

Tips to Keep Your Novel Chronologically Correct

“Just get it down on paper, and then we’ll see what to do with it.” Maxwell Perkins

1. Understand types of story structure.
 - Chronological: logical and linear
 - Non-chronological: random
 - Circular: the story ends where it began
 - Parallel: multiple storylines
2. Determine if your novel is best presented in chronological (logical) order.
3. Establish a method to keep track of each scene’s day and time.
 - Physical calendar
 - Online [calendar](#)
 - Writing software such as [Scrivener](#)
 - A [world clock](#) to ensure correct times and time zones
 - Spreadsheet
4. Transition from one scene to another.
5. Choose a distinct Point of View (POV) character.
6. Avoid backstory in the first approximately 50 pages.
7. Eliminate fragmented scenes.
8. Consult beta readers for feedback.
9. Edit. Edit. Edit.
10. Use text to voice software for editing.

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