

My Creative Ideas and Thoughts

The Thinker

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1 What is Lorem Ipsum?

2 Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry. Lorem Ipsum
3 has been the industry's standard dummy text ever since the 1500s, when an unknown printer
4 took a galley of type and scrambled it to make a type specimen book. It has survived not only
5 five centuries, but also the leap into electronic typesetting, remaining essentially unchanged.
6 It was popularised in the 1960s with the release of Letraset sheets containing Lorem Ipsum
7 passages, and more recently with desktop publishing software like Aldus PageMaker includ-
8 ing versions of Lorem Ipsum.

2 Why do we use it?

10 It is a long established fact that a reader will be distracted by the readable content of a page
11 when looking at its layout. The point of using Lorem Ipsum is that it has a more-or-less normal
12 distribution of letters, as opposed to using 'Content here, content here', making it look like
13 readable English. Many desktop publishing packages and web page editors now use Lorem
14 Ipsum as their default model text, and a search for 'lorem ipsum' will uncover many web sites
15 still in their infancy. Various versions have evolved over the years, sometimes by accident,
16 sometimes on purpose (injected humour and the like).

3 Where does it come from?

18 Contrary to popular belief, Lorem Ipsum is not simply random text. It has roots in a piece of
19 classical Latin literature from 45 BC, making it over 2000 years old. Richard McClintock, a
20 Latin professor at Hampden-Sydney College in Virginia, looked up one of the more obscure
21 Latin words, consectetur, from a Lorem Ipsum passage, and going through the cites of the
22 word in classical literature, discovered the undoubtable source. Lorem Ipsum comes from
23 sections 1.10.32 and 1.10.33 of "de Finibus Bonorum et Malorum" (The Extremes of Good and
24 Evil) by Cicero, written in 45 BC. This book is a treatise on the theory of ethics, very popular
25 during the Renaissance. The first line of Lorem Ipsum, "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet..", comes
26 from a line in section 1.10.32.

27 The standard chunk of Lorem Ipsum used since the 1500s is reproduced below for those
28 interested. Sections 1.10.32 and 1.10.33 from "de Finibus Bonorum et Malorum" by Cicero are
29 also reproduced in their exact original form, accompanied by English versions from the 1914
30 translation by H. Rackham.

31 **3.1 Where can I get some?**

32 There are many variations of passages of Lorem Ipsum available, but the majority have suf-
33 fered alteration in some form, by injected humour, or randomised words which don't look
34 even slightly believable. If you are going to use a passage of Lorem Ipsum, you need to
35 be sure there isn't anything embarrassing hidden in the middle of text. All the Lorem Ipsum
36 generators on the Internet tend to repeat predefined chunks as necessary, making this the
37 first true generator on the Internet. It uses a dictionary of over 200 Latin words, combined
38 with a handful of model sentence structures, to generate Lorem Ipsum which looks reason-
39 able. The generated Lorem Ipsum is therefore always free from repetition, injected humour,
40 or non-characteristic words etc.