

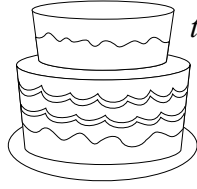
How to Write a **Cake**



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4. Layers Make a Cake Special: *What is one extra layer that you can add to your story?*



Add another character for your protagonist to interact with. A new setting for them to explore. An added complication to overcome. Looking at the basic “cake” of your story and your “frosting” details, what is ONE layer that you can add?

How will this extra layer change your story? Set a timer for 5 minutes and write a paragraph that includes this new element. The paragraph could be a new opening for your story, or write one that goes somewhere in the middle. It’s up to you!



5. Decorations turn a simple (or not-so-simple) Cake into an

Event. *There’s a distinct difference between a layer cake, a Birthday Cake, and a Wedding Cake. It’s all about the decorations! What are some details you can add to your story to make it memorable for your readers? Make sure to incorporate all five senses. What does it look like? What do you hear? Smell? Taste? Feel?*

Set a timer for 15 minutes and decorate your paragraph with all of the sensory detail.

10. Don't Forget the Cake! *Don't get so caught up in adding the accents, embellishments, and extra layers that you overwhelm the basic story. After all is said and done, it should still all boil down to that basic structure: character and setting, with a question, a complication, and an answer. Read through your manuscript. Are there any places where the frosting is so thick that it overwhelms the story? What decorations can you cut out to bring the focus back to your cake?*

