











CUT OUT THESE WORD
BALLOONS AND USE
THEM TO TELL YOUR
STORY!



THE INSTANT COMIC BOOK!
JUST ADD WORDS AND PICTURES!



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ANYONE CAN MAKE COMICS! YES, EVEN YOU!

SO, YOU WANT TO MAKE A COMIC BOOK? IT CAN SEEM LIKE A BIG JOB, AND YOU MIGHT FEEL CONFUSED ABOUT WHERE TO START AND WHAT TO DO. THIS BOOK AND SOME RESOURCES ONLINE OR AT YOUR LIBRARY WILL HELP YOU GET STARTED!

THE 4 PHASES OF MAKING COMICS:

1 WRITE THE STORY

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- A STORY IDEA (IT'S OK IF IT'S ROUGH!)
- PAPER & PENCIL, OR IF YOU ARE WORKING WITH A COMPUTER, SOFTWARE LIKE MICROSOFT WORD OR SCRIVENER

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

WRITE A SCRIPT FOR YOUR COMIC THAT DESCRIBES WHAT HAPPENS AND WHAT PEOPLE SAY IN EACH PANEL OF EACH PAGE. YOU CAN SEARCH FOR SCRIPT FORMATS AND EXAMPLE SCRIPTS ONLINE. IT'S ALSO A GOOD IDEA TO TRY CREATING A STORYBOARD OF YOUR SCRIPT; A REALLY ROUGH COMIC THAT SHOWS THE ACTION FROM PANEL TO PANEL.

2 MAKE THE PICTURES

WHAT YOU'LL NEED:

- ANALOG ART MATERIALS (BRISTOL PAPER, DISPOSABLE TECHNICAL PENS, PENCILS (INCLUDING NON-PHOTO BLUE), BRUSH PEN OR BRUSH AND INK OR COLOUR INK OR PAINTS... THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS)
- DIGITAL ART TOOLS: A COMPUTER, WACOM OR SIMILAR TABLET AND STYLUS, AND SOFTWARE LIKE CLIP STUDIO PRO OR PHOTOSHOP

WHAT YOU'LL MAKE:

EXPERIMENT WITH DIFFERENT ART MATERIALS TO CREATE THE FINISHED PAGES. WORK IN A STYLE THAT SUITS THE STORY BEST.

3 FINISHING TOUCHES

WHAT ARE THEY?

- **LETTERING!** INCLUDING SPECIAL EFFECTS, CAPTIONS, AND DIALOGUE; PLUS THE WORD BALLOONS AND OTHER CONTAINERS. YOU CAN DO IT BY HAND OR USE A COMIC BOOK FONT (LIKE THIS ONE)
- **COLOUR!** IT'S OPTIONAL, BUT PEOPLE DO LOVE IT. TRY TO MAKE DECISIONS ABOUT COLOUR EARLY; DO SAMPLE PANELS AND SCENES AND MAKE ADJUSTMENTS. YOU CAN COLOUR BY HAND OR DIGITALLY.
- **TONES!** THESE ARE ALSO OPTIONAL BUT ALSO VERY POPULAR, ESPECIALLY IN MANGA. THEY ARE PATTERNS OF DOTS OR LINES THAT CAN BE ADDED TO ANALOG ART OR WITH DIGITAL TOOLS.

4 PUBLISH & ENJOY!

DON'T BE SHY!

MAKING COMICS IS A LOT OF WORK! CELEBRATE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENT BY PRINTING SOME COPIES OF THE FINAL PAGES; GIVE IT TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY, SHARE IT WITH LOCAL ART AND WRITING GROUPS, SELL IT ONLINE AND IN COMIC SHOPS.

DON'T WORRY IF YOU THINK IT LOOKS TOO ROUGH! PUBLISH ONLINE AND OFF, GET FEEDBACK FROM READERS, TRADE COMICS WITH OTHER CARTOONISTS, AND USE ALL THAT ENERGY TO MAKE YOUR NEXT (AND EVEN BETTER) COMICS!

YOU CAN DO IT - SO DO IT!! AND GOOD LUCK!

STUCK FOR AN ANGLE? TRY THE GREAT WALLACE WOOD'S "22 PANELS THAT ALWAYS WORK!"



FIND MORE LIKE THIS ABOUT WRITING, COMICS, ILLUSTRATION, PUBLISHING, ANIMATION AND MUCH MORE AT MY TUMBLR OF TIPS:
"HOW TO DRAW COMICS THE MARSHALL WAY"
THEMARSHALLWAY.TUMBLR.COM