



Renegade Revolution's

General Rules for Writers.

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So, you want to be a writer for Renegade Revolution?

We have a few general house styles, which we'll outline here. There's nothing too drastic, but be sure to pay heed to these and we shall end up with some fantastic articles.

Rule The First.

No swearing!

We're trying to keep the site accessible for a wide age range, so this means avoiding profanities. We're talking about the major ones, really, so if you want to say Damn It All, then go for it.

Rule The Second.

Don't go into too much detail concerning adult topics.

We know a lot of what we will be covering will contain themes of a sexual or violent nature (just try writing anything about Game Of Thrones whilst avoiding these facts) so we just ask that our authors are frank about these topics and don't dwell on them excessively.

Rule The Third.

Use your opinion wisely.

If you're writing a news piece, don't use opinion, stick to fact. If you're writing an article, essay, longform piece etc, then use opinion well. We like opinion - it fosters familiarity and allows your personality to shine through. As with anything though, try not to be too opinionated, especially to the point of ill-humour or offense.

Rule The Fourth.

Reference your work.

We like references. We like them a lot. Not just because they help with search engine optimisation, but because we want to be known as an organisation that backs up their facts. People may want to know more about what you're writing about, so save them the extra clicks and link to the relevant webpages in your article.

Rule The Fifth.

Avoid excessive punctuation in the title.

We like titles that pose questions, so question marks are okay. We also like titles that use colons to separate title elements, for example, "Cosplay in Britain: A look at our new national obsession." Try to stay clear of using semicolons and exclamation marks. Hyphens are okay when part of a joint-word (like that), but not as a separator, as a colon can be used instead.

Rule The Sixth.

Avoid excessive punctuation in general.

This mainly concerns the use of exclamation marks in the text. The less exclamation marks, the better. Sometimes you might require some long sentences that make use of semicolons, brackets and lots of commas. This is fine, but try to keep it on the sparing side, simply because it makes it more legible for our readers.

Rule The Seventh.

Don't image-spam.

Images are very important, and good images gain twice the readership than an article with uninteresting images, or no images at all. Having said this, don't over-use images. A good guide is about one inline image for every five hundred words written. This equals to about 3 images per article. Of course some articles may necessitate more images than this, especially if you need to illustrate examples of something. However, a healthy, smaller amount of images is better, especially since a third of our readership uses mobile devices where bandwidth is precious.

Rule The Eighth.

Credit your images.

Source your images well, and credit the photographer or creator of the image in your post, even if the image creator is yourself. We don't have the funds to purchase stock images, so any use of stock images must be something you already have permission to use. Featured Images (those that go at the top of the page) should be credited at the bottom of the article. In-line images can either be credited immediately below where they are inserted, or at the bottom of the article too.

Rule The Ninth.

Define your acronyms.

Remember, a first-time reader may not know what you're talking about when you use acronyms or abbreviations. The first time you use an acronym in an article, define it in brackets. For example, "This game has some good DLC (Downloadable Content) associated with it." Then, every subsequent time it is mentioned, simply use the acronym as usual.

Rule The Tenth.

Make your knowledge level implicit.

We like to cater for a range of readers everywhere between beginner and veteran for different geek topics. If you're just starting out with tabletop gaming, for instance, make sure the reader is aware of this. And if you are well-versed in a subject, don't toot your own horn but do make sure that the tone of your article indicates you are knowledgeable. This all helps our readers target the right kind of posts for them.

Rule The Eleventh.

Don't slam other companies, organisations or individuals.

We want to exude a professional attitude when talking about other companies or organisations. As such, we don't allow for any negativity toward other groups, especially no slating, slamming, roasting or other form of name-blackening. Sometimes we need to write reviews of events which may include some criticism, but this must be constructive criticism, and you must make sure to put a positive spin at the end, for example, "We look forward to seeing improvement in this area next time," etc. We do not allow people to be singled out by name in cases of criticism, as this can have a detrimental effect.

Rule The Twelfth.

Good public image.

A lot of this goes without saying, really, but when out and about representing Renegade Revolution, just make sure not to do anything crass or crude in our name! In particular, during interviews with people, the interviewer must be professional and considerate at all times, and must not ask intimate questions. Also, when approaching other companies or organisations for articles and so on, adopt a professional attitude at all times.

Rule The Thirteenth.

Beta-reading.

All articles will always be checked for spelling etc before they are pushed to live by one of the admin team. Admins Jojo and Holly are also happy to offer you additional advice and beta-read your article for you. If you would like either of us to do this, just email your article as an attachment (preferably in .doc format) to admin@renegade-revolution.com, with the subject title "FAO: Beta Readers", and we will get back to you.

Rule The Fourteenth.

Share, share share!

Our contributors are part of a team and should aim to be active and reblog, retweet, or re-share articles, news, and our page details on whatever social networking platforms they are most active on. We're a young group, and will need all the help we can get in spreading the word.

You don't need to be active on everything, just ensure that those networks you are active on are used to good effect - the more shares, the more likes, the more Google ratings we get. Not only does it improve SEO and stop us from getting blacklisted, it also makes us - and you - more well-known! Also, please support your fellow contributors - share as you would wish your own articles to be shared.

Rule The Fifteenth.

Copypasta in Wordpress - for those with WP access.

Many of us write our articles in word processors before copying across to Wordpress. There is often a problem here as programs like Microsoft Word and OpenOffice like to 'carry across' the fonts and styles it was written in. This leads to excess editing time in stripping these styles out. If

you are going to copy-paste from a word processor into WP, then please make sure you select the 'Text' or 'HTML' option rather than the 'Visual' option - this should ensure styles are not copied.