

How To Get Creative

As a creative, you're a rebel by nature, but it's easy to feel trapped under a boring, non-risqué cloud where it rains isolation and discouragement. iStock wants you to banish that stormy disposition with a furious hurricane of risk, creativity and exploration.

1. Take Risks – [Rebels](#) don't follow rules, so start by admitting what habits you retreat to when you're uninspired. Introduce alternatives to those habits, which will throw off your routine. Try a new cafe, change your haircut or leave your house more.
2. Invite Creativity – If you're a photographer, take your camera somewhere unfamiliar. You never know what you'll see on a trip to the dump or a walk through the neighborhood on the other side of the train tracks. If you're more of an illustrator, take your [sketchbook](#) everywhere, from a garage sale to the aquarium, you just never know when inspiration might strike.
3. Seek Inspiration – Whose art baffles your mind or arrests your soul? Not sure? Well, now's the time to find out. iStock's [Design Spotlight](#), [Article of the Week](#) and [Artist of the Week](#) are a good place to start. Branch out to the ultimate rock stars of your genre who you dream of one day competing with. [Take a tutorial](#) you've been avoiding.
4. [Scrapbook it](#) – No, not quite like your mother used to do. Gather artifacts like photos, ads, concert tickets, articles, lucky shoelaces or fabric samples. Whatever floats your boat and stirs your imagination.
5. [Surround Yourself with Creativity](#) – Pump up the volume on your stereo or iPod, rent that old Alfred Hitchcock flick or play a little music to get into that creative space.
5. Challenge Yourself – Test your skills in a friendly competition.