

Follow the directions below to construct an abstract. These are basic instructions for any abstract. The key to it is to know what headings are required, your word limit, and your audience.

Helpful hints for writing abstracts:

Number one. A scientific abstract is not creative writing. That may sound very simple, but clarity and directness are the keys to presenting your material. Overuse of abbreviations or jargon does not substitute for good writing.

Abstracts do not have adverbs that attempt to show importance to the data. The data are the data. So don't use words like, very, quite, extremely... If you have to use an adverb to describe your project, then you do not trust the importance of your project. Do not use the word significant unless it is in the context of a statistical analysis. In the science world, statistical significance is shown by statistical testing. Changes can have clinical significance (with or without statistical significance), but you only use the word significance in those instances.

If you use an abbreviation spell it out first and put the abbreviation in parenthesis.



