

# Creating Characters With Personality Tom Bancroft

Creating Characters With Personality Tom Bancroft Breathing Life into Your Characters Mastering Personality Creation with Tom Bancrofts Techniques Are you struggling to create believable captivating characters that leap off the page or screen Do your characters feel flat stereotypical or simply uninteresting Youre not alone Many aspiring writers and artists face the challenge of imbuing their creations with compelling personalities This blog post will delve into the powerful techniques championed by animation legend Tom Bancroft offering a practical stepbystep guide to crafting characters with unforgettable personalities Well explore Bancrofts insights incorporate current research in character development and address the common pain points faced by creatives The Problem Flat Characters and the Struggle for Authenticity The heart of compelling storytelling lies in relatable and engaging characters However creating characters that resonate with readers or viewers is a complex process Many creatives struggle with Stereotypical characters Falling back on tired clichs and tropes lacking originality and depth Onedimensional personalities Characters with only one defining trait lacking complexity and internal conflict Inconsistent behavior Characters whose actions dont align with their established personality traits Lack of emotional depth Characters who fail to evoke empathy or connection in the audience Difficulty in differentiating characters Creating a cast that feels homogenous rather than diverse and distinct These problems often stem from a lack of a structured approach to character development Without a clear understanding of character motivations flaws and backstories its difficult to create a truly believable and engaging persona This is where Tom Bancrofts experience as a Disney animator shines a light on a proven path 2 The Solution Tom Bancrofts Approach to Character Personality Tom Bancroft renowned for his work on Disney classics like Mulan and Tarzan emphasizes a holistic approach to character creation His techniques informed by years of experience offer a powerful framework for crafting compelling characters 1 Understanding the Characters Core Bancroft emphasizes starting with the characters coretheir fundamental beliefs values and motivations This is more than just their profession or outward appearance its about their deepest desires and fears Consider using character questionnaires that probe beyond the surface What are their biggest fears What are their deepest desires What are their moral codes What are their strengths and weaknesses What

is their backstory and how has it shaped them Recent research in psychology particularly in personality theory eg the Big Five personality traits can be invaluable in adding layers to your characters Understanding the nuances of personality types helps you avoid creating flat predictable characters

## 2 Developing Compelling Backstories

A welldeveloped backstory isnt just about where the character came from its about the experiences that have shaped their personality Bancroft stresses the importance of understanding their historytheir childhood relationships and significant life events This helps you understand their present actions and motivations Consider using tools like timelines or mind maps to visualize the characters journey

## 3 Creating Consistent Behaviour

Once you understand the core of your character their behavior should flow naturally from their personality Inconsistent actions can break the illusion of realism and frustrate your audience Bancroft advises to carefully consider how your character would react in various situations based on their established personality and motivations This requires consistent internal consistency

## 4 Visualizing Personality Through Design

Bancrofts experience in animation highlights the power of visual cues in conveying personality The characters physical appearance body language and even their clothing can communicate volumes about their inner world Consider using Silhouette A strong silhouette can convey a characters attitude and personality Body language Posture gestures and facial expressions are crucial in conveying emotions and personality Color palette Colors can evoke specific emotions and associations reinforcing the characters personality Clothing and accessories These choices reflect the characters lifestyle values and social standing

## 5 Show Dont Tell

This ageold writing adage is crucial for character development Instead of directly stating a characters personality show it through their actions dialogue and interactions with other characters Let the audience infer their traits through their behavior

## Conclusion

Unleashing the Power of Authentic Characters By incorporating Tom Bancrofts holistic approach along with insights from contemporary research you can significantly improve your character development skills Remember that creating believable characters is an iterative process It requires experimentation revision and a willingness to delve deep into the psychology of your creations By focusing on the core backstory consistent behavior and visual representation you can create characters that are not just believable but truly unforgettable

## FAQs

### 1 How can I avoid creating stereotypical characters

Research diverse backgrounds and avoid relying on common tropes Focus on creating unique individuals with their own complex motivations and flaws

### 2 How do I balance consistency and character growth

Characters should be consistent in their core values but allow for changes in their outlook and behavior as they face challenges and

learn from their experiences 3 What if my character feels too complex or inconsistent This is normal Review their core backstory and actions Ensure everything aligns Simplification and editing may be needed 4 How can I improve my characters visual design to reflect their personality Study character design principles consider using mood boards and gather inspiration from various sources Experiment with different styles until you find a visual representation that complements your characters personality 4 5 What resources can help me further develop my character creation skills Explore Tom Bancrofts online tutorials and workshops study character design books and analyze characters from your favorite movies books and games to understand what makes them compelling

elton john s spokesman gave newspapers completely wrong information sir elton calls press intrusion into his baby son truly sickening elton tells court invasion into his family s privacy was msn elton john accuses daily mail publisher of abhorrent invasion of elton john tells uk privacy trial he was incensed by daily mail prince harry v daily mail live elton john tells court friends don t elton john claims pr fed wrong information to press latest hearing in harry s high court claim against mail publisher due prince harry and elton john appear at high court in associated sir elton john gives evidence on truly sickening press intrusion  
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7 hours ago sir elton john s publicist gave completely wrong information to newspapers the singer told a privacy trial he is suing the mail s publisher as part of the case brought by prince harry

19 hours ago sir elton john has said it was truly sickening to learn details of how the daily

mail breached his family's privacy in relation to the birth of his son the high court has heard  
elton john tells court invasion into his family's privacy was abhorrent singer gives evidence  
at high court as part of group of high profile figures bringing legal action against

15 hours ago elton john has said articles about his health and the birth of his son by the  
publisher of the daily mail were an abhorrent invasion as he described its behaviour as outside  
even the

18 hours ago singer elton john told london's high court on friday he was incensed to learn of  
allegations his landline phones had been bugged on behalf of the daily mail saying the papers

1 day ago sir elton john gave evidence at the high court against associated newspapers  
limited the publisher of the daily mail he is one of seven high profile figures taking legal  
action over alleged

16 hours ago sir elton john has claimed that his long serving public relations manager  
provided incorrect information to the press

nov 21 2023 in a ruling on november 10 a judge concluded that harry along with other high  
profile individuals including sir elton john and baroness doreen lawrence could continue their  
claims over

mar 27 2023 prince harry who is one of those suing associated newspapers the publisher of the  
daily mail was joined in the court room by singer sir elton john

18 hours ago sir elton john has said it was truly sickening to learn of how the daily mail  
breached his family's privacy in relation to the birth of his son zachary the high court has  
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