

# Illustrations

## Guidelines for Preparation of Illustrations†

Also see: [www.rsc.org/authorguidelines](http://www.rsc.org/authorguidelines)

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### 1.0 Preparation of illustrations

#### 1.1 Image quality

- Illustrations should be supplied as electronic files which conform to the guidelines given in the 'Acceptable Formats' section of the RSC 'Author Guidelines' web pages.†
- If illustrations are unavailable in electronic format, high quality originals should be sent as hardcopy. Photocopies and printouts from inkjet printers are rarely suitable for print reproduction.

#### 1.2 Image size

- Illustrations should fit within either single column (8.3 cm) or double column (17.1 cm) width, and must be no longer than 23.3 cm.
- Graphical abstracts should be no larger than 8 × 4 cm.
- Artwork should be submitted at its final size so that reduction is not required.

#### 1.3 Text in illustrations

- Lettering should be in 7 point Arial font (or Helvetica if Arial is unavailable).
- Labelled atoms in ORTEP (or other) diagrams should have (selected) atom numbers in parentheses, e.g. Cl(1), C(12).

- For graphs, axis labels should use SI units, separated from quantities with a solidus ( '/' ) *not* parentheses, e.g.  $\lambda/\text{nm}$ ,  $T/\text{K}$ ; percent (%) and parts per million (ppm), however, should be given in parentheses.
- Units should be in the form, e.g.  $\text{g cm}^{-3}$  rather than  $\text{g/cm}^3$ .
- Symbols representing physical quantities should be given in italics, e.g.  $E/V$ ,  $t/s$ .
- Curves should be labelled (A), (B), (C) *etc.* and parts of figures (a), (b), (c) *etc.*, and further information given in the figure legend.

#### 1.4 Line drawings

- Lines should be black, of an adequate and even thickness (e.g. 1 pt) and curves should be smooth.
- Broken, dotted and dash-dot lines can be used.
- Particular care should be taken to ensure that the lines in spectra are of an adequate thickness.
- Mark data points on graphs with simple geometric symbols: □ ■ ▲ ○ ●.
- Avoid shading (tints) that simulate grey and use cross-hatching if appropriate.

#### 1.5 Structural formulae

- Structural formulae should ideally be prepared with chemistry drawing software (e.g. ChemDraw, ChemWindows, ISIS/Draw), using the settings given below.
  - Chain bond angle = 120°
  - Fixed bond angle = 15°
  - Bond length = 0.43 cm *or* 12.2 pt
  - Bond width = 0.016 cm *or* 0.5 pt
  - Bold bond width = 0.056 cm *or* 1.6 pt
  - Double bond space = 20% of bond length
  - Stereo bond width = 0.056 cm *or* 1.6 pt
  - Hash spacing = 0.062 cm *or* 1.8 pt
  - Captions/atom labels = Arial/Helvetica, 7 pt
- Number structures with bold arabic numerals, e.g. **1**, **2**.
- Schemes and structures should be drawn to make best use of single and double column widths.

#### 1.6 Colour

- Colour may be used if approved by the Editor (see section 2.2), unless otherwise stated for a specific journal.
- Avoid shading (tints) and use solid, clearly distinct colours.

† For more detailed information on this topic, as well as links to useful websites and software resources, see: <http://www.rsc.org/authorguidelines>.

## 1.7 Photographs

- Please provide either high quality digital images (see Acceptable formats) or original prints. Computer print-outs or photocopies will not reproduce well enough for publication.
- Colour photographs rarely reproduce satisfactorily in black and white.

## 1.8 ChemDraw files

- Where ever possible, please send all ChemDraw files with the final version of your manuscript. ChemDraw structures facilitate article enhancements such as those in the Prospect View, as they can be machine-processed to yield useful information.

## 2.0 Provision of colour

### 2.1 Electronic-only journals

Colour is free for electronic-only journals (*e.g. CrystEngComm*) and its use is encouraged.

### 2.2 Printed journals

Colour figure reproduction is normally provided free of charge if the use of colour enhances the scientific understanding of the figure, and it is this aspect that is considered by the Editor when determining whether figures should be reproduced free in colour or not. If the use of colour is approved by the Editor, authors should provide colour artwork for publication and colour will be provided free of charge in the print, PDF and HTML versions of the article. The figure captions and the text of the article may mention the colour in the figure if required.

If the free use of colour is not approved, then black and white artwork should be provided. Figure captions and text should not contain references to colour. In general colour is not required for the following types of figures: simple line graphs and similar figures where points can be marked with symbols, labelled ORTEP

plots, schematic diagrams, organic reaction schemes, images that have been falsely coloured (*e.g.* AFM images), photographs of people and equipment and histograms. Please note that this list is not comprehensive.

If the author prefers colour where the scientific understanding of the figure is not enhanced, then the author will be charged a partial contribution to the additional production costs of £350 for one page or £500 for the whole article (+VAT, value added tax, where applicable). Authors should provide colour artwork for publication and colour will be provided in the print, PDF and HTML versions of the article. The figure captions and the text of the article may mention the colour in the figure if required.

It may be possible to reproduce colour artwork free of charge in the PDF and HTML versions of an article. If this option is appropriate the authors should provide only colour artwork; however the figure caption and text of the article must not contain any reference to colour. The print article will be in black and white – the colour artwork provided by the author will be converted to greyscale by the RSC. It is important therefore that the exact same figure and accompanying text makes sense in both the black and white and colour versions. Only the PDF and HTML article will contain the colour artwork.

Specific advice may be obtained from the Editor of the journal to which the contribution is to be submitted. The Editor's decision on the use of colour is final.

## 3.0 Journal covers

Authors who wish to have their artwork featured on a journal cover should contact the Editor of the journal to which the article is being submitted. A contribution to the additional production costs will be requested. Use of such artwork is at the Editor's discretion; the Editor's decision is final.

Examples of previous journal covers can be viewed *via* the relevant journal homepages.

Authors whose artwork is featured on a journal cover receive low and high resolution JPEG files of their cover feature for their own promotional use.