

# \*Character Development Worksheet

Courtesy of [www.PamelaDowd.com](http://www.PamelaDowd.com)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

STORY TITLE:	CHARACTER NAME:
Main Character <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Why is this character worth writing about?
Minor Character <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	If Minor/Mentor, how does he/she advance the plot?
Mentor Character <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	Relationship to Major Character is:
The most important thing to know about this character is:	How this character grows (the take away)
Present Problem or Crisis	A One Line Description

## PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Age	Race	Sex	Overall Appearance	Height	Weight
Hair	Shoulders Hips Waist	Eyes	Type of Body	Posture	Any birthmarks or scars?
Jawline	Mouth	Lips	Face	Eyebrows	Ears
Nose	Neck	Teeth	Complexion	Fingers	Hands
Unique Mannerisms	Unique Gestures	Scars	Handicaps (physical, mental, emotional)	Sound of voice	Expressions

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FAMILY AND STORY WORLD					
<b>Married</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<b>Era of Story?</b>	<b>Attend Church?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<b>Locale of story</b>	<b>Children <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>	
<b>To Whom:</b>	<b>Revealing timeframe clues:</b>	<b>Which one?</b>	<b>Revealing locale clues:</b>	<b>Children(s) name(s) and age(s):</b>	
<b>How MC feels about marriage:</b>		<b>If not, why not?</b>			
<b>Divorced <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>  <b>From Whom:</b>		<b>Basic Belief(s):</b>	<b>Street Names:</b>	<b>Name and significant contribution to current situation:</b>	
<b>In Love <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>  <b>With Whom:</b>					
<b>If not, why not?</b>					
FRIENDSHIPS					
<b>Name of Friend(s)</b>		<b>Characteristics of Friend(s)</b>			
		<b>Influence of Friendship on MC</b>			
<b>Best Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>  <b>Old Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>  <b>New Friend <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N</b>		<b>Friends significant contributions to current situation:</b>			
EMOTIONS					
<b>Fears</b>	<b>Frustrations</b>	<b>Temperament Style</b>	<b>Leader?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<b>Follower?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N	<b>Dropout?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N

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ENEMIES	
Does MC have an enemy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Why does MC have an enemy?	
Characteristics of the enemy	
Spiritual Implications of the enemy	
Does MC recognize this enemy?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Secrets	
MC Worst Fear	
Enemy's Worst Fear	
MC Greatest Hope	
Enemy's Greatest Hope	
Enemy's significant contributions to current situation	
MC Vulnerability to this enemy	

DIGGING DEEPER	
Best Character Trait	
Outstanding Qualities	
Worst Character Trait/Flaw	
What kind of person do <i>other</i> people think character is?	
How would character describe himself/herself?	
Sense of humor/what kind?	
Ambitions:	
Philosophy of life:	
What does MC admire in women/men?	
How does MC handle stress and problems?	
Is MC capable of:	Lying <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N      Why? Cheating <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Stealing <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N (      ) <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
How does MC react in extreme circumstances?	
Why is MC different from other characters?	
How does MC see his/her own faults?	
Why do I like this character?	

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Why will this MC be remembered?	
Habitual Expressions:	
Habitual Mannerisms:	
Useful Quirks:	

BACKGROUND	
Current Residence Style	
Class in Society	Lower <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Middle <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Upper <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N City <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Country <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Interesting Facts to Note About MC Town/City/Story Locale	
Birthplace	
Class Growing Up	Lower <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Middle <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Upper <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N City <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Country <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Interesting Information Regarding Family:	
Any significant happenings in childhood?	What? Effected way of thinking <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N Effected personality <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Traumas	
Happy home life?	Past <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Present <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Dysfunctional home life?	Past <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Present <input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N
Divorced parents?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    When?
Parents' occupations:	
Death of family member?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Who? _____    When? _____
Relocation of family?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Where? _____
College	<input type="checkbox"/> Y <input type="checkbox"/> N    Where? _____
Significant events related to schooling	Favorite Subject _____    Grades _____ Poorest Subject _____
Influenced in life by any particular person or event	
The best thing that ever happened to MC	
The worst thing that ever happened to MC	

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OCCUPATION/PROFESSION	
Profession	
Quality of Work Performed	
Reputation	
Hours Worked	
Family's Feelings About MC Working	
Dreams/Ambitions	

INCOME/FINANCIAL STATUS	
Feelings About Wealth or Lack of it	
Office Workers that Relate to or Influence MC	
Attitude about Work as it Relates to Stewardship and God	

CHARACTER FLAWS	
Obsessions	
GUILTS	

TA DA – THE END	
What Lesson is Learned	
How will I foreshadow the MC lesson in the beginning?	
What's the potential reader take-away?	

ALL THINGS CONSIDERED	
Why am I telling this story?	
Do I need to combine any two characters, because one is unnecessary?	
Notes:	

\* Character Description List compiled using: Character Charts by Bonnie Hamre, Three-Dimensional Character Chart by Pat Kubis and Bob Howland, and Getting to Know You by Linda George (Writers' Journal, Sept./Oct. 1996).