

STORYBOARDING



Storyboarding is a way to lay out the flow and order of the text and its corresponding components. Think of a storyboard as a map of your presentation that allows you to arrange all of the visual materials in the order you want them before you insert them into presentation software.

You can sketch your plans on paper, use graphics in your word processor, or invest in storyboarding software—and make revisions as you go along. Whichever method you choose, be sure to ask yourself these questions:

- Where do I need explanatory text or introductions?
- Where do I need transition text or a segue to another topic?
- Where do I want each image to appear on the page—in relation to which portion of text, or other components?

If you are working within a group or team, storyboarding should be a thorough and thoughtful collaborative process. While one or two people may create the actual storyboard draft, the larger group should be involved in the review process.





EXAMPLES

Example One: Handwritten Storyboard

Notice you don't have to be an artist to create a storyboard! Stick figures, boxes, and squiggly lines will do. The point is... just to get your point across.



Example Two: Storyboard in Microsoft Word Using the Table Function

<p>The History of Pencils in Maine Text by Jane Doe</p> <p>With collections from Maine Historical Society, the Maine State Library, & Bath Historical Society.</p>	<p>You might begin your exhibit with an introductory image that helps to set the stage for the exhibit.</p>  <p>A storyboard lets you see the order of your text, visuals, and other components before your final presentation or draft.</p>	<p>The text in an exhibit provides context and creates a story for the reader.</p>  
<p>Each photo imported from MMN is accompanied by a title and credits the owning organization. When you import the image you have an opportunity to add more information about the item or create your own caption.</p> 	<p>Some panels may include only text, depending on your arrangement.</p> <p>You may not have images to go with all of your text.</p>	<p>The end of your presentation should provide a list of sources used in your research so that interested readers can learn more.</p>

Creating a storyboard in your word processor does allow you to be a little neater so if your handwriting is completely illegible—and since presumably you will be presenting your storyboard to others—you should consider going the computer-generated route. Plus, fun graphics!

For more information on storyboarding generally, including actual storyboarding software, we encourage you to look around online for examples of storyboards and how they are used. Some example sites are:

- <http://torres21.typepad.com/flickschool/2007/12/storyboard.html>
- <http://www.umass.edu/wmwp/DigitalStorytelling/Storyboard.htm>
- <http://www.cte.jhu.edu/techacademy/fellows/MENTZER/webquest/storyboard.htm>

MORE INFORMATION

Visit the [Share YOUR Local History](#) section of the Maine Memory Network website, www.MaineMemory.net.