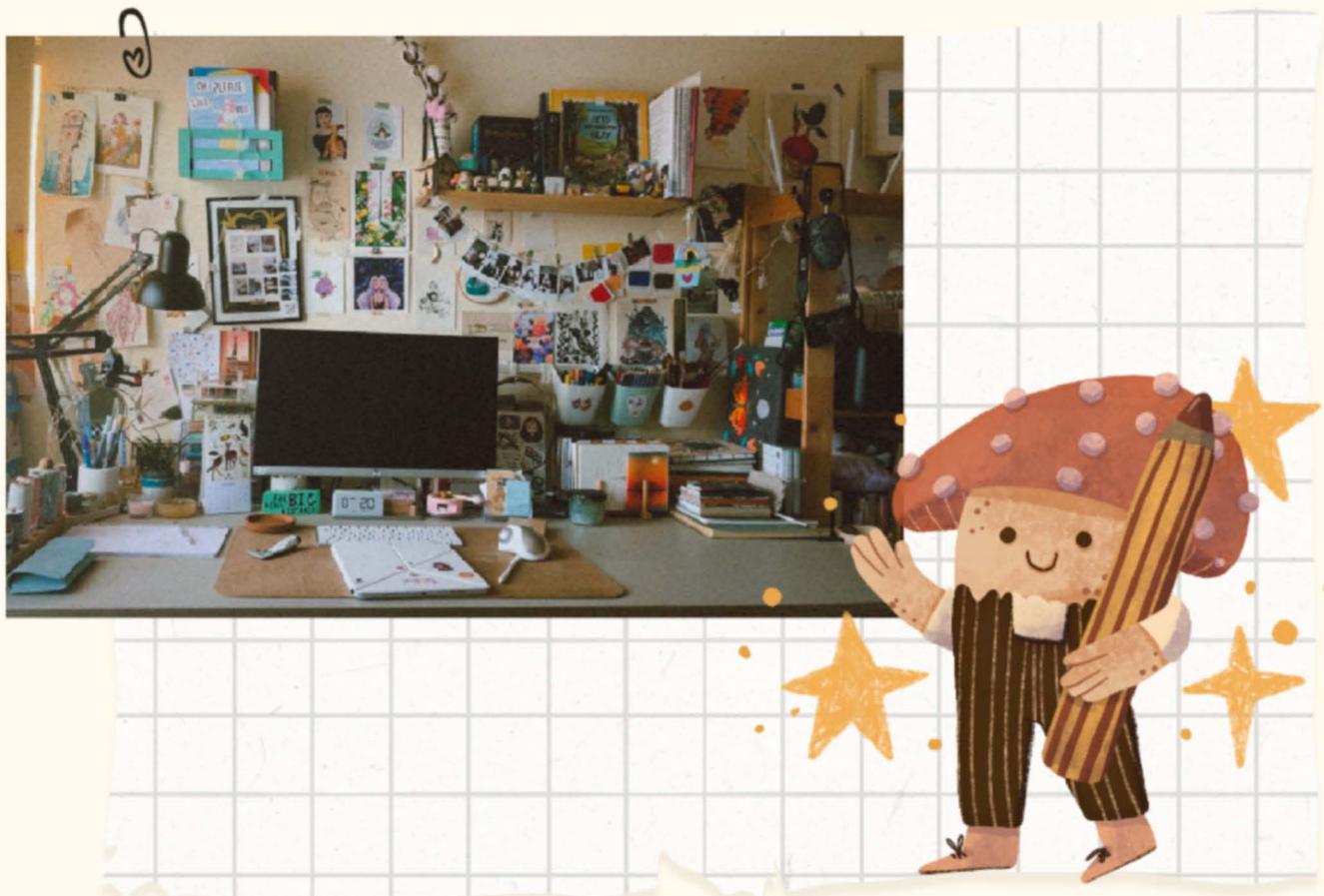


# THINKING ABOUT FREELANCE?

A gentle reality & progress guide for illustrators

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# Why this worksheet exists

This worksheet isn't here to tell you what to do.

It's here to help you notice how freelance life feels to you over time.

You don't need to have all the answers right now – just honesty.

Every 3 – 4 months, take some time to check in with yourself and reflect on how you feel.

By the end of the year, you should have a clear baseline to help you decide whether freelancing is a good fit for you.

## Reality check:

1. I'm okay with uncertainty, at least for a while
2. I don't need constant external validation
3. I can make decisions without clear instructions
4. I'm willing to learn things outside of illustration
5. I'm comfortable working alone most of the time

## Expectations vs reality:

What I imagine freelance will give me: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What I'm ready to handle if it doesn't: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Energy check-in:

1. Things that give me energy: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Things that drain me: \_\_\_\_\_

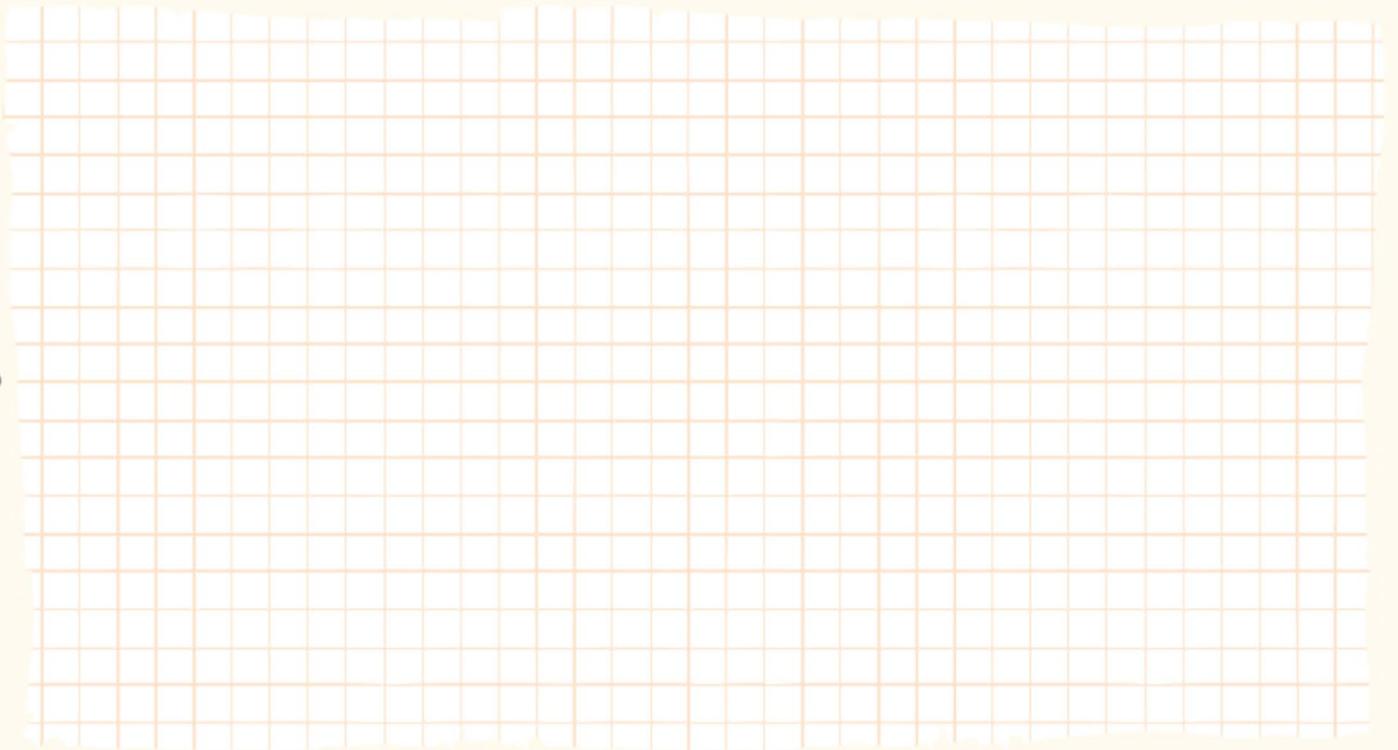
\_\_\_\_\_

3. Things I'm learning about myself: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Money & stress awareness:

How do I feel during quiet months? What helps me stay calm during uncertainty?  
What kind of rhythm feels sustainable for me?



# Community check:

Who do I feel better after spending time with? Where do I exchange experiences, not compete? What kind of creative community do I need right now?

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# Proud milestones:

Freelance progress is often quiet and easy overlooked. Take a moment to write down things you're genuinely proud of - not what you *should* be proud of, but what actually matters to you. Things like: a project completed, progress in your skill development, a boundary you managed to keep or any goal you reach, big or small. There's no hierarchy here.



*Sometimes progress doesn't need to be proven - it just needs to be remembered. This is a space to notice growth while it's still happening.*