

Lab Write-Up Information

Write up

- Each person does their own lab write-up. You may discuss info with others, but do not hand in word-for-word copies (or copies with just a few minor changes) of another person's work. Do your own composition.
- written in ink or preferably on computer
- name and date in upper right hand corner of paper
- underline an appropriate and descriptive lab title
- sub-headings (Objectives, Materials etc.) have first letter capitalized and are underlined
- space out your work so that it is not crowded and difficult to read
- lab write-up is written for somebody who has never done the experiment and wants to learn about it – be clear, descriptive, thorough, and 'to the point'

Objectives are what you are attempting to achieve in the lab experiment. They should be numbered (if more than one) and copied right from the lab sheet into your write-up.

Materials are all of the items you use during the experiment. They do not have to be copied word for word. You can use the following statement: "*As on (place lab sheet title here) lab sheet.*" If there are changes to the materials, you must state them: "*The following changes have been made...*"

Procedure is the steps you carry out to do the experiment. It does not have to be copied word for word. You can reference the procedure the same way you reference Materials.

Data and Observations contain recorded data such as observations and data tables. All data tables should be titled.

e.g. for table title: *Table 1 - Mass of Al Foil*

Observations are descriptions of what you see, smell, touch, or hear before, during, and after procedure steps. Don't make assumptions or draw conclusions in the observations.

Sample Calculations - Any calculations done in the lab must be presented in a clear and concise manner. To avoid redundancy, only **one** type of each calculation should be presented by giving a general formula (if necessary), experimental numbers and units, and then an answer with units and proper significant figures.

Questions must be answered in complete sentences, even if the question asks for a calculated answer. All calculations should be clearly shown with units and proper significant figures. Questions should be answered with thought, depth, and clarity **and use lab results as support for any conclusions drawn.**

Conclusion should restate one or more of the lab objectives and whether they have been fulfilled. This may include a referral for the reader to observe information in a certain data table. e.g. *To view all of the experimentally determined density measurements, see Table 3.*