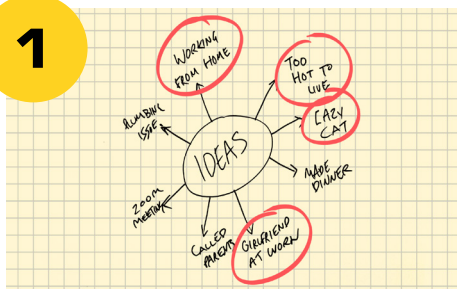


MAKING DIARY COMICS

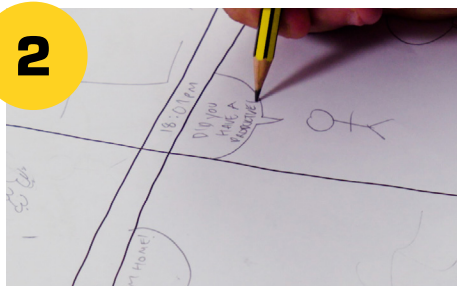
1



GENERATE IDEAS

Start by generating some ideas for your diary comic. A good practice is to make a quick brainstorm of all the things that happened to you recently. You can then go through them and pick out the ones you like, and discard the ones you don't.

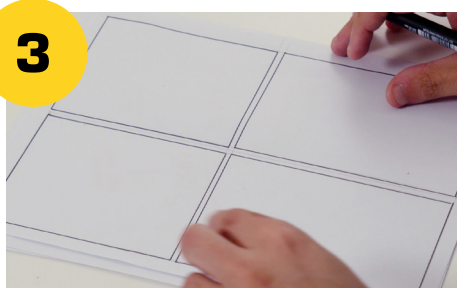
2



DRAW YOUR LAYOUT

Once your idea is in place, take a piece of scrap paper and make a very rough sketch version of your comic, with stick figures and bits of text. This is essentially the writing stage, and your finished layout will be the blueprint for your final comic.

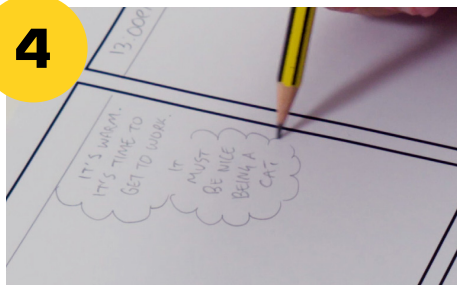
3



SET UP YOUR GRID

Take a blank sheet of paper, and carefully rule out your panel borders with a pen. Alternatively, use one of the print-out templates I've provided.

4



WRITE OUT YOUR DIALOGUE

Using a pencil, start populating your comics page with the text, bubbles and captions from your layout. This will give you an idea of space - you can always rub it out and change stuff later!

5



PENCIL YOUR COMIC

The fun part. Start drawing your comic properly onto the page, using your layout as a guide. Take as much as you want here, but don't be too precious - diary comics are supposed to be quick, expressive and, ideally, daily - so don't stress if it's not perfect!

6



INK YOUR COMIC

Using a fineliner, brush pen or other inking device, go over all your text and lines - firming them up, bringing out details and filling in black areas. This is where you give your comic that final polish. Once the ink is dry, rub out the underlying pencils and hurray: you've made a comic!

