



Polly Holyoke's World Building Checklist:

- Planetology** What moons and planets are nearby?
How do they affect your world?
- Geography** What is the terrain and climate like in each of your kingdoms or countries?
- Economics** How do people make a living? How are jobs shaped by local geography? What is of great value in your society?
- History** Know what important past events impact the present, but choose wisely in terms of sharing historical events with your reader.
- Government** What governmental system do your characters live under? Do people respect, like, or fear their leaders, and why?
- Religion** Do your characters live in a religious or secular society? How do their beliefs impact their actions and decisions?
- Culture** Dress, food, customs, family structure, gender roles, music, arts
- Language** Some slang/dialect can be helpful in building your world, but create it carefully and use it sparingly.
- Rules of Magic** Who has magic in your world? How does it work? Where does it come from? What is the cost of using it?
- Rules of Technology** In speculative fiction, it's crucial to have a cool, innovative premise rooted in technology and science. How does your new tech work? Who invented it? Who controls it? What happens to your world or universe if it fails?
- Names** Make sure your reader can pronounce them!