

# Journal of Materials Chemistry

## Guidelines for Authors†

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

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#### 1.0 General policy

*Journal of Materials Chemistry* is a weekly, international journal that publishes high impact work on the chemistry of novel materials. The journal has a broad readership, covering all areas of materials research. It covers the chemistry of materials *in all forms*, particularly materials associated with new technologies. Coverage is broad and includes the design and synthesis of materials, their characterisation, processing, modelling, properties and applications. Papers covering interdisciplinary research and papers from related disciplines are encouraged, in particular those addressing emerging and quickly developing fields.

To establish the suitability of the articles for *Journal of Materials Chemistry* they must highlight the novel properties or applications (or potential properties/applications) of the materials studied. Papers that report primarily structural studies (such as crystallographic, NMR or IR studies) will be considered for publication only where the materials have interesting properties or are of potential interest for the materials community.

Papers must highlight the impact and significance of the work for a materials readership to establish the suitability of the article for *Journal of Materials Chemistry*. Papers that report incremental

or derivative research should be directed to a more specialized journal.

The journal accepts work in all areas, including the following:

- **Inorganics:** ceramics; layered materials; microporous solids and zeolites; silicates and synthetic minerals; biogenic minerals, nanomaterials, bio-related materials.
- **Organics:** organometallic precursors for thin films/ceramics; novel molecular solids and synthetic polymers with materials applications; polymer composites; biopolymers; biocompatible and biodegradable polymers; liquid crystals (both lyotropic and thermotropic); Langmuir–Blodgett films and self assembled monolayers (SAMs), nanomaterials, biomaterials.
- **Electrical properties:** semi-, metallic and super-conductivity; ionic conductivity; mixed ionic/electronic conductivity; ferro-, pyro- and piezo-electricity; electroceramics; dielectrics.
- **Optical properties:** luminescence, phosphorescence, laser action; non-linear optical effects; photoconductivity; photo- and electro-chromism, resists, glasses, amorphous semiconductors; optical modulation and switching.
- **Magnetic properties:** ferro-, ferri- and antiferro-magnetism, spin glass behaviour, organic magnetism, magnetic bubbles and information storage.
- **Chemical properties:** ion exchange, molecular separation, catalytic action, sensor action, topochemical control of reactions.
- **Structural properties:** structural ceramics, refractories; hard materials; protective coatings; composites, adhesives, prosthetic applications.
- **Thermodynamic properties and phase behaviour.**

#### 2.0 Article types

##### 2.1 Communications

*Journal of Materials Chemistry* Communications contain novel scientific work of such importance that rapid publication is desirable. Authors should briefly indicate in a covering letter the reasons why they feel that publication of their work as a communication is justified. The recommended length is three printed journal pages.

##### 2.2 Articles

Full papers contain original scientific work that has not been published previously. However, work that has appeared in print in a short form such as a *Journal of Materials Chemistry* Communication or *Chemical Communication* is normally acceptable. Please

† For more detailed information on this topic, including guidelines for article layout, preparation of illustrations, presentation of experimental data, and supplementary information deposition, as well as links to useful websites, templates and other software resources, and authoring tools, see: <http://www.rsc.org/authorguidelines>.

note that the Society strongly discourages the fragmentation of a substantial body of work into a number of short publications.

### 2.3 Feature Articles

Feature Articles should bring the reader (a research worker in materials chemistry) up-to-date with research in a particular field, highlighting areas of special excitement and progress. Since the readership of *Journal of Materials Chemistry* is very wide-ranging it is essential that a Feature Article is easily comprehensible to a non-specialist in the field. On the other hand, the article should aim to provide an authoritative in-depth discussion of current progress and problems and should not consist of a laborious account of every paper in the area. Neither should the author concern himself with providing a comprehensive list of references; those of particular interest and significance are all that are required. Authors are encouraged to identify areas in the field where further developments are imminent or of urgent need, and any areas (such as techniques) that may be of significance to the materials chemistry community in general.

Feature Articles should be eight to ten journal pages, although this may vary slightly depending on the nature of the article. They should include photographs and brief biographies (*ca.* 50 words) for each author.

These articles are normally published by invitation of the Materials Chemistry Editorial Board and the Editor. However, suggestions from authors are welcome and enquiries regarding the submission of invited articles should be directed to the Editor.

### 2.4 Highlights

Highlight articles are short articles that highlight important new developments made over the past year. They should explain the significance of these developments and may also identify where further work is urgently required or where challenges are still faced. These articles may discuss emerging areas of relevance to Materials including new possibilities in characterisation arising from a novel experimental technique. No new work should be presented.

Highlight articles should be around four journal pages, although this may vary slightly depending on the nature of the article. They should include photographs and brief biographies (*ca.* 30 words) for each author.

These articles are normally published by invitation of the Materials Chemistry Editorial Board and the Editor. However, suggestions from authors are welcome and enquiries regarding the submission of invited articles should be directed to the Editor.

### 2.5 Applications

Applications are interdisciplinary review articles covering the applications and properties of a class of materials. Their aim is to feature research in areas which are of significance and importance to Materials Chemists. The current research in the area might not directly involve chemistry and the article will be focussed on applications and properties of materials. At the end of an Application article authors are encouraged to identify challenges yet to be overcome and identify areas where chemists can assist in future development of applications and properties.

It is recognised that authors of Applications are likely to be from research areas outside of chemistry. The article should therefore be written in a readable style that is stimulating for a Materials Chemistry audience and will appeal to the non-specialist.

Applications should be around six to eight journal pages, although this may vary slightly depending on the nature of the article. They should include photographs and brief biographies (*ca.* 50 words) for each author, plus a photograph of the institution with a caption (*ca.* 25 words) highlighting its history and areas of expertise.

These articles are normally published by invitation of the Materials Chemistry Editorial Board and the Editor. However, suggestions from authors are welcome and enquiries regarding the submission of invited articles should be directed to the Editor.

## 3.0 Submission

### 3.1 Initial submission

Articles should be submitted using the RSC file upload service, ReSource.‡

On submitting their manuscripts, authors are encouraged

to supply the names and addresses of 2–3 potential referees. Owing to the non-availability of many referees and editorial staff in July–August each year, authors are advised to limit their submissions during this period in order to minimize delays.

Rapid publication is aided by careful preparation of text and illustrations. Particular attention is drawn to the use of (i) SI units and associated conventions, (ii) IUPAC nomenclature for compounds and (iii) standard methods of literature citation.

The RSC ReSource service allows any number of files to be uploaded. All files relating to a single manuscript should be uploaded simultaneously during one transaction. Files uploaded separately will result in more than one manuscript number being assigned and may subsequently be lost.

All authors submitting work for publication are required to agree a Licence to Publish. Authors submitting online will be asked to agree a Licence to Publish as part of the process. Alternatively, a downloadable PDF version is available,‡ which can be completed and forwarded to the Editorial Office.

After submission your file will be acknowledged by the Editorial Office as soon possible. Authors should contact the Editorial Office if they have not received an acknowledgement within 4 working days. Authors should not forward more than one version of their manuscript or submit the manuscript by post or e-mail to avoid errors in manuscript handling by the Editorial Office.

### 3.2 Submission of revised articles and material for proof preparation

Revised manuscripts should be sent to the Editorial Office by file upload *via* ReSource.‡

Please check the manuscript carefully for consistency, particularly in the representation of chemical formulae, compound names and words with alternative spellings.

Successful use of your electronic files should speed up the production process and avoid errors being introduced. Authors should ensure that files submitted at this stage contain the final version of their manuscript. Proof corrections should only correct errors from the Production process and should not be used to make general changes to the text.

We will try to use the supplied data in our production process, but mathematical equations and tables in particular may be rekeyed by the typesetter. It is imperative that authors check their proofs (including any tabulated data and figures) very carefully. Papers are published as Advance Articles on the web as soon as possible after the return of proof corrections. Late corrections cannot be incorporated after publication of the Advance Article.

## 4.0 Administration

Receipt of a paper will be acknowledged, and the paper will be given a reference number which authors are asked to quote on all their subsequent correspondence. If no such acknowledgement has been received after a reasonable period of time, authors should check with the Editorial Office as to whether the paper or the acknowledgement has gone astray.

### 4.1 Editorial policy

Papers that are selected for peer review by the Editorial Office will normally be submitted to at least two referees, by whose advice the Editor will be guided as to its acceptability. Full details are available *via* ReSource.‡ Papers that are accepted must not be published elsewhere except by permission of the Royal Society of Chemistry. Submission of a manuscript will be regarded as an undertaking that the same material is not being considered for publication by another journal. Conditions governing acceptance are available from the Editorial Office.

### 4.2 Copyright

The whole of the literary matter (including tables, figures, diagrams and photographs) in *Journal of Materials Chemistry* is subject to copyright and may not be reproduced without permission from The Royal Society of Chemistry and such other owner of the copyright as may be indicated.

### 4.3 Reprints

A PDF reprint of each paper will be supplied free of charge.

‡ See <http://www.rsc.org/resource>.