

What is a Diamante Poem?

When a diamante poem is written it takes on the shape of a diamond.

The Structure of a Diamante Poem

A diamante poem is made up of 7 lines using a set structure:

Line 1: Beginning subject

Line 2: Two describing words about line 1

Line 3: Three doing words about line 1

Line 4: A short phrase about line 1, a short phrase about line 7

Line 5: Three doing words about line 7

Line 6: Two describing words about line 7

Line 7: End subject

An example of a diamante poem

Bike
Shiny, quiet,
Pedaling, spinning, weaving
Whizzing round corners, zooming along roads
Racing, roaring, speeding
Fast, loud,
Car

What is a Blank Verse Poem?

A blank verse is a poem with no rhyme but does have iambic pentameter. This means it consists of lines of five feet, each foot being iambic, meaning two syllables long, one unstressed followed by a stressed syllable.

The Structure of a Blank Verse Poem

Five feet of iambic syllables -

Sounding du DUM du DUM du DUM du DUM du DUM

Each foot making the verse sound like it has heart beat rhythm.

Each line has a set number of **syllables** see below:

An Example of a Blank Verse Poem

Furball Friend

*Sweet pet by day, hunter by night. She sleeps,
she eats, she plays. My feet, caught in white paws.
She's up the fence, watching her prey - a bird.
Poor thing, better run quick, 'cause watch, she'll pounce!
She'll sweetly beg for fuss, but don't be fooled.
'Cause one minute she'll purr and smile, then snap!
She'll spit and hiss - and oh - surprise! A mouse.
He's dead. A gift. Retracts her claws. Miaow!
Figure of eight between my legs, looks up
at me and purrs. The sound pulls my heartstrings.
Her big blue eyes like dinner plates - so cute.
Cunning she is, she knows I can't resist.
Curling up tight, we sleep entwined as one.
Despite her quirks, I would not change a claw
of her. Cheeky Sammy: my snow-white queen.*

What is a Free Verse Poem?

A Free Verse is poetry written with rhymed or unrhymed verse that has no set **meter** to it.

An example of a Free Verse poem

In Flight

Wake up to a bright sapphire morning
Cloudless skies
This can only mean one thing
It's a go!

At the launch site
Teeth chit-chattering
And not just from the c-cold

What if a bird confuses my head for a perch?
Will my glasses be fogged up by the clouds?
If I fall out of the basket
And land in a field of cows

Up we go!
Far below
Idyllic fields of patchwork green
Glittering lakes - a treasure trove beneath the surface
Click!

I can't believe I'm so high
Feeling like a queen
I stretch my arms out to the sides
Now I'm a bird
So high
I close my eyes and take flight
I feel the wind in my wings
Up with the clouds
My hair, now feathers, sweeps behind me
I am as elegant as a swan
Soaring higher than the Earth

Oh
I'm not a bird
I'm not as elegant as a swan
I'm about as elegant as a rhino on roller skates
I'm just a schoolgirl
On a balloon flight

And we just crash-landed
In a field
With cows.

What is a Limerick?

A limerick is often a funny poem with a strong beat. Limericks are very light hearted poems and can sometimes be utter nonsense. They are great for kids to both read and write as they are short and funny.

The Structure of a Limerick Poem

A Limerick consists of five lines.

- The first line of a limerick poem usually begins with 'There was a....' and ends with a name, person or place.
- The last line of a limerick is normally a little farfetched or unusual.
- A limerick should have a rhyme scheme of aabba:
- This means lines 1,2 and 5 rhyme and lines 3 and 4 **rhyme**.
- Also, lines 1,2 and 5 should have 7 – 10 **syllables** and lines 3 and 4 should have 5 – 7 **syllables**.

An example of a Limerick Poem by famous poet Edward Lear

'There was an old man with a beard
Who said, 'It is just as I feared,
Two owls and a hen
A lark and a wren
Have all built their nests in my beard!'

What is an Ottava Rima Poem?

An Ottava Rima is an Italian poem made up of eight lines that **rhyme**. Each line consists of eleven **syllables**.

The structure of an Ottava Rima Poem

An Ottava Rima poem is made up of an octave with the rhyme pattern

ab
ab
ab
cc

An example of an Ottava Rima Poem

Quickly did the tiger begin his fast run
Over hilly ground you see him fly and leap
The passive prey laying grazing in the sun
Suddenly its life that it wanted to keep
Tiger pounces, quickly getting the job done
The prey collapsing in a really big heap
Tiger sleeps as night takes over from the day
Will we ever see the hunter become prey?

What is a Sonnet Poem?

A Sonnet is a poem of an expressive thought or idea made up of 14 lines, each being 10 **syllables** long. Its rhymes are arranged according to one of the schemes – Italian, where eight lines called an octave consisting of two quatrains which normally open the poem as the question are followed by six lines called a sestet that are the answer, or the more common English which is three quatrains followed by **rhyming couplet**.

The Structure of a Sonnet Poem

- ab ab, cdcd, efef, gg - English
- abba abba cdecde - Italian

An example of a Sonnet Poem

- (a) Scribbler! oh what a joy you can find here
- (b) Eric is the one that heads the great team
- (a) Full of poems, stories and happy cheer
- (b) Hopefully it will make our readers gleam
- (c) Bronte's Grammar is full of homework help
- (d) Guest authors revealing secrets galore
- (c) While the tricky puzzles will make you yelp
- (d) There is no way Scribbler! will make you snore
- (e) Eric will start a tale needing an end
- (f) Fancy a challenge? Puzzle Time is here
- (e) Shakespeare picks the great pictures you all send
- (f) Ev'ry issue's jam-packed, let's give a cheer
- (g) How 'bout finding Eric hidden away
- (g) Jump on the Scribbler! wagon, come and play!

What is a Tetractys?

The poetic form of the tetractys is a poem with only five lines. Each line adds another **syllable** until the last line which has ten.

What is the Structure of a Tetractys?

A tetractys consists of 5 lines, each line has a set number of syllables see below:

- Line 1 – 1 syllable
- Line 2 – 2 syllables
- Line 3 – 3 syllables
- Line 4 – 4 syllables
- Line 5 – 10 syllables

An Example of a Tetractys Poem

(1 syllable) I
(2 syllables) Am four
(3 syllables) And I go
(4 syllables) To big school where
(10 syllables) I learn to read and write and spell my name.

Double Tetractys Poem

For a more complex form there is the double tetractys, which is similar but has ten lines and is structured as shown below:

- Line 1 – 1 syllable
- Line 2 – 2 syllables
- Line 3 – 3 syllables
- Line 4 – 4 syllables
- Line 5 – 10 syllables
- Line 6 – 10 syllables
- Line 7 – 4 syllables
- Line 8 – 3 syllables
- Line 9 – 2 syllables
- Line 10 – 1 syllable

An Example of a Double Tetractys Poem

(1 syllable) I
(2 syllables) Am four
(3 syllables) And I go
(4 syllables) To big school where
(10 syllables) I learn to read and write and spell my name. (10 syllables) It is fun and I play games with my friends (4 syllables) My best friend is (3 syllables) Called Rosie (2 syllables) She is (1 syllable) Nice.

What is a Ballad?

A Ballad is a poem that tells a story, which are often used in songs because of their **rhyme**. A ballad is a poetic story, often a love story.

Example of a Ballad Poem

As I was walking down the street
I saw two people in secret meet
The second one said to the first
'You have some news to quench my thirst?'

'In behind the old, damp shed
There lies a noble man slain, dead
And no one knows he lies in strife
Except his dog and lonely wife

With master gone where no one knocks
His dog has left to chase a fox
His wife has found somebody new
His house is left for all to view

Though it's been empty for a while
We'll be warm and dry in half a mile
For now we can take comfort there
We'll flee the place when it grows bare

Many people knew the noble man
But none do care where he has gone
Over his grave, all do ignore
The wind shall blow forever more.'

What is a Tanka Poem?

A tanka poem is a Japanese poem which can also be known as a waka or uta. A tanka poem is similar to a **haiku** but has two additional lines.

What is the Structure of a Tanka Poem?

A tanka consists of 5 lines and 31 **syllables**.

Each line has a set number of **syllables** see below:

- Line 1 – 5 syllables
- Line 2 – 7 syllables
- Line 3 – 5 syllables
- Line 4 – 7 syllables
- Line 5 – 7 syllables

An Example of a Tanka Poem<

- (5) I love my kitten.
- (7) She is so little and cute.
- (5) She has a pink tongue,
- (7) And lots of long whiskers too.
- (7) She purrs when I stroke her back.

What is a Riddle?

A Riddle is a type of poem that describes something without actually naming what it is, leaving the reader to guess. A Riddle is a light hearted type of poetry which involves the reader.

Riddles can be about anything, from Riddles about animals to Riddles about objects. There are no rules on how to structure a Riddle poem, a Riddle can be funny or it can **rhyme**, it depends on the person writing the Riddle.

Example of a Riddle

It is an animal
It is orange and black
It has stripes
It has four paws
It lives in the jungle
What is it?
A tiger.

Example of a Rhyming Riddle

I come in different styles
I can help you walk for miles
I come in a pair
I'm something you wear
With heels I am glam
Can you guess what I am...?
Shoes

What is a Triolet Poem?

A Triolet is a poem of fixed rhythmical form, with repeated lines. It is made up of eight lines with a set rhyming scheme.

The Structure of a Triolet Poem

A Triolet consists of eight lines, the rhyming scheme is:

AB, aA, abAB

An example of a Triolet Poem

(A) Lots of colours all around, oranges, reds and some brown
(B) Collecting conkers that fall from the tree
(a) Harvest Festival is coming to town
(A) Lots of colours all around, oranges, reds and some brown
(a) Just cos summer's gone; no need to frown
(b) Halloween costumes in the shops for all to see
(A) Lots of colours all around, oranges, reds and some brown
(B) Collecting conkers that fall from the tree.

Written by Greta Skelton

What is a Shape Poem?

A Shape Poem is a type of poetry that describes an object and is shaped the same as the object the poem is describing.

You could write your shape poem on anything.

What Shapes Could You Make Your Poetry?

You could have a circle-shaped poem describing a cookie, or a poem about love shaped like a heart.

An Example of a Shape Poem

A
volcano.
A huge rock,
shooting lava up into
the air! Everyone runs for
cover. Lots of thick, black smoke
pours out of the top, giving you a warning
before the explosions start. Nothing can stand in its
way. Sometimes they don't blow up for hundreds of years.
Still thousands in the world but they don't all work, some are even underwater.