

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

## GENERAL

The journal *Molecular Biology* publishes experimental and theoretical studies and reviews concerning the structure, function, synthesis, and degradation of biological macromolecules in cell and model systems; their interactions with each other and with low-molecular-weight ligands; and molecular organization of the cell and molecular mechanisms regulating vital processes.

Conceptual papers, mini-reviews, short communications are also published. Special issues of the journal are devoted to certain topical problems in molecular biology.

The Russian and English versions of the journal are published simultaneously. The English version is published by Pleiades Publishing Group (<http://pleiades.online>) and distributed by Springer (<http://www.springer.com>).

Publications are grouped under the following rubrics:

REVIEWS

GENOMICS. TRANSCRIPTOMICS

CELL MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

STRUCTURAL–FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS OF BIOPOLYMERS AND THEIR  
COMPLEXES

BIOINFORMATICS

PROTEOMICS

The authors may indicate the preferable rubric when submitting their manuscript for publication. If not indicated, the rubric is identified by the editorial board.

Submission of a manuscript for publication in *Molecular Biology* implies that the authors have not submitted analogous material to other journal(s), that this material has not been published previously, and will not be submitted or accepted for publication in any other journal.

If the editorial board becomes aware that analogous material has been submitted to another journal (possibly under a different title or with the authors listed in a different order), the manuscript will be immediately returned to the authors and the editorial office of the other journal is notified of the incident and advised to reject the manuscript because of infringement of the copyright transfer agreement (see below).

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An electronic version of the manuscript should be submitted through the internet site of *Molecular Biology* at <http://www.molecbio.ru>. In exceptional cases it is possible send it by e-mail mail to [jrmolbio@gmail.com](mailto:jrmolbio@gmail.com) or [usinna@mail.ru](mailto:usinna@mail.ru). Note that the authors may interact with the editorial board through the internet after registration and password generation (instructions are available on the page For Authors). The password allows the authors to monitor the manuscript processing.

A separate file (or an electronic version of the manuscript) should contain necessary information about the authors (full name, address, ZIP code, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address), with the corresponding author indicated separately.

### FORMAT

The manuscript (computer version) should be formatted as follows.

**The text** is printed in **1.5 interval** and the should take approximately 29-34 lines per page: **font – Times New Roman**, font size **12**, **left the field should be left to 30 mm, 20 mm at top and bottom.**

**UDC** (Universal Decimal Classification code) (italic, pointsize 9).

**Title of the Paper** (boldface). The title should be neither too long nor too short and uninformative and should reflect the main findings rather than the field and subject of the work. The words study, comparison, analysis, etc. should be avoided.

**The list of authors** (by initials and surname, boldface). The corresponding author should be indicated with an asterisk and his/her e-mail address should be provided.

**The list of affiliations and addresses** (italic, boldface), e.g., *Institute of Cytology, Russian Academy of Sciences, St. Petersburg, 194064*. If there is more than one affiliation and address, use superscript lowercase letters to indicate the institute with which each author is affiliated.

**The Abstract** (boldface, pointsize 12) is an important part of a manuscript, representing the study in various databases. No abstract is necessary for a short communication. The Abstract should clearly describe the problem; object(s); method(s) and strategy; results, their novelty as compared with known data being emphasized; and conclusions (a new hypothesis, rejection of a known hypothesis, possible applications, or emerging problems). The Abstract should be neither too short nor too long (20 lines on average). The Abstract size depends on the novelty of the findings rather than on the manuscript size. Abbreviations should not be used, even if appearing in the text body.

**Key words** (boldface) must reflect the research field (molecules, primary structure, 3D structure in solution, etc.), method(s), object (prokaryotes, eukaryotes, species/genus, cells, etc.), and specificity of the study.

**The body of text** typically has the following sections (in theoretical papers and reviews, sections are named at author's discretion):

## INTRODUCTION

## EXPERIMENTAL

This section should provide information on objects, methods, procedures, and conditions of experiments that is sufficient for reproducing them (methods described in previous publications should not be described again). The quality and manufacturers of the most important reagents must be indicated.

## RESULTS

Depending on its size, the section should be divided into two to four subsections. The subsection headings should be informative rather than descriptive. Figures and tables should have headings. Each illustration should be referred to in the text at least once. The positions of figures and tables in the text should be indicated in the left margin. The same material should not be documented in both tables and figures. A figure is always preferable over a table to a reader, although tables are indispensable in some cases. Schemes should be used to clarify a procedure or a result and its interpretation.

## DISCUSSION

The results of the study are explained and discussed in the context of data published previously. The positions of figures and tables in the text are indicated in the left margin.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The names of supporting foundations (with grant numbers in parentheses) are indicated in this section.

#### REFERENCES

This section should be on a separate page and contain the numbered list of references in the same order as they appear in the text (references in the text are cited as numbers in brackets). The citation of different papers under the same number or of the same paper under different numbers and references to unpublished studies is not allowed.

The format of references in the list should be as follows (please pay attention to punctuation and spacing):

#### REFERENCES

##### Journals:

1. Studitsky V.M. (2000) Chromatin transcription. *Mol. Biol. (Mosk.)*. **35**, 235–247.
2. Hanahan D., Weinberg R.A. (2000) The hallmarks of cancer. *Cell*. **100**, 57–70.

##### Collected works:

3. Orlean P. (1997) Biogenesis of yeast cell wall and surface components. In: *The Molecular and Cellular Biology of the Yeast Saccharomyces. Cell Cycle and Cell Biology*, vol. 3. Eds Pringle J.R., Broach J.R., Jones E.W. Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.: Cold Spring Harbor Lab. Press, pp. 229–362.

##### Meeting papers:

4. Zhirnov O.P., Konakova T.E., Krichevets S.G., Iordansky S.N., Klenk H.D. *Abstr. 11th Int. Conf. "Negative Strand Viruses,"* Quebec, Canada, 2000, p. 91.

##### Books:

5. Sambrook J., Fritsch E.E., Maniatis T. (1989) *Molecular Cloning: A Laboratory Manual*. 2nd ed. Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y.: Cold Spring Harbor Lab. Press.

#### FORMAT SPECIFICATIONS

In all materials, including the text, tables, figures, and figure captions,

only “x” should be used as the multiplication sign:  $5 \times 10^3$  mol/l; the symbol “·” is used in scalar products, chemical formulas ( $\text{CuSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ), and noncovalent complexes (DNA · RNA, etc.);

numerical material should be presented as tables;

the signs like ~ (wave), ° (small circle), and <sup>^</sup> (caret) should be used only when absolutely necessary.

Latin names of species and genera are written in italics, whereas the names of higher taxa and the names of phages and viruses are in roman. The names of genes are written in lowercase italics (*rec A*), whereas the names of proteins are in roman type (RecA) (except for designations used in yeast genetics).

The symbols of nucleotides (A, C, G, U), amino acid residues (Ala, Arg, Asn, etc.), and phosphates (ATP, ADP) are written in roman type.

The numbers of nucleotides and amino acid residues are written without hyphens (U25, Ala32). As a rule, long protein and nucleic acid sequences are not published, and only their accession numbers (e.g., in the EMBL Data Bank) are given. When short sequences (no longer than 400 amino acid residues or base pairs) are analyzed and actively discussed in the text, they can be published.

Molecular weight is expressed in Daltons (Da, kDa, MDa).

The use of biochemical and chemical terms, as well as the names of enzymes, should comply with the international rules of the *IUPAC-IUB Committee on Biochemical Nomenclature*. For reference, see <http://www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb> and *Enzyme Nomenclature*, San Diego: Academic Press, 1992. Additional information was published in *Eur. J. Biochem.*, 1994, vol. 223, pp. 1–5; 1995, vol. 232, pp. 1–6; 1996, vol. 237, pp. 1–5; 1997, vol. 250, pp. 1–6; 1999, vol. 264, pp. 610–650.

As a text abounding in abbreviations is difficult to understand, the use of unconventional abbreviations should be reduced to a minimum. Before introducing an abbreviation, the corresponding term should be spelled out, e.g., electrophoretic mobility shift assay (EMSA).

Computer version of the manuscript should be submitted in a standard program (preferably Microsoft Word for Windows 7.0 or a later version). The text should be printed without automatic hyphenation or justification, with italic and boldface types used as noted above.

**The text of the paper, abstract, list of references, tables, and figure should be in one**

**file.** Figures and diagrams (black-and-white version), each in an individual file (resolution 600 dpi or higher), may be in TIFF, JPEG, or EPS format; their sizes should be sufficient for direct reproduction in the journal. **Color figures are published at the expense of authors.** The texts of long nucleotide or amino acid sequences should also be presented as individual text files.

Manuscripts improperly prepared for publication will not be considered.

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A manuscript received by the editorial board is submitted for review to a referee (an expert in the corresponding research field). The authors may propose three or five candidates for referees (indicating their full names, affiliations, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses), but the final choice is made by the editorial board. In controversial cases, additional referees may be invited. Reviewing must be completed within six weeks. Manuscripts disapproved by two independent referees are not accepted for publication. Manuscripts falling beyond the scope of the journal are rejected without review.

After reviewing, the manuscript is given to the editorial board member responsible for the corresponding rubric, who makes an ultimate decision as to the possibility of its publication.

A manuscript that is potentially acceptable but requires improvement is sent to the authors, along with the comments by the referees and the scientific editor. The authors should consider these comments and indicate positions in the manuscript where the corresponding corrections have been made or, in case of disagreement with the referees, substantiate their opinion. The corrected manuscript (in both printed and computer versions) should be returned to the editorial board within 30 days after being received by the authors (excluding the time for mailing). In this case, the date of its receipt by the editorial board remains unchanged. After 30 days, a new date will be indicated.

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The editorial board supplies the first author with a pdf file of the English version of the paper.

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