

POSTER GUIDELINES

The following guidelines are prepared to help you prepare professional posters

What is a poster?

A poster is a big piece of paper that can communicate your research or topic at a conference, and is composed of a short title, an introduction to your question or topic, an overview of your approach, your results in graphical form, some insightful discussion of aforementioned results, a listing of previously published articles that are important to your research, and some brief acknowledgement of the assistance and financial support conned from others (if any) — if all text is kept to a minimum, a person could fully read your poster in under 5 minutes.

Why a poster?

Presenting a poster allows you to more personally interact with the people who are interested in your topic. Posters are also handy because they can be viewed while you are away from the poster stand.

Posters format:

Unlike a manuscript, a poster can adopt a variety of layouts depending on the form of charts and photographs. Indeed, you probably don't want your poster to look like every other poster in the room. You need to maintain sufficient white space, keep column alignments logical, and provide clear cues to your readers how they should travel through your poster elements. You should get creative.

The most important part of producing a great poster is to embrace the rough draft process. At least have a draft ready a month before the conference. Ask your colleagues to give you a feedback on the draft and embrace their comments. Note that you can print a miniature draft version of your poster on letter-sized paper for friends. Attached are some templates for posters. You can select any one of them.

What sections to include and what to put in them:

1. **Title:** Should briefly convey the interesting "issue," or the general experimental approach, needs to be catchy [approximately 1-2 lines].

2. **Abstract:** DO NOT include an abstract on a poster. A poster is an abstract of your research or project, so it's a waste of space to have an abstract of your abstract.

3. Introduction: Get your viewer interested in the issue or question while using the absolute minimum of background information and definitions; quickly place your issue in the context of published primary literature [approximately 200 words].

4. **Materials and methods (depends on your topic):** Briefly describe experimental equipment and procedure, but not with the details used for a manuscript; use figures and flow

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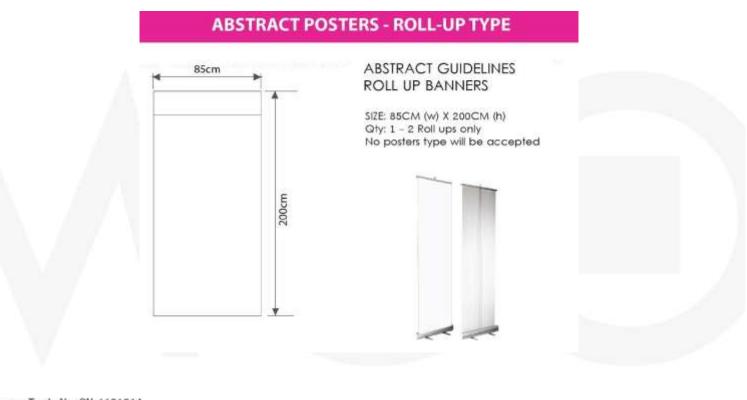
charts to illustrate experimental design if possible; include photograph or labeled drawing of setup; mention statistical analyses that were used (if any) and how they allowed you to address hypothesis [approximately 200 words

5. **Results (depends on your topic):** First, mention whether your experiment procedure actually worked; in same paragraph, briefly describe qualitative and descriptive results to give a more personal tone to your poster; in second paragraph, begin presentation of data analysis that more specifically addresses your hypothesis; refer to supporting charts or images; provide extremely engaging figure legends that could stand on their own (i.e., could convey some point to reader if viewer skipped all other sections); place tables with legends, too, but opt for figures whenever possible. This is always the largest section (except if you have no data). If your topic is not a research based, you may discuss your outcomes or thoughts [approximately 200 words, not counting figure legends].

6. **Conclusions:** Remind the reader of the major result and quickly state whether your hypothesis was supported; try to convince the visitor why the outcome is interesting; state the relevance of your findings to other published work and future directions [approximately 200 words].

7. **Literature cited:** this includes scientific references. Find an actual journal article that supports your needed fact or opinion [5-10 citations].

8. **Acknowledgments:** Thank individuals for specific contributions (equipment donation, statistical advice, laboratory assistance, comments on earlier versions of the poster); mention who has provided funding [approximately 40 words]



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