

# Revise Like a Pro!

There's a lot more to revision than fixing grammar, spelling, and punctuation (though that's important!) Here's what you need to know to revise like a pro..

## Let It Sit

Gaining distance from your writing will allow you to see it with fresh eyes. This makes it easier to identify weaknesses and make major changes. If time is limited, even a few days can help.

## Pacing & Structure

Consider if the plot unfolds logically, with increasing complexity and stakes. Ensure there are no lulls. Look for the right balance of action & quieter moments. Make notes of sections to rearrange, remove, or expand.

## Characters

Introduce characters properly and make sure they are believable, complex, and evolve over the course of the story. Look for ways to develop them further. Remove underdeveloped characters or subplots.

## Prose

Cut unnecessary words. Challenge each word, phrase, and sentence to determine if it is absolutely needed. Look for repetition and redundancies to streamline your language.

## Sentence Structure

Varying sentence length provide rhythm. Rework passages with too many similar structures in a row. Diverse sentence styles keep readers engaged.

## Vivid Details

Help the reader experience the setting, characters, action and emotions through evocative descriptions that engage the senses. Find places where more detail would enhance readers' experiences.

## Continuity & Consistency

Double check that details, setting, timelines and other key story elements remain consistent throughout the manuscript. Resolve contradictions or gaps.

## Strong Themes

Consider what ideas, insights or perspectives you want to convey. Look for places where you can bolster relevant themes through metaphor, imagery or character arcs.