

Listverse Author's Guide

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This is a brief guide for those wanting to write for Listverse.com. Its aim is to help authors understand our requirements.

1. How To Get Your List Accepted

All of the following must be complied with or your list will be rejected.

- A. Your list should be 1,500–2,000 words long.**
- B. Your English level must be that of a native speaker.**
- C. You must provide sources to show that what you are saying is factual.**
- D. The topic and items must not already be published on the Internet in list form.**
- E. Your list must be one hundred percent your own writing.**
- F. Don't include videos or images. We'll do that.**
- G. Your list must not promote or assist people in committing crimes.**

2. Popular Content

Lists covering the dark side of man always perform well. Unsolved mysteries, crime, secrets, misconceptions or myths, little-known facts, and bizarre or creepy content is definitely preferred. But don't be discouraged from sending in something else entirely. There are always lists that appeal for other reasons.

The best performing lists are those with a twist. Shock us. Surprise us. Wow us. For example, a list of American inventions that aren't American at all, or a list of disturbing origins of beloved pop culture icons.

3. Keep It Short and Sweet

Keep your writing simple and brief. Lists should be between 1,500 and 2,000 words long. Anything below or above that is likely to be rejected or a rewrite requested.

Write for high school aged readers. You should aim for a Flesch-Kincaid score of more than sixty. Complex words and sentences are boring to most readers and you can usually say the same thing in a far easier way with a little thought. You can check out how your text scores here: <http://bit.ly/SYPxoh>

4. Include Sources

You need to back up each item with a link to a reputed website. The following is a list of sources we **do not accept** for various reasons:

Wikipedia, HuffingtonPost, BuzzFeed, National Enquirer, Metro, Vox, The Verge, Examiner, Salon, About.com, suite101.com, Medium, geocities, hubpages, angelfire, Ranker, Damninteresting, Snopes, The Guardian, The Washington Post, CNN, todayifoundout.com, boinboing.net, Cracked.com, mentalfloss, Reddit, Twitter Facebook, Squidoo, and blogs.

Google Books and newspapers are allowed. Place each source link beneath the list item to which it applies.

5. Revise Repeatedly

We reject all lists that require a lot of editing. Please make sure you read, **re-read**, and **read again** (preferably aloud) before submitting. If a list is submitted with obvious spelling or grammatical errors, we reject it outright.

If a list has been rejected, we do not enter into negotiation over it. Our decision is always final.

APPENDIX I—Copyright

When you send your list to us you are giving us the first right of refusal. If we accept your list we will inform you immediately by email. Once the list has been accepted it becomes the property of Listverse Limited and all rights (including moral rights) are transferred to us. From that moment on you may not submit the content to other sites or use it in any other format for public consumption. If we do not accept the list (and until we accept the list), all copyright and rights remain with you.

We aim to accept or reject all submissions within thirty days. If you have not heard from us by then, check your spam folder for our email first. All submissions communication is sent through submit@listverse.com.

We do not enter into negotiations over rejected content. Once we reject a submission, it remains rejected. On occasion we reject a list with some advice on how to improve it. When this happens you can submit your re-worked edition of the list and we will reconsider it. This, however, is not a guarantee of acceptance.

APPENDIX II—Submission Terms and Conditions

1 Copyright and Ownership

- 1.1 By submitting the list to us for consideration, you agree to these terms and conditions.
- 1.2 You confirm that you are the original writer of the list and that you own all rights and copyright relating to it.
- 1.3 If we accept the list, you agree:
 - 1.3.1 that you have voluntarily and willingly agreed to gift the list to Listverse on these terms and conditions by submitting it for consideration;
 - 1.3.2 that ownership, copyright, and all other rights (including moral rights) of the list and its content are transferred to Listverse once accepted for publication;
 - 1.3.3 that Listverse may correct, edit, amend or otherwise change the content of a list;
 - 1.3.4 to Listverse publishing the name you provided when submitting the list as the author; and
 - 1.3.5 that Listverse has the full right to publish the list if and when it sees fit (including but not limited to all rights of publication on the Internet, books, magazines, TV, film, and newspapers, or other form of media).

- 1.4 For the avoidance of doubt, any property in a list rejected by Listverse shall remain yours.
- 1.5 In submitting the list for consideration, you agree that you will not:
- 1.5.1 submit a list or other content that contains any viruses, malware, worms, Trojan horses, malicious code, or other device that could harm our technical infrastructure or system or that of our users;
 - 1.5.2 engage automated uses of the Listverse site that are abusive or disruptive of the services; or
 - 1.5.3 disrupt the Listverse site by inundating it or placing it (or the networks or servers connected with it) under an undue burden with communications or other traffic that suggests no serious intent to use the site for its intended purpose.
- 1.6 You warrant to us that the list in the form provided by you is your own copyright, and does not violate or infringe (or could be reasonably expected to violate or infringe) the copyright, identity, registered trademark or intellectual property rights of another person.
- 1.7 You agree to fully indemnify and hold Listverse harmless against any liabilities, claims, costs (including legal costs), loss (including consequential loss) or damage incurred as a result of any list we have accepted from you, or as a result of any breach by you of these terms and conditions.

2 List Form

- 2.1 All submitted lists must:

2.1.1 include an introductory paragraph for the list;

2.1.2 have 10 items; and

2.1.3 include sources for each item (see the author's guide for details).

2.2 You confirm the list submitted for consideration has been written in accordance with our author's guide (see <http://listverse.com/authors/listverse-author-guide.pdf>).

3 No Partnership

3.1 These terms and conditions do not create an employment, agency, partnership, or joint venture relationship between you and us.

3.2 For the avoidance of doubt, each list submitted by you and accepted by Listverse constitutes a single one-off transaction between you and Listverse, on these terms and conditions.

4 Interpretation

4.1 References to:

4.1.1 "us", "we", "our" and "Listverse" are references to Listverse Limited (NZCN: 4117918);

4.1.2 "you", "your" and "yours" are references to you as a person submitting a list to Listverse;

4.1.3 "list" and "lists" refer to all content submitted to Listverse through the "Submit a List" function.