

How-to or Procedural Writing

How-to writing shows a reader how to do something.
If You Want to Knit Some Mittens is a funny piece of how-to writing that shows how to go from a sheep to a pair of wool mittens.

These steps will guide you in writing your own how-to.

- 1 First, think of something you can teach others to do. Think small, like How to Plant a Seed instead of How to Be a Gardener. (The girl in the book says she will never choose something with 18 steps again!)

Here are a few ideas:

How to Hit a Baseball

How to Have a Staring Contest

How to Do an Underdog

How to Find a Unicorn

How to Have a Good Dream

How to Make a Friend

- 2 Second, brainstorm the steps to your topic. (Add as many steps as you need.)

- 3 Third, put the steps in order. Imagine if the girl in the book tried to spin yarn before she even got Sheep!



IF YOU WANT TO KNIT SOME MITTENS

By Laura Purdie Salas

Illustrated by Angela Matteson

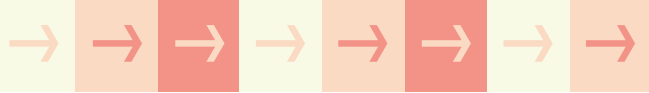
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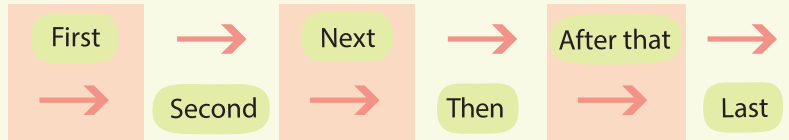
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If You Want to



4 Next, add details. For example, revise “Soak the fleece in water” to “Soak the dirty fleece in soapy water.” That tells a reader why to soak the wool.

5 After that, add transition words or phrases. “Then spread your yarn out to dry.”





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