

Do you have what it takes to be a professional HR writer?



Grab a flip chart. Create a new document on your computer. Open your journal.

Whatever your preferred format, take time to ask yourself these questions.

Listen to your answers. Respond and reflect.

Use this exercise to see if you feel like you have the desire it takes to be an HR writer.

1. The timing is right.

Answer these questions based on your current commitments and situation.

- Do I have time to dedicate myself to this journey?
- How much time can I commit?
- Can I prioritize this right now?
- Will people in my life support me taking the time I need?
- Am I using “lack of time” as a way to avoid my fear of failure?

2. I have a perspective to share.

Take time to brainstorm everything you know about HR, even the stuff you think is “just common sense.”

- Write a list of 10 HR topics that come to mind. Pick the three to five topics that interest you most.
- Brainstorm three specific things you could write about each of those topics. Use, “How to...” or “Five things to know about X” to get you thinking.
- If you’ve taken a certification, think about the topics that you enjoyed most as you prepared for the test.
- List the areas in which you’re the “go-to” expert for your manager or colleagues.
- Think about those “I could have written this article/book/post” moments.

3. I like to write.

Think about examples that illustrate why you like to write. Whatever it is, find and take note of “proof points” that reinforce you like to write. Think of things such as:

- A writing class you took.
- Positive feedback from teachers.
- Projects you’re drawn to at work.
- The journal you’ve kept since you were 16 years old.
- The letters and emails you enjoy writing to friends.