
THE SCRIVENER DOZEN



Twelve Good Reasons to use Scrivener

1. A good and welcoming place for you to write.
2. Plenty of flexibility to accommodate different types of writing workflows. You can dive into Scrivener, free writing and work on the organising of the writing afterwards. You can start from the other end by organising in a variety of ways and do the writing later when you are ready.
3. Templates to help you get started – Fiction with novel, novel with parts or a short story template. For non-fiction you have essay, paper, research proposal as well as general non-fiction templates. For script writing you can choose from a documentary script, screenplay, stage play or a screenplay. There are various other templates including a blank one you can customise for yourself.

4. Great organisation facilities for your writing. You always need to move things around in your writing whether it be the chapters, scenes or paragraphs and with Scrivener you can break up text into small pieces. You have the binder where you can arrange these small pieces into the correct order. There is the Cork board which is a more visual way to move things around. Then you have a couple of different ways to do outlining. You can do your outlining in the binder which is the area to the left side of your Scrivener window. There is a specific outliner view and you get



Writers Software created by a Writer.

Everything you need in an application to write novels, short stories, Essays, plays and can also be used for blogging.

I write the Good and Geeky Books using Scrivener.

David Allen Wizardgold

more information in a table sort of format. In this view you can also see things like word count targets and the status of the piece along with labels. All of the different ways to organise it linking with each other so something you change in the corkboard view is reflected in all of the other views.

Great for outlining in the Binder and also using the corkboard

You can plan first and write when you are ready.

Write first and split it up into chunks to organise later.

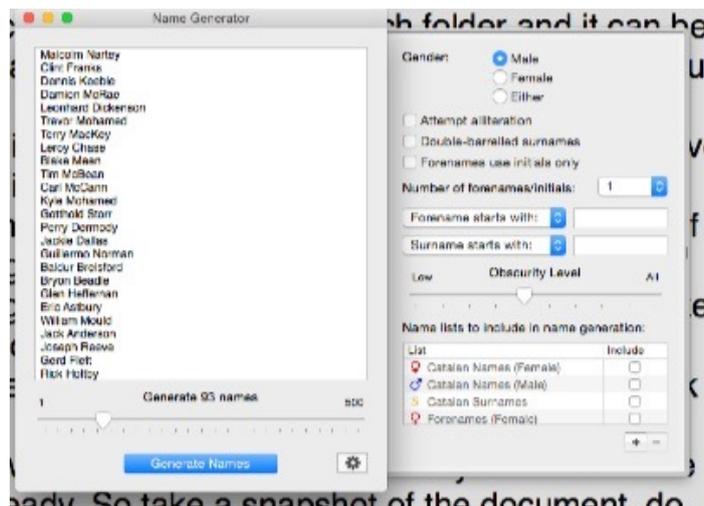
Bring in text from other outliner apps.

Import from a Mind Map is one of my favourite ways to use Scrivener.

Write in Markdown syntax and it looks great when you have it in Scrivener.

5. Versatility of output – Compile. All of the formatting is taken care of in the compile of the document. Your single document may need to go to different destinations all with specific requirements. An editor will want to see it in a specific format which will be very different from the way you will format it if you send it directly to the Kindle e-book format. The good thing is that you don't alter the text within the document to send to the different places and therefore end up with different versions of the document. It would be a nuisance to have to write changes in three or four documents when really you should only be dealing with just one.

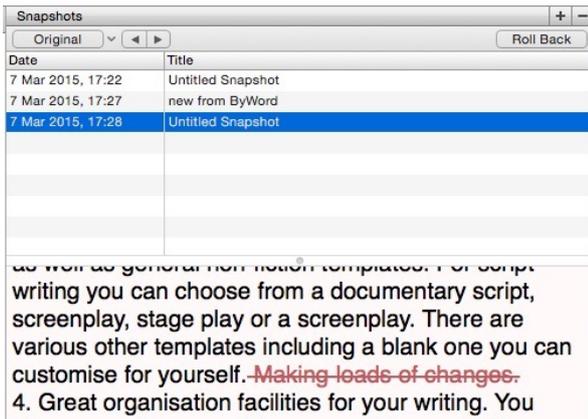
6. There are loads of writers specific tools such as the character name generator. When you are using the template for the novel you also get templates for a character sketch or for a setting sketch. There is a handy tool for setting word count targets either for the whole manuscript or for specific scenes.



7. You can see your research within the project. You can collect it into a research folder and it can be audio files, video, webpages or any sort of text. You can have this hidden away, to use wherever you need it and it is always available to view easily.

8. There is a really handy split view and you can split it either horizontally or vertically. You could have your research on one side of the screen while writing in the other side.

9. There is a folder for trash. There will be times when you decide to delete some of your sections of writing. This all goes into the trash area and you can get back to it later if you need to reinstate it.



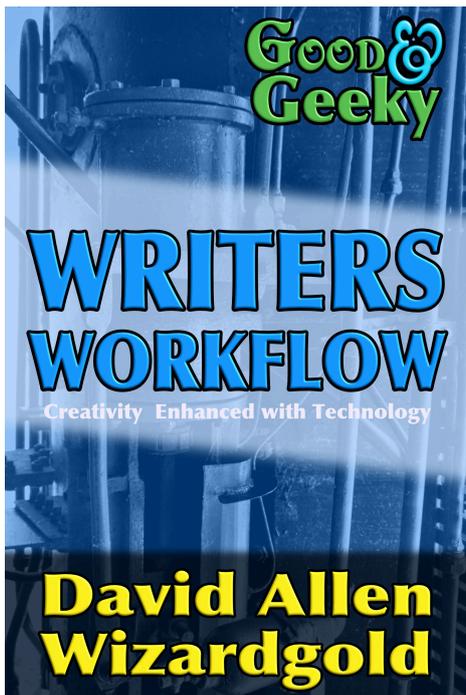
10. Snapshots – If you are planning to make some big changes to part of the document you can take a snapshot of that. You then do all of your changes, adding text, deleting text and moving things around and Scrivener will show you the differences between the two. So this is a useful way to track changes.

11. Revision Mode and Snapshots - Sometimes you will want to work on a text and you are not sure you want to change and lose what you have done already. So take a snapshot of the document, do your editing and revising and you can compare edits and go back to the starting point if you want. Or you can write in revision mode so the text can be added in a specific colour. It is a way to have notes within the text. You can search later for any revisions in the text and clear the colour from the revisions.

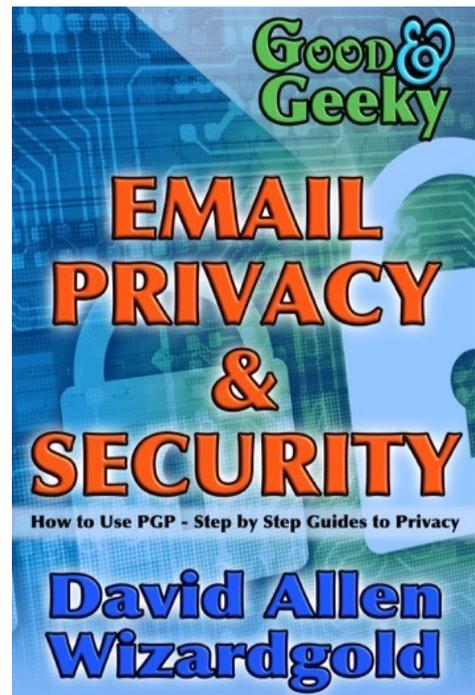
12. Comments connected to the text. As you are writing, often you will come up against something you can't remember or something you will have to do some research to find out about. You don't really want to stop writing and leave the state of flow for your creativity. So what you can do is to put in a word, select the word and then add a quick comment. Later when you are going back to revise and edit your text you can fill in the data you didn't want to go find earlier.

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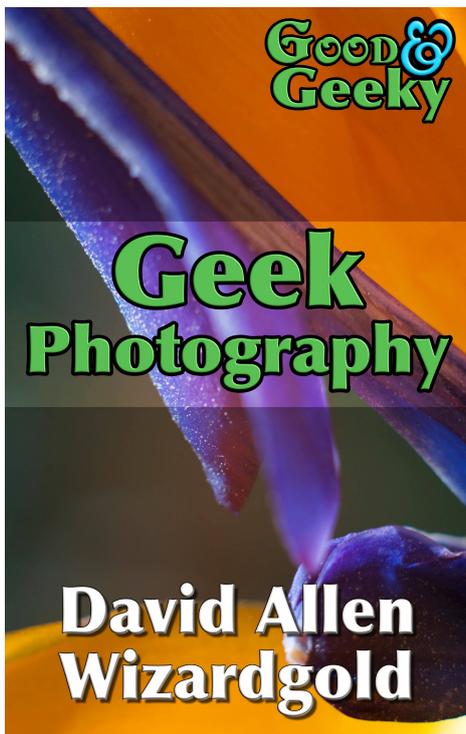
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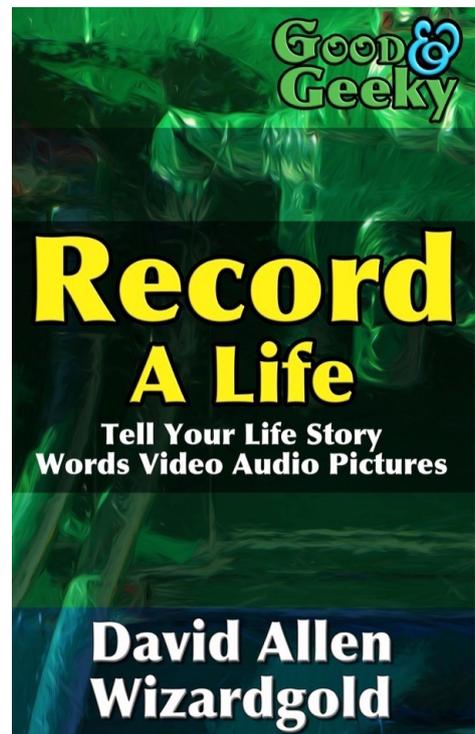
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