

LABORATORY REPORT FORMAT

TITLE OF THE EXPERIMENT

Your Name

Date the experiment was done.
Date Submitted.

ABSTRACT. This is a very short summary of the intensions and the fundamental RESULTS of the experiment. It should be single spaced, concise, and 2 to 4 sentences in length.

From here on, double space.

INTRODUCTION. A detailed presentation of the objectives of the experiment. Some background information here is useful. You may repeat some of what was said in the abstract. You are telling the reader what the overall intention and process is in the experiment. Should be fairly general.

THEORY. Discuss any fundamental physics principles involved, and derive the particular equations used in obtaining the results. This MUST make sense, so be sure to explain IN WORDS what you are doing!

EXPERIMENTAL DETAILS. Briefly describe the apparatus and the procedure used. A sketch is usually helpful and is often imperative. This should be labeled as Figure 1., and should be explicitly discussed in this section.

DATA. Your data should be presented in an organized, titled way such that it is obvious what the data is. It should be clear what the units are. This should be labeled Table 1., and should be discussed in your Results section. Your graphs should be part of this section and should be labeled Graph 1., Graph 2., etc. Graphs should also be discussed in the Results section.

RESULTS. Discuss your various data tables, graphs, and final results in this section. Compare your results with accepted values, if possible.

DISCUSSION. Explain possible sources of error which are inherent in the methods, NOT your goofs. Discuss specific relationships discovered during the experiment.