chapters for writers to apply directly at the keyboard. The book has so many ideas that I'm considering replacing my library-loaned volume with copy of my own.

Any writer who aspires to greatness, whether student, hobbyist, or professional, will find pertinent suggestions here.

Christian Jespersen says

I don't know why, but I love books like these.

The Elements of Style was terrific, and if there are more books like these, please do recommend them to me.

Gary Provost has divided the book into eleven different areas, which you can improve your writing.

Everything from style, grammar, punctuation and everything in between.

Sentences like "You must know what job you need done, before you can pick the tools to do it" and "Only teenagers are justified in believing that each and every statement one utters is an exclamation" makes the book a terrific read.

I highlighted a long list of chapters, often no more than a page, with rules I need to re-read more often than I probably will do.

Maya says

When I finally sat down to read the book I finished it in one sitting, that is how easy it was to read. It was full of common sense information that you might think you know but you really don't or at least need to focus on. The book also had some good sections that I will be referring back to from time to time.

Peregrine 12 says

Very useful book - if you use it. Concise, too.

RubieRandoMess says

Simple and very easy to read. It includes basic guidelines to start up your writing plus you can always go back to the rule whenever you need to review and try it again. You can also apply the book by making the 100 ways a habit project when writing.

Jan Šimak says

A very helpful and interesting book that helps you to improve your writing. It doesn't matter if you write books, articles, essays, emails or just to-do notes, this is the book you want.

The author offers many suggestions, advice and insights not only for writing, but also for creativity, writer's block, grammar and more.

However, I'd welcome more elaboration on some issues that the author dealt with. Some of the topics were just too short without any detailed explanation and lacking examples.

On the other hand, the book is short, concise and you can get any information you need in just a few minutes.

Matthew Bunk says

Unbelievable book on the craft of writing.

Yes. Slightly dated; it was written 30+ years ago. And yet, it's still so good.

The first line of the book is, "This book will teach you how to write better ransom notes."

That's gold.

If you're a full time writer, read it.

If you only write emails, read it.

If you don't write anything but have to formulate sentences to order at McDonald's ever once in a while, read it.

Holly Davis says

A quick, concise and yet comprehensive read on how to improve your writing, including tips on self-editing, common grammar mistakes, developing your style, and even overcoming writer's block. Although I knew a lot of what was presented here, it was a great refresher for me and will be an easy book to reference in the future.

Cher Han (Andy) Lau says

The introduction tells everything: "This book will teach you how to write better ransom notes".

This book is small and lightweight but did not miss out any heavyweight content. The English used in the book are beautiful yet easily understandable for an ESL student like myself. All the tips are practical and helpful. However, like the author said, they are tips, advice and not laws, so shouldn't be followed strictly.

You can start using every tips almost instantly, and you feel like you are recharged and your writing has got complete makeover. Although it does not focus on any particular type of writing, I strongly recommend this to any one who is doing some sort of writing, even for experienced writers.

Josh Butler says

Paired together with Stephen King's *On Writing* and Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*, you can't really do a whole lot better when it comes to writing advice. The common sense advice appearing in this book, as well as in the other two books, is fundamental to good writing. But it's all simple. It's all easy to understand, and chances are you've heard a lot of this stuff before via other sources. What makes this book unique is its quick-reference style. You can read a short clip of text, and learn a thing or two about what you should/shouldn't do as a standard--rules, if you understand anything about the world of writing, are made to be bent artistically. Use them as tools, not handcuffs.

Recommended to any aspiring writers, especially guys and gals who either need a refresher or who are completely new to the game. It's a great resource.

Kevin Oliver says

This should be every writer's craft bible. It should be on your desk or next to your computer and constantly revisited. Books by Lamott and King are great for inspiration and reminders, but this will actually help improve your craft. If you are a beginning writer, you need Provost, Zinsser's "On Writing Well," and Clark's "50 Writing Tools." Goldberg has a middle-ground book, part-memoir part-craft, that is also helpful.
