



# How to Create a Character Profile

With a little help from [blog.reedsy.com](https://blog.reedsy.com)

## PART 1: THE OUTER LAYER

**Definition:** How your character looks, sounds, and moves.

**Similar to:** An offender profile.

### THE BASICS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Place of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Current location: \_\_\_\_\_

Nationality: \_\_\_\_\_

Education: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Income: \_\_\_\_\_

### PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Height: \_\_\_\_\_

Eye color: \_\_\_\_\_

Hair color: \_\_\_\_\_

Build: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing features (tattoos, scars, birthmarks)?

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 Preferred outfit?


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 Glasses?

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 Accessories (cane, pipe, necklace, etc.)?

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Grooming:

- Disheveled                       Smart, very put together  
 Untidy but clean  
 Other? If so, explain:

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Distinguishing "tics" and mannerisms:

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 Health? Do they suffer from chronic illnesses?

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 Handwriting (sloppy, neat, careful, unintelligible):

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 Gait:

- Confident, powerful strides                       Lazy stroll  
 Fast, walks at a clip                                       Distracted, eyes on the ground  
 Other? If so, explain:

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## SPEECH AND COMMUNICATION

Style of speech (elevated, educated, peppered with slang, etc.)?

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Tempo of speech (rapid, slow, measured, drawl, etc.)?

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Do they have an accent?

- Yes
- No

Pitch (melodious, gravelly, deep, etc.)?


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Posture:


- Stiff, military
- Slouching
- Casual and relaxed
- 'Turtle,' tired
- Other? If so, explain:

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 Gesturing:

- Only when agitated or eager
- Doesn't gesture
- Compulsive "hand-talker"
- Controlled, only to make a point
- Other? If so, explain:

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 Level of eye contact (direct, shifty, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Speech impediments: \_\_\_\_\_

Distinguishing speech "tics":


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 Preferred curse word: \_\_\_\_\_

 Catchphrases: \_\_\_\_\_

 Laughter? What do they tend to find funny?

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Describe their smile? \_\_\_\_\_

Emotive? Do they wear their emotions on their sleeve? How easily can others to read them?

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They have a resting \_\_\_\_\_ face.

- Bitch 😏
- Angel 😇
- Neutral 😐
- Confused 😕
- Other? If so, explain:

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## PART 2: THE FLESH


**Definition:** How your character is a product of their environment.

**Similar to:** The character bio and backstory.






### ◀ THE PAST

 Hometown: \_\_\_\_\_


Type of childhood (sheltered, neglected, etc.)? \_\_\_\_\_

 Education:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_


➔ Were they involved in organizations and clubs at school?

- Sports 
- Debate 
- Gay / Straight Alliance 
- Model UN 
- Drama 
- Other? If so, explain:  
\_\_\_\_\_

➔  At graduation, they were named Most Likely To \_\_\_\_\_ in the yearbook.

 Jobs (if applicable)? What would their résumé look like?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

➔ Dream job as a child? Why?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_


 Who were their role models growing up? Describe them:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Greatest regret:

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 Hobbies growing up:


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 Favorite place to be as a child?

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 If they could change one thing from their past, what would it be? Why?

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Major turning points or "life beats" in childhood:

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➔ Earliest memory:

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➔ Saddest memory:

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➔ Happiest memory:

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➔ Clearest memory:

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 What are their skeletons in the closet?

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Three adjectives to describe them as a child?

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What advice would they give to their younger self?

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 Criminal record:

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 **FAMILY**

 Father:

Age (if living): \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe their relationship with your character:

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 Mother:

Age (if living): \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_


Briefly describe their relationship with your character:

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 Siblings:

How many? \_\_\_\_\_

What are their names? Ages? \_\_\_\_\_


Briefly describe their relationship(s) with your character:

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 Children (if applicable):

How many? \_\_\_\_\_

What are their names? Ages? \_\_\_\_\_

Briefly describe their relationship(s) with your character:

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 Extended family:

Grandparents: \_\_\_\_\_

Uncles and aunts: \_\_\_\_\_


Cousins: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

 Family's economic status: \_\_\_\_\_

How often do they see their family in a year? \_\_\_\_\_

# EXTERNAL RELATIONSHIPS

 Closest friends? Describe them:

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 Other significant friends:

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 Enemies? Describe them:

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How are they perceived by...

→ ...strangers in the street?

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→ ...acquaintances at a work function?

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→ ...colleagues in the office?

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→ ...authority figures?

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→ ...friends in their friend circles?

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→ ...children?

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→ ...the opposite sex?

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→ ...extended family?

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 What social media platforms are they on?


- Twitter     Facebook
- Reddit     Instagram
- Snapchat     Tumblr
- Other? If so, explain:

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 How would they use their social media platforms?


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 How would they fill out an online dating profile for themselves?


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 What's their role in a group dynamic?

- Leader     Joker
- Parent     Hype man
- Mooch     Other? If so, explain:

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 How quickly do they respond to emails?

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Who do they depend on for...

→ ...practical advice?

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→ ...mentoring?

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→ ...a wingman?

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→ ...emotional support?

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→ ...moral support?

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What do they want from a relationship?

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💡 Who would be their ideal partner?

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💡 Do they have a significant other? Describe them:

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How many people would attend their funeral?

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## PART 3: THE CORE

**Definition:** How your character is deep down.

**Similar to:** A psych test.

### 💡 PSYCHOLOGY

💡 What do they do on rainy days?


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Are they:

- |                                       |                                     |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Street-smart | <input type="checkbox"/> Book-smart |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Optimist     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pessimist  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Introvert    | <input type="checkbox"/> Extrovert  |

 What is their favorite sound?


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 Favorite place in the world?

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 What secrets do they keep? What are they most afraid of people finding out?

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 What do they want the most?

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Biggest flaw:

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Biggest strength:

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Biggest fear:

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What is their biggest accomplishment?

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What is their idea of perfect happiness?

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 Do they want to be remembered? What for?

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 Favorite quote:

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How do they approach...

→ ...power?

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→ ...ambition?

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→ ...love?

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→ ...change?

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
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 What is the one object or possession that they would rescue from their burning home?

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 What (or who) bores them?

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 What makes them angry?

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What do they look for in a person?

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How strong is their moral compass? When, specifically, are they willing to compromise their morals?

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 List the last 10 books that they read:

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Which fictional world would they most wish to visit?


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If they didn't have to sleep, what would they do with the extra time?

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 What are their pet peeves?

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 If they won the lottery, what would they do?

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Describe the character's bucket list at the ages of:

15: \_\_\_\_\_

20: \_\_\_\_\_

30: \_\_\_\_\_

40: \_\_\_\_\_

 List the 10 songs that would occupy their All-Time Most Played playlist on Spotify:


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What is the best compliment that someone ever paid them?

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 In an elevator, do they push the elevator button more than once?

- Yes
- No

What would they want their tombstone to say? \_\_\_\_\_

## THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

Story goal:

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Story motivation:

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