

Undertype/

You may be wondering what all this is about. Why yet another typewriter app? I was inspired by the amazing typewrite on the iPad, I particularly enjoyed using it!

I then also found a couple of apps that are dedicated to emulating typewriters. The most influential of which happens to be OverType at [unicode.com/typewriter/](http://unicode.com/typewriter/) - I borrowed a few techniques from their implementation.

However, I couldn't find anything that really satisfied what I was looking for. Primarily, I wanted something that was really fast to type in, but still had that epic typewrite feel to it.

I did a bit of reading and realized that there was more than met the eye. Creative and technical writing is divided into two parts - the first being just dumped your words straight onto the page with as little inhibitions to flow as possible.

The second is the editing parts where you take what you've written and then refine it. Ideally you want someone else to do the editing but you most likely want to refine your own thoughts a bit first

I happened to also be in the mood to try out figwheel and om, two libraries that I've been meaning to look at for a while. I was spurred on by the figwheel talk at clojure/west - the experience looked simply amazing and I was keen to feel what it felt like to develop with such low inhibitions.

Needless to say, it was amazing. I'm not usually a big fan of front-end html based development, but this was something almost magical. I could get stuff done at a much better pace. Not losing my flow even for a bit. I could quickly test out the sound library

But then also the whole lot just clicked into place. I finally, understood the big deal with Om. Not managing your state manually inside the DOM made for a fantastic stateless experience.

Back to the typewriter though - I am sad that more schools don't focus on the creative and editing writing differences. I suspect that we'd get a lot more proficient writers if the marks weren't all based on pure mechanical grammar and spelling correctness.

Or at least were not quite so emphasised.

I reckon I'll just publish this unedited. for kicks!

Cheers,  
- Deon.

PS. I even had a bug in the print to pdf that overlaid the copy button. I could fix it without losing state!

Check out this project at:

[www.github.com/CmdrDats/undertype](http://www.github.com/CmdrDats/undertype)