

Operation CPZ Rules/Guidelines

Hello and thank you for your interest in Operation CPZ: a Cipher Pol zine! This document will outline the rules and guidelines to be aware of before submitting your application, **so please read them thoroughly!**

For more information on the project and FAQs, please read our [carrd](#).

You can find us on [Twitter](#) and [Tumblr](#), and if you have a question that wasn't answered here feel free to contact us on [Retrospring](#)!

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Rules:

1. **Be respectful and considerate of others:**

All mods and contributors are expected to be polite, respectful, and kind towards one another. Treat others how you wish to be treated. This includes topics in which you may disagree with someone's opinions, such as ships or favorite characters, or behavior such as posting malware links. If you have an issue with someone in the server and/or something they said, please contact a mod.

2. **Do not engage in bigoted behavior:**

Anyone engaging in bigoted behavior, whether it be a mod or contributor, in the server or on socials, will be immediately removed from the project along with any/all work created. This includes, but is not limited to: homophobia, transphobia, biphobia,

lesbophobia, sexism, racism, Islamophobia, anti-Semitism, ableism, etc.

3. **Do not engage in harassment:**

Any kind of harassment, doxxing, etc. inside or outside of the server, of server members or otherwise, is expressly forbidden and will result in removal from the project.

4. **We will not be policing content created outside of the zine (unless it violates a rule):**

Anything created outside of the server is not our responsibility nor concern unless it violates one of the rules. If you have any issues with content created by someone that does not violate one of the rules, please bring your concerns to a mod, and we will try our best to work on a solution to make sure everyone is comfortable during the project.

5. **All work must be your own:**

This means no AI, no tracing other's work, and no claiming other's work as your own. Doing so will result in removal from the project.

6. **The zine will **NOT** contain the following content:**

- NSFW
- minor with adult ships
- incest
- OCs
- xReader

(The server will feature more server-specific rules, but these are the essentials for now!)

Artist Guidelines:

The following applies to cover, page, comic, merch, and spot artists

Please link a full portfolio. You may link a google drive folder, twitter account, etc. Just make sure that the link works, and if using google drive, that **sharing is on**. Additionally, if using social media as a portfolio, please send **only art-focused accounts**, or accounts with a tagging system such as a Tumblr blog, so we can easily find your work. **You may have NSFW present**, but please put it in its **own folder or warn** if it is on a social media account. Thank you!

The moderators will be looking for understanding/proficiency of the following in our review

process of artist applications:

- Technique related to character art (anatomy, poses, lineart, etc.)
- Story-telling (composition, building a scene, getting character personalities across, etc.)
- Color (rendering, color theory, etc.)

For comic artists: It is preferred, although not required, to have examples of comic book pages in your portfolio that convey an understanding of dialogue and general pacing/flow, in addition to the criteria above.

For merch artists: It is preferred, although not required, to have examples of a simplified style as some merch items such as emotes may work better without too much detail.

Writer Guidelines:

Please link 3 pieces that best showcase your abilities in addition to a full portfolio. You may use google docs or a site such as ao3, fanfic.net, etc. to link your pieces/portfolio. If using google docs/drive, please make sure **sharing is on**.

No more than one sample may be explicitly NSFW, and warned if such. SFW excerpts from NSFW pieces are fine. **At least one fic must be One Piece related.**

Fic samples must be between 500-1,500 words, although you are more than welcome to use an excerpt from a longer work to fit within this frame! Thank you!

The moderators will be looking for understanding/proficiency of the following in our review process of writer applications:

- Characterization/Plot
- Emotion/Atmosphere/Depth
- Grammar/Prose (although we understand not everyone has English as a first language!)

Assignment Expectations:

If accepted into the zine, contributors will be assigned the following:

The **cover artist** will be creating a double page spread, allowing room for the title of the zine on the front.

Page artists will be given the option to create a single page **or** double spread piece. 2-4 page comics are also an option if desired.

Merch artists *may* be assigned multiple pieces in a complex + simple combination such as one phone background + 1-2 icons. Merch items will be assigned based on what options the contributor selects in their application.

Spot artists will be assigned 1-2 fics to create art for. Spot artists **will be required to make a minimum of 2 pieces of spot art** featuring characters/moments from the story. Additional pieces of spot art are optional.

Writers are expected to write between 1,000 - 3,500 words depending on what they would prefer! We are willing to give or take a couple hundred words if necessary.

Application FAQs:

Q: How old do I have to be to apply?

A: As the entire mod team is comprised of adults, we would feel most comfortable with an all adult team. Therefore, **you must be at least 18 years old** at the time of applications (July 1st) to apply.

Q: Do I have to pay to apply?

A: Nope, the zine is 100% **free** to both apply and participate in!

Q: Can I apply for multiple positions?

A: Yes! Although you will only be accepted for one position, with the exception of page and merch artists possibly being spot artists as well.

It is also possible to be accepted as **a spot artist only**, in which you will create art for 1-2 fics. Spot artists have the option to create page art as well, but **only after their spot art assignments are completed**.

Q: Do I need pieces with Cipher Pol characters in my application?

A: No, it is not required although it is encouraged if you happen to have some!

Q: How many contributors will be accepted?

A: We're looking for:

~ 20-23 page artists

~ 3-5 merch artists

~ 6-8 writers

Spot artists may be added individually or page/merch artists will also contribute spot art. These numbers are subject to change depending upon the number of applications we receive.

Zine FAQs:

Q: Where will zine work be conducted?

A: All communication, feedback, and check-ins will be conducted in a **zine-specific Discord server**. Contributors are welcome to request feedback and communication via Discord DMs if they would prefer.

Q: What happens if I don't have a Discord account?

A: We encourage you to create one, but if you would rather not we can discuss conducting one-on-one feedback and check-ins via email.

Q: Will contributors receive compensation?

A: Yes, all contributors will receive a free full digital bundle, but 100% of profits made during preorders go to our charity [The Wildcat Sanctuary](#). No physical products will be made for this project.

Q: Are extensions allowed?

A: Yes! If a contributor needs an extension for any reason, they just need to ask. Extensions are one week and apply to all check-in dates including the final due date.

Q: Will characters be assigned?

A: Yes. Applicants will indicate which characters they would like to create for in their applications, and if accepted, will be assigned one or more of those characters for their piece.

Applicants are free to include any other Cipher Pol members (and select non-members) in their piece, as long as the focus remains on their assigned character(s). The only exception to this may be smaller merch items such as icons, in which there isn't room for additional characters.

Q: Are you looking for a particular kind of content?

A: A contributor is free to create whatever they'd like, whether that be lighthearted and fun or dark and serious! We're looking for a balanced amount of both!

Q: Will there be any spoilers in the zine?

A: We will be allowing spoiler content up to the latest episode of the anime, which at the time of this writing is episode 1106. Spoilers from manga content will be considered on a case by case basis.

Q: What non-Cipher Pol members am I allowed to include?

A: We are allowing supporting roles for Cipher Pol relevant characters such as Iceburg, Paulie, Galley-La workers, the Strawhats, and other characters they've interacted with in canon.

Characters outside of the above to be included in non-ship pieces will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Q: What about ships?

A: Contributors can create for any ship as long as it **includes at least one** Cipher Pol member, and the **focus remains** on said member, with the **exception** of:

- OCs
- xReader
- Minor with an adult
- Incest

Q: Will the zine be NSFW?

A: No, the zine is **SFW**, with levels of violence and dark themes to the extent present in canon, but not beyond. As an example, blood is allowed, but not explicit gore.

Q: What kind of AUs can I create?

A: We ask that contributors **do NOT create media-specific AUs**, such as Pokemon or Spiderman, in order to avoid possible copyright strikes and keep the zine accessible to a wider audience.

Otherwise, you're free to work with other AUs such as historical periods, fantasy, sci-fi, modern, personality swap, devil fruit swap, if they never joined Cipher Pol, etc.!

Q: What if I finish my piece early, can I make another one?

A: For artists: you may make up to **one additional** page/merch piece **only after your initial assignment is completed.** This includes spot artists.

For writers: We are unfortunately **not able to accommodate** additional writer pieces due to the work intensive nature of formatting writing into a zine.

Check-ins are not required for extra pieces, but they will be **expected to be turned in by the final due-date** of January 13th, 2025. An extension of one week beyond this date is available if needed. Creating an extra piece is **100% optional** and **in no way a requirement.** It is simply an option for those who are interested!

Don't see your question here? Check out our [carrd](#) for more FAQs or send an ask on our [Retrospring!](#)