

AAPG FORMATTING GUIDELINES

General formatting:

Format your manuscript using double-spaced lines and 12-point type in Times font.

All text in the manuscript should be left-justified, with nothing centered.

Print your manuscript on only one side of each sheet. Send two copies of the manuscript and figures (especially if there are color figures).

Submitting your computer files on a disk or CD should be done as follows:

- 1) Text in .doc or .rtf format.
- 2) Tables in .doc or .rtf format. Save tables without rules and borders. Do not create or embed tables in the text file. Save each table as a separate file.
- 3) Graphics in TIFF or EPS format created from the following supported applications: Adobe Illustrator, Adobe PhotoShop, Corel Photo-Paint, Corel Draw, Claris Draw, Deneba Canvas, Macromedia Freehand. Do not embed graphics in the text file or in Excel or PowerPoint files. Save each graphic as a separate file.

Organize your manuscript in the following order:

Title

Author(s) and full addresses

Acknowledgments, if any

Abstract

Text (use headings and no more than two classes of subheadings)

Appendix(es), if any

References Cited

Figures (separate from text) with each figure's caption either on the same page with the figure or on the page immediately following the figure

Tables (separate from text) with each table's caption either on the same page with the table or on the page immediately following the table

Special textual formatting:

Use metric units of measure with the English unit equivalent in parentheses.

i.e. 200 m (656 ft)

Do not use abbreviations except for units of measure.

i.e. feet=ft, meters=m, cubic feet=ft³, million barrels=million bbl, etc.

For a complete list of AAPG standard abbreviations, e-mail molyneux@aapg.org.

Limit the use of acronyms.

Numbers should follow international standard; no commas in 1000 to 9999.

Cite figures in numerical order, with the figure number placed near the lower-right corner of the figure as Figure 1, Figure 2, Figure 3, etc.

Cite all references and include complete information for each citation in References Cited section.

Text citations formatting:

All references cited in the manuscript are listed in the References Cited.

Names, spellings, and dates between the text and the References Cited are consistent.

Unpublished references are cited as personal communications (C. J. Rockfall, 1998, personal communication) and are not listed in References Cited.

Initials are used when referencing two or more authors who have the same last name.
i.e. (W. F. Brooks, 1995; L. N. Brooks, 1995)

Articles or books that have two authors or editors are cited with both authors' names.
i.e. (Baker and Jones, 2001).

Articles or books that have three or more authors or editors are cited with the senior author's name plus "et al." .
i.e. (Baker et al., 1995).

Works are cited chronologically first, then alphabetically.
i.e. (Harvey et al., 1989, 1992; Smithers; 1990, Zink et al., 1990, 2000; Jordan et al., 1993; Abercrombie, 1994, Fernandez, 2001)

A page number is given when a direct quote is used.
i.e. (Smith, 1991, p. 1492)

References Cited list formatting:

References are complete and accurate.

For works that list one author, two authors, or a group of authors that have more than one publication in one year, differentiation is made by adding a, b, c, etc., after the year.
i.e. (1991a)

The order of cited information should be as follows:

- 1) Journal Article: author name(s), year of publication, title of article, name of journal, volume number, issue number (optional), page numbers.
i.e. Carstens, H., 1978, Origin of abnormal formation pressures in central North Sea Lower Tertiary clastics: *The Log Analyst*, v. 129, no. 1, p. 24–28.
- 2) Book Article: author name(s), year of publication, title of article, editor(s) of book, title of book, city of publication, publisher, series and any number, volume number, page range.
i.e. Posamentier, H. W., and P. R. Vail, 1988, Eustatic controls on clastic deposition II: Sequence and systems tract models, *in* C. K. Wilgus, B. S. Hastings, C. Kendall, H. W. Posamentier, C. A. Ross, and J. C. Van Wagoner, eds., *Sea-level changes: An integrated approach*: SEPM Special Publication 42, p. 125–154.
- 3) Book: author or editor name(s), year of publication, title of book, city of publication, publisher, number of pages.
i.e. Riley, J. P., and R. Chester, 1971, *Introduction to marine chemistry*: New York, Academic Press, 465 p.
- 4) Map: author name(s), year of publication, title of work, city of publication, publisher, series and any number, scale, number of sheets.
i.e. Harris, A. G., L. D. Harris, and J. B. Epstein, 1978, Oil and gas data from Paleozoic rocks in the Appalachian basin: U.S. Geological Survey Miscellaneous Investigations Map I-917-E, scale 1:2,500,000, 4 sheets.
- 5) Thesis: author name(s), year of publication, title of work, name of the degree, university, city of location, number of pages for thesis.
i.e. " . . . Master's thesis, Rice University, Houston, Texas, 200 p."
- 6) Internet: author name(s), year of publication or last revision (if known), title of document, title of complete work (if applicable), URL, date of access.
i.e. Rocky, I. M., 1998, Oil patch,
<http://www.geology@oilpatch.edu/article.html>, (accessed January 5, 1998)

Leave a space between two initials of an author's name.

List senior author's last name first, followed by initials; thereafter, list initials then author's last name.

i.e. (Walter, L. M., A. M. Stueber, and T. J. Huston)

Spell out all journal names except AAPG and SEPM.

Repeat all author or editor names; do not use em dashes in place of names.

List all authors or editors unless the work has more than 10, then list first author or editor plus "et al."

Use the initial word cap/lower case for titles of papers and books.

Designate an abstract with "(abs.)" after the title of the abstract.

The order of references cited is as follows:

- 1) One author: order works alphabetically. If the author has more than one work, order by date, oldest to youngest.
- 2) Two authors: list works alphabetically. If two authors have more than one work, order by date, oldest to youngest.
- 3) Three or more authors: order by date, oldest first.

Submittal of figures as electronic files

Graphics prepared using Adobe Illustrator or Adobe Photoshop produce the best results.

Save graphics files in the EPS or TIFF format. Color figures must be saved as CMYK.

All graphic files are converted to Photoshop TIFF or Illustrator EPS format for publication. Once converted, text and patterns may change or disappear, so provide high-quality laser prints of all your electronic figures; figures will be scanned if translation problems occur.

Save graphics at the below recommended resolutions for acceptable quality for printing. Resolutions in graphics files must be at least:

- 1200 dpi for line art
- 300 dpi for gray scale
- 600 dpi for combinations (line and gray scale)
- 300 dpi for four-color

Patterns, screens, and lines should be done as follows:

- 1) Do not use fonts to create patterns within figures.
- 2) When possible, use patterns instead of dot screens.
- 3) If dot screens are used, use screens with coarse dots (no finer than 65 lines).
- 4) Dot screens must be between 20 and 70% black. A screen that is less than 20% black will reproduce as white, and a screen that is more than 70% black will reproduce as black.
- 5) Dot screens that represent different values in the same illustration must differ by at least 20%. Subtle shadings are not distinguishable in final production.
- 6) When using more than three patterns, a combination of dot and line patterns is best.
- 7) Check all line weights carefully; lines must be defined 0.6 or higher. Laser printers can fool you because they will print a line no matter how fine its definition, but the high-resolution equipment used by printers can render lines so fine they are invisible.

Orientation of figures should be done as follows:

Mark the orientation of the figure by placing the figure number near the lower right corner of the figure.

Appearance of figures is as follows:

- 1) Size any text to scale with the rest of the figure so that if the figure is reduced, text will be legible.
- 2) Place any labels that cross a pattern or textured area on a white background.
- 3) Do not put titles on figures; incorporate that information into the caption.
- 4) Include scales on maps and charts, and label axes on graphs.
- 5) Make sure any borders are square with the figure.
- 6) Correct weak lines and broken letters.
- 7) Check the overall appearance and spelling.

Identify all figures by number.

Scales/Axes should be done as follows:

- 1) All figures must include scales.
- 2) Axes must be labeled on graphs.
- 3) Scale bars must be included on photomicrographs

Maps, cross sections, and seismic lines should be done as follows:

- 1) Each map should contain a scale bar, north arrow, and a sufficient number (minimum of one set at or near each extremity) of coordinate (latitude, longitude) points to position, orient, and scale it, unless its sole purpose is to locate in general terms a larger scale map.
- 2) Each cross section and seismic line, as proprietary considerations allow, should be located on a map with the above basic information.
- 3) If known, projection and geodetic datum information should be included.
- 4) Satellite imagery, orthophotos, and similar metric photography should also be treated as maps.