

# Checklist:

## Structuring and Planning Your Plot

---

Use this checklist to structure your plot clearly, build it logically, and refine it strategically. Tick off what is already in place—and identify where you can improve further.

### 1. Plot Fundamentals

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I have a clear idea of what my story is about (main conflict).		
I know my main plot and can summarize it briefly.		
I have identified possible subplots that complement my story.		
I know the key turning points that drive my narrative.		

### 2. Structure & Framework

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I have chosen a basic structure (e.g., three-act structure, hero's journey).		
I know how my story begins, develops, and ends.		
My plot is divided into logical sections or scenes.		
I have deliberately placed key turning points.		

### 3. Level of Detail & Method

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I have decided how detailed my plot outline should be.		
My plot serves as guidance without restricting me too much.		
I use a method that fits my writing style.		
I can adjust my plot flexibly when needed.		

### 4. Logic & Coherence

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
The storyline is coherent and easy to follow.		
Events build logically on one another.		
I avoid obvious plot holes.		
Plot twists are properly set up and do not feel random.		

### 5. Characters & Development

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I know how my characters develop throughout the story.		
My characters' decisions are believable and well-motivated.		
Characters actively drive the plot forward.		
Character development and plot are closely interconnected.		



## 6. Plotting During the Writing Process

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
My plot helps me maintain an overview while writing.		
I do not get lost in unnecessary side plots.		
I still leave room for spontaneous ideas and adjustments.		
I use my plot as a guide—not as a rigid framework.		

## 7. Your Personal Approach to Plotting

Question	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
I feel supported by my plot, not restricted.		
I have found a workflow that suits me.		
I know whether I prefer a rough or a detailed outline.		

### Evaluation

- **Many “yes” answers across most sections** → Your plot is clearly structured and provides a solid foundation for your writing project.
- **Many “yes” answers in fundamentals and structure, but fewer in logic or character development** → Your planning is in place, but you should take a closer look at connections and character development.
- **Many “no” answers across several sections** → Your plot is not fully developed yet. Take the time to clearly define the fundamentals, structure, and logic of your story before continuing to write.

### Final Thought

A good plot gives you direction—without limiting your creativity. Find the structure that fits your writing style and use it as a tool, not a constraint.

For more in-depth tips, see the related article:

> [Plotting for Authors](#)

Would you like to stay informed about helpful tools and resources for authors, new releases, insider content, and exclusive offers? You can find our **newsletter** here:

<https://www.grin.com/en/newsletter/>

