

# Article-Process-Map

## Article Process Map

### Purpose

Define the single-pass workflow for producing complete, publication-ready articles without multi-section stop-points or chapter architecture mechanics.

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## Overview

Article production follows a **streamlined, single-pass flow** designed for standalone pieces. Unlike chapter-oriented workflows with stop-and-confirm behaviors, article production proceeds continuously from planning through final QA.

**Key principle:** Write the complete article in one continuous draft cycle, then apply quality controls silently before delivering final text.

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## Process Flow

### 1. Plan (Article Brief)

**Input:** Article Brief created using [Article-Brief-Template.md](#)

#### Actions:

- Define article objective and scope
- Identify target audience and constraints
- Specify device activations (name, purpose, placement)
- Set topic-specific freshness expectations
- Establish success criteria and evaluation checks

**Output:** Approved Article Brief serving as activation authority and operational directive

## Control documents loaded:

- Style Baseline (Directive)
  - Brand Pack (Author Compass)
  - Article Brief
  - Article Master Spec
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## 2. Draft (Complete Article)

**Input:** Approved Article Brief + loaded control documents

### Actions:

- Select and declare one hard shape from approved set
- Write complete article to natural completion (content-driven length)
- Integrate activated devices with required activation headers
- Apply APA citations for all non-common-knowledge claims
- Maintain third-person voice, purposeful sentences, anti-redundancy
- End with verification or next-action sentence (final-line rule)

**Output:** Complete first-pass article draft (internal, not yet delivered)

**No stop-points:** Article is drafted continuously without section breaks or confirmation pauses

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## 3. Critic Loop (Silent Self-Check)

**Input:** Complete first-pass draft

**Actions (performed silently, never exposed to reader):**

## Voice Check

- Verify third-person narration (no "I," "we," or direct second-person)
- Confirm confident, plain-spoken, instructive tone
- Validate sentence rhythm and paragraph structure (80–110 words per paragraph)
- Ensure natural voicing (feels human-written)

## Focus Check

- Validate every sentence advances the idea, provides evidence, or strengthens arguments
- Confirm no filler, repetition, or tangential digressions
- Verify hard-shape conformity (declared shape followed end-to-end)
- Check final-line rule (last sentence is verification or next action, not a maxim)
- Validate device gating (devices appear only if Article Brief activated them)
- Confirm activation headers present for all activated devices

## Evidence Check

- Verify APA-format in-text citations for all factual claims
- Check that all citations have corresponding reference entries
- Validate freshness against Article Brief horizons
- Identify any time-sensitive claims lacking current sources
- Flag gaps with **[Writer to research latest ]** if needed

## Actions:

- Revise once internally to fix all identified issues
- **Never output** reasoning notes, checklists, or compliance reports

**Output:** Revised article draft (internal)

**Trigger for Research Pass:** If Evidence Check identifies freshness gaps or Article Brief requires verification

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## 4. Research Pass (Conditional)

**Trigger conditions:**

- Freshness gate fires during Critic Loop (time-sensitive claim lacks current source)
- Article Brief explicitly requests verification
- Evidence Check identifies citation gaps

**Input:** Revised article draft + identified research needs

**Actions:**

- Search for most current credible sources (prefer DOIs, stable URLs)
- Update or insert APA citations
- Add companion-site callouts where data is likely to evolve:

"For the latest information on , visit  
<https://theproductiveprompt.com>."

- **No-new-claims rule:** May replace, update, or remove evidence; must not introduce new argumentative claims
- Re-run Critic Loop silently to ensure consistency

**Output:** Research-updated article draft with current citations

**Reference:** See [Evidence-and-IP-Annex.md](#) for detailed research protocols

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## 5. Final QA (Quality Gates)

**Input:** Critic-Loop-revised (and optionally research-updated) draft

## **Gate checks (binding):**

### **Gate A — Baseline & Shape Declared**

- Style Anchor present (from Style Baseline)
- Single hard shape declared and followed
- Third-person voice maintained

### **Gate B — Critic Loop**

- Single silent pass completed (Voice, Focus, Evidence)
- Final-line rule satisfied
- Device activations validated (headers present if used)
- Anti-redundancy check passed

### **Gate C — Evidence & Freshness**

- APA compliance verified
- Dynamic freshness satisfied or gaps bracketed
- Research Pass executed if triggered
- Companion-site callouts added where appropriate

## **Actions:**

- Verify all gates passed
- If any gate fails, cycle back to appropriate step (Draft or Critic Loop)

**Output:** QA-passed article ready for references compilation

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## **6. References (Consolidated)**

**Input:** QA-passed article

## **Actions:**

- Compile single, alphabetized APA 7 references list
- Include all sources cited in article
- Add DOIs or stable URLs where available
- Include accessed dates for web sources
- Add companion-site references for time-sensitive data

**Output:** Complete article with consolidated references section

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## Precedence Order for Conflict Resolution

When instructions conflict across documents, resolve in this order:

1. **Style Baseline (Directive)**
2. **Brand Pack (Author Compass)**
3. **Article Brief (per-article)**
4. **Critic Loop (Single-Pass Self-Check)**
5. **Evidence & IP Annex (APA + IP)**
6. **Device Catalog (Annex)**

First document in list is the tiebreaker.

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## Where Each Step Reads Its Controls

Step	Primary Control Documents
Plan	Article Brief Template, Brand Pack, Style Baseline
Draft	Article Master Spec, Article Brief, Style Baseline, Brand Pack
Critic Loop	Critic Loop (Single-Pass Self-Check), Article Brief, Style Baseline

Step	Primary Control Documents
Research Pass	Evidence & IP Annex, Article Brief
Final QA	Article Master Spec (compliance checklist)
References	Evidence & IP Annex (APA formatting)

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## Key Differences from Chapter Workflows

### Removed mechanics:

- X Multi-section stop-and-confirm behaviors ("Ready for next section?")
- X Chapter/sub-chapter architecture and movement bridges
- X Transitional bridge drafting steps
- X Fixed numeric length bands (e.g., 700–1,200 words per movement)

### Retained mechanics:

- ✓ Single silent Critic Loop (Voice, Focus, Evidence)
  - ✓ Hard shape declaration and final-line rule
  - ✓ Device gating via Brief activation
  - ✓ Dynamic freshness with Research Pass
  - ✓ APA citation and consolidated references
  - ✓ Anti-redundancy checks
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## Execution Notes

- **Context window management:** Articles are written in one continuous pass; no internal movement breaks required
- **Silent operation:** All quality checks happen internally; only final text is delivered

- **Device integration:** Devices appear inline with activation headers, not as separate sections
  - **Length flexibility:** Write to completeness based on content strength, not to word counts
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**Version:** 1.0

**Date:** November 3, 2025

**Status:** Normative — Defines the operational workflow for article production.