

Polymer Chemistry – author guidelines

1.0 General policy

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Polymer Chemistry is a monthly journal, launching in 2010, which publishes reviews and important original research in the form of communications and articles covering advances in polymer chemistry encompassing all aspects of synthetic and biological macromolecules, and related emerging areas.

Polymer Chemistry will provide a showcase for the ongoing efforts driving polymer chemistry, highlighting the creativity of the field and previously inaccessible applications.

Main research areas include:

- Polymer synthesis (precursors, monomers, oligomers, catalytic polymerisation)
- Polymer characterisation
- Reactions of polymers (chemistry of polymers)
- Macromolecules - both natural and synthetic
- Biomacromolecules/biopolymers
- Properties and applications of polymer chemistry
- Interactions of polymers with e.g. nanoparticles to form nanocomposites or porous media
- Supramolecular polymer chemistry
- Polymer crystallisation
- Organic and inorganic polymers
- Macromolecular structure and function
- Bioconjugates
- Polymeric delivery systems
- Macromolecular Imaging reagents
- Polymer templates and surfaces that may include biological structures
- Polymer physics

2.0 Article types

2.1 Communications

Communications in *Polymer Chemistry* contain novel scientific work of such importance and interest that rapid publication is required. Communications are concise and should be around 3 journal pages in length; they may be accompanied by Electronic Supplementary Information. Communications start with a brief unreferenced abstract and do not contain any section headings. A short justification statement must be included with the submission outlining why the work merits rapid publication.

2.2 Full Papers

Full Papers in *Polymer Chemistry* present original high quality primary research that has not been previously published. However, work that has appeared in print in a short form such as a Communication is normally acceptable. Please note that the Society strongly discourages the fragmentation of a substantial body of work into a number of short publications. Articles start with a brief unreferenced abstract and contain an introduction, results and discussion, experimental, and notes and references sections. There is no page limit for Full Papers.

2.3 Reviews

Review articles in *Polymer Chemistry* are normally submitted by invitation. The purpose of a Review is to bring the reader (a research worker in polymer chemistry) up-to-date with research in a particular field, highlighting areas of special excitement and progress. Since the readership of *Polymer Chemistry*

is wide-ranging it is essential that the Review 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 polymer chemistry community in general. Please note that Reviews in *Polymer Chemistry* should not contain any original research.

3.0 Submission

3.1 Initial submission

Articles should be submitted using the RSC file upload service, RSC Manuscript Central. On submitting their manuscripts, authors are encouraged to supply the names and addresses of 2-3 potential referees.

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 Manuscript Central service allows up to five files to be uploaded at a time, alternatively a ZIP file containing up to 20 files can 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 relevant Editorial Office as soon possible. Authors should contact the Editor-in-chief 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 relevant 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* RSC Manuscript Central.

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 re-keyed 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 Editor-in-chief as to whether the paper or the acknowledgement has gone astray.

4.1 Editorial policy

All manuscripts will be processed in an efficient, fair and timely manner. 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 *via* the RSC website.

4.2 Licence to Publish

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4.3 Reprints

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