

# Non-Fiction Tips

## *A Baker's Dozen...or so*

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1. *People remember stories. Write using techniques used in fiction.*
2. *Think of your topic as having 3 parts: the problem, the solution, the application. Assign chapters in each category.*
3. *Use questions, facts, history or humor to create interest.*
4. *Use descriptive words, concrete nouns and active verbs to inject emotion into your writing.*
5. *Define difficult vocabulary; use short sentences and easy vocabulary.*
6. *Use surprise to keep the reader's attention.*
7. *Outline your idea by creating a Table of Contents and writing chapter summaries. Analyze them for cohesion and completeness.*
8. *Research other books on your topic and find something missing. This is your unique angle to make your book stand out.*
9. *Identify your reader and write to them.*
10. *Eliminate unnecessary words.*
11. *Fact check; fact check; fact check!*

12. *Establish your credibility with a social media following, blog, guest posts, teaching position, interviews, magazine articles, etc.*
13. *Interview people about your topic to learn what they need.*
14. *Gain feedback by employing beta readers. Adjust book accordingly if need be.*

*For more, go to the non-fiction checklist on the Writing Tips page.*