

Technical Writing Checklists

A handy guide to ensure your technical documentation is clear, accurate, and effective. This cheat sheet provides checklists for various stages of the writing process, from planning to final review.



Planning & Preparation Checklist

Content Definition	Information Gathering	Template Selection
 Define the target audience (skill level, background). Identify the purpose of the document (inform, instruct, persuade). Determine the scope of the document (what's included/excluded). Outline the key topics and subtopics. Writing Style & Grammar Checklist	 Gather all necessary information from reliable sources. Verify the accuracy of the information. Organize the information logically. 	 Choose a suitable template that aligns with the document's purpose and audience. Ensure the template is accessible and user-friendly. Customize the template as needed to fit the specific content.
Clarity & Conciseness	Grammar & Mechanics	Tone & Voice
 Use clear and concise language. Avoid jargon and technical terms unless necessary and properly defined. Write short, simple sentences. Formatting & Layout Checklist	 Check for grammatical errors (subject-verb agreement, tense consistency). Proofread for spelling and punctuation errors. Ensure consistent use of capitalization and abbreviations. 	 Maintain a professional and objective tone. Use active voice whenever possible. Avoid biased or subjective language.
/isual Hierarchy	Graphics & Visuals	Consistency
 Use headings and subheadings to create a clear visual hierarchy. Employ bullet points and numbered lists to break up text. Use white space effectively to improve readability. 	 Include relevant graphics and visuals to illustrate concepts. Ensure images are high-quality and properly labeled. Provide alternative text for images for accessibility. 	 Maintain consistent formatting throughout the document. Use the same font, size, and style for headings, body text, and captions. Ensure consistent use of terminology and abbreviations.
Review & Finalization Checklist		
echnical Accuracy	Usability & Accessibility	Final Review
 Verify the technical accuracy of all information. Consult with subject matter experts to ensure accuracy. Update the document to reflect any changes or undates. 	 Ensure the document is easy to navigate and understand. Make the document accessible to users with disabilities (e.g., screen readers). 	Proofread the document one last time for any errors. Get feedback from others and incorporate it into the document. Figure the document meets all requirements and

objectives.

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