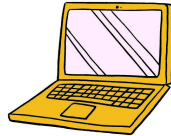


# 101 Useful Tools and Resources for Freelancers

By writer and editor [Jillian Anthony](#)

[Work with me!](#) I offer [career consulting](#) and [other packages](#).



## The 10 tools/resources I use and value the most

1. [Study Hall](#) — Community for freelancers and media workers with a Slack, listserv, weekly opportunities newsletter, and helpful docs to find editors' contacts and pitch opportunities. I've learned so much and gotten a lot of help from this community.
2. **Amber Petty's [newsletter](#)** — I'm a member of her [Pitching Hour](#) monthly subscription and I learn a lot and always feel inspired to write and pitch. Her (free and paid) classes are also excellent, and I often refer to her free doc: [250 places that pay for your writing](#).
3. [Slash](#) — The task app I use every day to keep to-do lists and time myself.
4. [Otter](#) — Transcribe audio. I've used this for years and it's about 80% correct.
5. [Describe](#) — All-in-one editor. I use this to edit my podcast episodes because it's super intuitive for writers; you basically edit audio/video by editing text.
6. [OneTab](#) — Chrome extension to easily save all your tabs
7. [Freelance Pitching Board \(Sheets\)](#) by Anna Goldfarb — I use a customized version of this every day. Make your own copy.
8. [Kaitlyn Arford's freelance opportunities](#) newsletter
9. [Freelance Journalism Jobs](#) newsletter— all pay \$1/word or more
10. [Novo](#) — Business checking account recommendation; they have a newly launched payroll service as well.

## Pitching resources

1. [Wheretopitch.com](#) — Search places to pitch by story category
2. [Freelancing with Tim](#) newsletter— Lots of helpful content about pitching. Check out [7 common freelance mistakes to avoid](#) and [answers to the 8 most common questions about pitching](#).
3. [What makes a good pitch?](#) — from NPR editors
4. [How to pitch your writing](#) by Ann Friedman — The “where to pitch” section is outdated but these tips are timeless!



5. [How to pitch thread on X](#) — From writer Jeanna Kadlec
6. [How to successfully pitch \*The New York Times\* \(or, well, anyone else\)](#) — Niemen Lab guide with good examples of pitches that worked
7. [Freelance article pitches that got accepted](#) — by Diana Kelly Levey
8. [10 secrets to successful pitches](#) — Mediabistro
9. [Database of successful pitches](#) — The Open Notebook
10. [Guide to finding editor contacts](#) — Study Hall
11. [Hunter](#) — Search for email addresses

## Job boards, pitch callouts, and finding work

1. [How to get freelance work when your pipeline runs dry](#) — I wrote this for Contently after a period I had almost zero work for three months.
2. [Places to find freelance work](#) — Job boards from Kaitlyn Arford
3. [Opportunities of the Week](#) newsletter by Sonia Weiser
4. [Freelancing for Journalists](#)
5. [The Writer's Job Newsletter](#)
6. [Journalism Jobs and a Photo of My Dog](#)
7. [West Coast Media Jobs](#)
8. [The five-sentence Letter of Introduction \(LOI\)](#) — by Jennifer Gregory



## Writing

1. [Audio Pen](#) — Uses AI to synthesize audio to concise text
2. [Consensus](#) — Search engine for research
3. [Grammarly](#) — Check your spelling and grammar anywhere you type. Free version works great.
4. [Hemingway App](#) — For bold and clear writing
5. [How to run a successful membership/subscription program](#) — By Craid Mod
6. [Type.ai](#) — Ai-powered document editing



## Interviewing and finding sources

1. A [thread of best interviewing tips on X](#)
2. [HelpAReporter.com](#) — Connecting journalists to experts
3. [Qwoted](#) — Get connected to sources, experts, and PR reps. There's also a [job board](#).
4. [NPR Diverse Sources database](#)

## Finances and getting paid

1. [WhoPaysWriters.com](#) — Crowdsourced list of which publications paid what, and how promptly
2. [Should freelancers form an LLC or S Corp?](#) — I wrote this for Contently; it's got everything I learned from forming an LLC in 2022, then incorporating as an S Corp in 2023.
3. [Tax deduction template](#) — Make your own copy
4. [BrassTaxes.com](#) — Tax help for freelancers and artists
5. [Freelance writing contracts: Tips for protecting yourself and your work](#) — by Mandy Ellis
6. [Financial Gym](#) — Get a 1-on-1 financial advisor for an affordable price. I used FinGym for a few years, and so have no less than five of my friends.
7. [Three pricing guide examples and best practices](#) — Honeybook
8. [How to set your freelance rate](#) — Upwork
9. [Income and expense tracking \(Sheets\)](#) — from Brass Taxes, make your own copy
10. [How much should I charge?](#) — Pricing models from Hopscotch
11. [Dupay](#) — Automated invoicing
12. [ConvertKit](#) — Marketing and newsletter tools for creators to get paid



## Organization and productivity

1. [Calendly](#) — Meeting booker
2. [Duckbill](#) — Outsource some of your life admin
3. [Focused](#) — Community to boost productivity and cowork remotely
4. [Focusmate](#) — Digital coworking you can pop into for 45-minute segments when you need some extra focus and accountability
5. [Freedom](#) — Website and app blocker for focus
6. [Notion](#) — Wide-ranging project management and organizational tool
7. [Pollen's template library](#) — Including a [freelancing contract](#)
8. [Toggl](#) — Time tracking tool
9. [Trello](#) — Free project management tool



## Design, images, and video

1. [Awesome Screenshot](#) — Screenshot entire web pages (always save your work this way because it will likely get taken down in the future)
2. [Blush](#) — Tell your story with customizable illustrations
3. [Canva](#) — A design suite to help create any kind of graphic. Great free version.

4. [Capcut](#) — Free all-in-one video editor you can use on your desktop
5. [Riverside.fm](#) — Podcast and video recording studio
6. [Unsplash](#) — Free, high-quality images

## Education

1. [Skillshare](#)\* — Take classes to learn how to do anything. [Try free for 30 days + 40% off with my referral code.](#) May I suggest [Success on Substack?](#)

## Books\*



1. [Four Thousand Weeks: Time Management for Mortals](#) by Oliver Burkeman
2. [The Artist's Way](#) by Julia Cameron — A transformative 12-week program for any artist
3. [How to Write an Autobiographical Novel](#) by Alexander Chee
4. [How to Not Be Always Working](#) by Cody Cook-Parrot — Excellent resource to figure out what your work is, what it's not, and what you can outsource. Note that the original published author name is a deadname.
5. [Big Magic](#) by Elizabeth Gilbert

## Newsletters by creatives for creatives

1. [The Sunday Soother](#) by Catherine Andrews
2. [Cruel Summer Book Club](#) (my newsletter!)
3. [Kat Boogaard's newsletter](#) about freelance writing with some job opportunities
4. [Monday Monday](#) by Cody Cook-Parrot
5. [Subtle Maneuvers](#) by Mason Currey
6. [Brass Ring Daily](#) by Kara Cutruzzula
7. [Offerings](#) by Jessica Dore
8. [On Things](#) by Madeleine Dore
9. [Austin Kleon](#)
10. [Ten Things](#) by Luke Leighfield
11. [Jen A. Miller](#) freelance writing newsletter
12. [Nicoledonut](#) by Nicole Zhu



## Podcasts\*

1. [Common Shapes](#) by Cody Cook-Parrot — Cook-Parrot has been one of the most influential voices in my creative life over the past six months.

2. [Cruel Summer Book Club](#) (my podcast!)
3. [Freelancing for Journalists](#)
4. [This Morning Walk](#)
5. [The Secret Library podcast](#)
6. [The Sunday Soother](#) by Catherine Andrews
7. [The Writer's Co-op](#)
8. [Writing Class Radio](#)



## Inspiration and self-knowledge

1. [4 ways to Use Tarot to Cast Your Vision and Plan for the Year Ahead](#) — by Catherine Andrews
2. [Questions for 2024 goals for freelancers](#) — by Kaitlyn Arford
3. [Your Writing Year 2024](#) — by Caroline Donahue
4. [Fran Hauser's Four-Square Model](#) — Align your priorities and set boundaries
5. [Intentions guide](#), focusing on [the winter season](#) or [the year ahead](#) — by Katie Hawkins-Gaar

## Other writers' resource guides

1. [Writing/freelance advice](#) by Gray Chapman
2. [Writer Resource Guide](#) by Erika Hayasaki
3. [29 tools writer Luke Leighfield uses to get things done](#)
4. [References and recommendations list](#) by Sonia Weiser



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*\*affiliate links*