

# How to Avoid Self-Plagiarism Blackhole

Do you want to know how to avoid self plagiarism? If you are asking if 'what is self- plagiarism and how to avoid it,' keep reading. Self-plagiarism is reusing or recycling one's own work or words from a published text. While it does not constitute copying from another author's ideas or message, it is still an issue in the publishing world, academic or professional.

## Is It Possible to Plagiarize Your Own Work?

What else is self-plagiarism? Aside from what's mentioned above, it is also committed when there are two identical papers found in two places. The practice is called duplicate publication. The problem of plagiarizing oneself exists in many fields, such as in manuscript publishing on the web.

There are many authors submitting their works, especially journals and manuscripts, online. They must ensure that those they submit is original to get credit in the topic. If they do, they can make a new contribution to the field. In another field, such as biochemistry and molecular biology, authors should avoid repeated verbatim.



## Different Opinions of Self-Plagiarism

Is it possible to plagiarize your own work? Yes. But to better enlighten you on the issue, here are some expert takes on it.

### *Michele S. Garfinkel*

It is argued that self-plagiarism is impossible, as one can't steal information from oneself. The definition of self-plagiarism remains to be unclear; many people are unaware of its implications.

According to Michele, it is unreasonable that the entire section of your paper be repeated verbatim while having no intent to deceive. Thus, you should take the responsibility of checking your own work.

### *Jessica Gopalakrishnan*

Others think that they can reuse their own work because it is their own, but it will be considered as self-plagiarism. Many writers should be aware of the laws and ethics of self-plagiarism.

## Criteria for Self-Plagiarism

- Duplicate publication
- Augmented publication: It occurs when you add additional data to the published content and submit it as a new article, manuscript or journal with adjusted study aims and different title.
- Segmented publication: Segmented refers to a case where two or more contents are being derived from same experiment.
- Text recycling: It is all about using a large portion of one's published text into a new manuscript. This self-plagiarism can be detected by online plagiarism detection tool.



## 10 Tips on How to Avoid Self-Plagiarism

Even professional writers can run into this problem when they write articles or blogs over the same content matters. Many writers encounter situations when they need to give similar topic content to numerous clients. However, this is not a problem for professional writers who are not taking shortcuts or are not negligent.

**1. Hit the manuscript again:** There is no good reason to avoid reusing a source when you are making content that is similar to a work that you have already done.

On the other hand, reusing the same notes and sources can lead to making new content identical to the old content. What you need to do is to make an additional research in tackling the topic and making notes from your previous sources. Making a new research can also ensure that you have more things to discuss in the new content.

**2. Write from notes, not from finished content.** In writing an article or blog that is similar to your previous work, you should not copy and paste segments from old contents to the new one you're working on. Otherwise, you can accidentally self-plagiarize. It is better to go over the content again to expand or do a rework on your notes in order to write a fresh content.

**3. Cite previous work:** If you came across a linked sentence stated something as, "we discussed this point in the previous article," what you have encountered is a self-citation, meaning you are crediting the original source.

**4. Space out work:** If you completed a project and then proceed moving to the next right away, you are still familiar with the main points of the previous content that you have written. To avoid this, you need to take a rest before writing the next content.

**5. Adjust the text:** What you need to do is to adjust your text to make it different and so that readers would have a better understanding of the key points.

**6. Reusing published works:** In order to avoid self-plagiarism, you need to reuse published works only as an example of what you are writing. You can check self-plagiarism examples to get more ideas.



**7. Apply paraphrasing techniques:** To avoid repetitions, you need to apply paraphrasing techniques. You may also want to use automatic plagiarism checker, which will let you store all published texts in your account.

**8. Check for proper referencing techniques:** You need to check if you have properly referenced your previous work so that you can avoid self-plagiarism.

**9. Have colleagues proofread your work:** You can ask your peers or colleagues to proofread your work as well as get a feedback of their corrections.

**10. Keep track of responses:** If you have submitted your work to numerous sites or publishers, you need to keep track of their responses. By the time that they published your work, inform your readers about it. Be sure to keep a record of this detail by using Evernote or Google Forms, which can be synched to your PC or mobile.

### Quotes about Self-Plagiarism

- *Self-plagiarism is style (Alfred Hitchcock)*
- *I have been imitated so well I have heard individuals copy my own mistakes (Jimi Hendrix)*
- *Self-plagiarism is the fear of a blank page (Mokokoma Mohkonoana)*
- *I get many ideas, and I actually come up with one myself (Bauvard)*
- *Plagiarists, at least have preservation merit (Benjamin Disraeli)*

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