# **Character Development Worksheet**

This worksheet can be used as a flexible guide—you don’t have to answer every question for every character. Adjust as needed for the depth and purpose of the character in your story.

## The Basics

* Name:
* Nickname:
* Age/Birthdate:
* Place of Birth:
* Gender:
* Ethnicity/Cultural Background:
* Current Residence:
* Occupation:
* Education/Training:

## Physical Appearance

* Height:
* Weight/Build:
* Eye Color:
* Hair Color/Style:
* Skin Tone/Complexion:
* Distinguishing Features (scars, tattoos, birthmarks):
* Clothing Style:
* Posture/Gait:
* General Impression (What do others notice first about them?):

## Personality

* Strengths:
* Weaknesses/Flaws:
* Fears:
* How do the flaws/fears negatively impact the character?
* Ambitions/Goals:
* Values/Beliefs:
* Hobbies/Interests:
* Quirks/Tics/Habits:
* Sense of Humor:
* Temperament (calm, excitable, stoic, etc.):
* How do they handle stress or conflict? (cool/calm, explode with anger, panic attack, etc.)

## Language

* What language(s) do they speak?
* Speech patterns/vocabulary (formal, slang, etc.):
* Catchphrases:
* Body language/nonverbal expression:
* Inner thoughts (How do they process the world around them? Important if the inner world is very different from what they show externally):

## Relationships

* Family Members (names/relationship):
* What is their family dynamic like?
* Friends:
* Enemies Rivals:
* Mentors/Role Models/Allies:
* Pets:
* Romantic Interests:
* How do they treat friends vs strangers?
* How are they perceived by others?
* Who do they trust the most? Why?
* Who do they trust the least? Why?
* What relationships shape their personality or decisions?

## Backstory

* Family history:
* Childhood experiences:
* Education/Training:
* Significant Life Events:
* Romantic History:
* Friendships/Key Relationships:
* Biggest Regret:
* Proudest Moment:
* Defining Moment:
* How does their culture or society influence their beliefs and behaviors?

## Psychological Profile

* Biggest Fear:
* Greatest Desire:
* Internal Conflicts:
* External Conflicts:
* Trauma or Emotional Wounds:
* Mental Health:
* Moral Code:
* What would they die for?
* How do they view themselves?
* How do they view the world?
* How do these things connect to their history?

## Story-Specific Information

* Role in the Story (protagonist, antagonist, side character):
* Character Arc (positive change arc, negative change arc, flat arc, redemption arc, disillusionment arc):
* Main Conflict:
  + How does this push them out of their comfort zone?
  + How do their strengths/flaws contribute to these challenges? (Generally seen in how they respond)
  + How will this change them and/or their core strengths and flaws?
* What is the character’s main motivation at the beginning of the book?
  + What other motivation conflicts with this? (love vs duty, revenge vs redemption, power vs friendship, etc.)
  + How do they change throughout the book?
* What they want vs. what they need:
* What’s at stake?
* Do they achieve their goal or fail?
  + If they fail, how does it affect them?
* How do they surprise the reader?