

## Disability Stereotypes

Avoid stereotypes unless you're subverting them or adding complexity to the character or story. Review content with an eye to unconsciously promoting stereotypes, particularly a skinny white man standing in for all people with disabilities. Understand that there are visible and invisible disabilities and a wide range of experience and characteristics within each disability. Remember that there are intersectional identities within the disability communities. Anyone can join the community at some point due to injury or the development of a disability.



*"When we think of autistic, we think of this skinny, nerdy, awkward white dude. We think of Sheldon from Big Bang Theory. I'm at the point where I just don't watch anything that's made by anyone who's not autistic and saying it's autistic. I won't watch Atypical. They have brought in autistic consultants but it's another story of a white autistic dude."*

*"I'd like to see Intersectional disabled characters, BIPOC, Indigenous, immigrant, LGBTQ2S+, refugee, old, young, not pretty, poor, chronically ill and immunocompromised characters that are not tragedy- or suffering-driven. Combating ableism as plot is good but is not the only option. It would be good to see thriving disabled folks."*



22.0% of Canadians have disabilities.



71.0% of those with disabilities have more than one disability.



Dive deeper with our **People of Disabilities Communities Report**