

# How to publish your research

This guide will help you create a high quality article that will be a valuable addition to the scientific record.

For more details and a selection of templates to help get your article ready for submission, visit our author resource centre:

# **CHOOSE THE RIGHT JOURNAL**

Considering these things will help you to adapt the way you write and format your article to suit the expectations of the journal's editors and readers.

Does the journal provide quality <b>peer review</b> , and does the policy suit your approach?	Does the journal have a strong <b>reputation</b> ? Is it where your peers publish? Are the metrics good?	Does it give you <b>open</b> <b>access options</b> that comply with your funding agency?
Is the journal's <b>scope</b> broad, or specialist, designed to be read by a certain community?	Are <b>times to publication</b> important to you?	Will it <b>cost anything</b> to publish in this journal? Are there any extra charges?
Which <b>language</b> does the journal use? Most international journals use English	Is the journal likely to be <b>cited</b> by other researchers in your field?	Is it <b>indexed</b> in major online databases (Science Citation Index, PubMed, Scopus, MEDLINE)?
All Royal Society of Chemistry journals go through rigorous and fair peer review	Does the journal publish articles in the <b>best</b> <b>format</b> for your work (eg Communication, Full Paper)?	All of our journals have an open access option. Visit for details

# **READ THE AUTHOR GUIDELINES**

Our journals have expected standards of conduct and provide guidance on good authorship and ethical practices. Always check the individual journal's guidelines as many journals have specific requirements. For more details visit

WRITE YOUR ARTICLE

# Always emphasise the novelty of your findings

#### Build up a strong structure

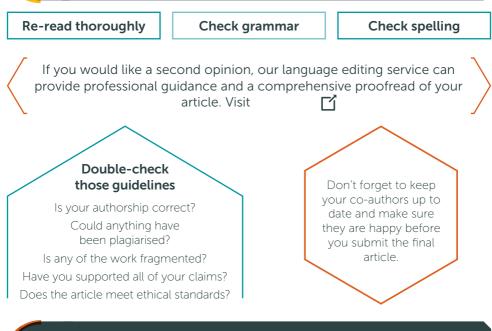
Split your article up into recognisable sections. For each, think about who you are writing for and how your work compares to existing research.

#### Tell a story

Keep your writing clear, using consistent language and short paragraphs. Your reader will want an article that is concise, easy to read that makes a definite point.

Title	This should be short, straightforward, and emphasise the importance of your work. Think about the key words someone might use to search for this article, and stay general
Authorship	Authors should have made a significant contribution to the conception, design or execution of the work
Abstract	Summarise your findings, and their importance – potential readers will use this to decide if the rest of your article is of interest.
Introduction	Set the scene. Why is your work important? What has been done in this area before? What will you show in this article?
Results and discussion	Back up your claims with evidence, explain complex arguments, and demonstrate the impact of your work
Experimental section	There should be enough detail here for a skilled researcher to replicate your work
Conclusion	Include only the most significant results, their impact on the field, and plans for relevant future work
Acknowledgements	Here you should include funding agencies, and possibly individuals who could not be added as authors
References	Include previously published work that you have referenced in the article
Supplementary information	This is the section in which to include spectra, additional data and more detail on procedures

CHECK YOUR ARTICLE



## YOUR SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Your chosen journal will be looking for key information when you submit your article.

5 Your article

#### **1** A cover letter which includes:

- A summary of your work
- Statement of importance (a chance to 'sell' your work to the editor why is this article a good fit for the journal?)
- The impact of this research on the community
- Its future potential
- 2 Your graphical abstract
- **3** Any supplementary information files
- 4 Suggestions for suitable reviewers



# **ARTICLE ASSESSMENT**

Once your article arrives with the editorial team, it goes through a thorough assessment process in line with the journal's editorial policies.

An article might be rejected for a lot of different reasons, including if the subject makes it better suited to another journal. If this is the case, a transfer might be recommended. Following peer review, hopefully your article will be accepted for publication (usually subject to some revisions).

# **REVISING YOUR ARTICLE**

Revisions are a natural part of the publication process – generally all authors will be asked to make at least a few changes, to make sure that the article is of the highest possible quality.

DO	AVOID
Keep to any deadlines given, or ask for an extension if you need one	Including personal comments about the reviewer – focus on making direct responses
Read each report carefully, and ask if anything is unclear	Taking critical comments personally – they are provided to increase the quality of your article
Make sure that you address all reviewer comments, and if you have decided not to make a change, explain why	
Remember that reviewing is voluntary, and that the reviewer will have made all comments to help improve your work	



### **PROMOTING YOUR WORK**

After publication, the next step is to get your work seen by the community.

#### What we can do:

Promote 'hot' articles via blogs, social media and Chemistry World

Send press releases to science websites and magazines

#### What you can do:

Contact your university press office to see how they can support you

Share a link to your article online via social media and online networking platforms

Present your work at conferences



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Registered charity number: 207890 © Royal Society of Chemistry 2017 Thomas Graham House Science Park, Milton Road Cambridge, CB4 0WF, UK

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