

# Sage Journals

## Perception

Impact Factor: 1.1

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**Identity transparency:** Single-anonymized

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## Preparing your manuscript for submission

Your article must be within the scope of the journal and be of sufficient quality. If not, it will not be reviewed. Please read the journal's [Aims and Scope](#) to see if your article is appropriate.

The manuscript must be your original work, you must have the rights to the work, and you must have obtained and be able to supply all necessary permissions for the reproduction of any copyright works not owned by you, including figures, illustrations, tables, lengthy quotations, or other material previously published elsewhere.

## Article types

Manuscripts may be submitted as Standard articles, Short reports, Registered Reports, Short & Sweet or Legacy Review papers.

*Standard articles:* These form the bulk of the content in both journals. They are open submissions on any aspect of perception involving any one or more sensory modalities. Sections should usually include (in order): abstract, introduction, methods, results (and discussion), and (general) discussion. The abstract is limited to 250 words. Authors are particularly encouraged to aim for brevity and, where possible, to submit content that is not essential to understanding the paper as supplementary materials. Authors should also write in a style that will be accessible to readers without specific expertise in the immediate subject area of the article.

*Short reports:* These should be to-the-point and aimed at a broad readership. The word limit is 4000 words, including the abstract (up to 150 words), figure captions, and references, but excluding acknowledgments. There is no limit on the number of tables and figures, but authors are advised to aim for no more than two or three. Short reports should be structured the same as standard articles, clearly labelled, and present one or two experiments or theoretical analyses that either (i) have broad, accessible appeal or (ii) are likely to have high impact and relevance within a subfield of perceptual/sensory science. Reviewers and editors should recognise that papers are likely to have less content than a standard article, and this should also speed up the review process.

*Registered Reports:* These allow you to submit a prospective manuscript for a study that you have not yet run. The review is completed in 2 stages. At **Stage 1** (before results) the manuscript will be assessed on the basis of how strong the hypotheses are and whether the methodology and design are robust and promising. At this point the paper can be accepted in principle or rejected. If accepted in principle then the final article should be accepted unless the final manuscript fails to conduct the study originally described. The Stage 1 manuscript should include: introduction - spelling out why the study is important; methods - including information to interpret whether the study is sufficiently sensitive to find a positive result (or to interpret a null result); analysis - detailing as fully as possible the analysis steps that will be used. We recognise that many submissions to the journal do not conform to a classical approach of making inferences based on group statistics. Therefore, we deliberately have no mandatory requirements for power analyses or evidence levels. However, a Stage 1 submission should lay out how evidence for or against a hypothesis will be assessed, and contain appropriate outcome-neutral conditions (e.g., manipulation checks, quality assurance, minimum curve-fit statistics, etc.) to evaluate whether results are conclusive. The Stage 1 submission may also include pilot data, but this is not required. You may write in the past tense, but must have an explicit statement at the

top to make sure readers of the Stage 1 manuscript understand this. Stage 1 acceptance is conditional on the authors also submitting, immediately after Stage 1 acceptance, a formal registration to an appropriate repository such as the Open Science Framework (see <https://osf.io/rr/>). This preregistration can be kept private but must be accessible to the editorial team. At this point authors should also declare an approximate date by which they expect the study to be completed (this can be amended in consultation with the editors). At **Stage 2** (after results), you should add the data and analyses previously described, and a discussion, so the final paper is similar to a Standard Article. Additional data and/or analyses, not included in Stage 1, can also be provided at this stage but these must be clearly distinguished from the a priori analyses. At the point of submitting a Stage 2 manuscript, the preregistered Stage 1 manuscript must be made public. The Stage 2 manuscript will then undergo peer review again. Failure to submit the Stage 2 manuscript by the deadline will result in withdrawal of the Stage 1 manuscript by the journal. Authors can also choose to withdraw an accepted Stage 1 manuscript. The journal will publish a note about withdrawn manuscripts, including a link to the preregistered Stage 1 submission. For queries about this format, please contact the Registered Reports editor [Sam Schwarzkopf](#).

Perception is affiliated with the Peer Community In Registered Reports as a [PCI-interested journal](#). The journal may offer in-principle acceptance for any Stage 1 manuscript within its disciplinary range but reserves the option for further peer review at Stage 2. Authors taking advantage of the PCI RR track should submit their Stage 2 Registered Report using our usual submission system. The manuscript must include the URL to the reviews and recommendation at PCI RR. The submission must also be accompanied by a cover letter stating that the authors are submitting via the PCI RR track, including a URL to the recommended preprint, and confirming that the manuscript is identical to the recommended preprint. To facilitate this process, authors may **suggest Sam Schwarzkopf as recommender** in their coverletter submitted to PCI:RR at Stage 1. For queries about this format, please contact the Registered Reports editor [Sam Schwarzkopf](#).

*Short & Sweet (SAS)*: For this section, the conventional rules of publication are relaxed. Papers should report material that will appeal to sensory scientists, but for which detailed experiments, complex analysis, and well-worked computational models should not have been performed. The work should be easy to describe, have theoretical relevance, and appeal to a broad readership. The point(s) should not require much (or any) data or analysis, though the methodological details that are important for interpretation should be clear where appropriate (these details can be placed in figure legends if desired). A light-hearted approach is strongly encouraged and the work might be written to amuse or entertain. The word limit is 1200 words,

including the abstract (up to 150 words), figure captions, and references, but excluding acknowledgments. To encourage brevity and informality, there should be no section headings apart from the abstract. Other than length and headings, one of the main differences between SAS and Short reports is the quirky nature of SAS. These papers will usually be sent to just a single reviewer. Occasionally, a second reviewer might be asked at the editor's discretion. The journal aims to publish one SAS paper per issue.

*Legacy Reviews:* These should relate to a specific important historical text (or sections thereof, or a small cohesive collection thereof), that made a significant impact to the field up to the present day. If the text was not previously available in English, translations are highly recommended. The format could range from a full translation with a brief commentary (one printed page should suffice in many cases), to an in-depth review of the work that has been influenced by the historical text. A more liberal discussion or commentary paper, with only the main parts being translated, is also possible. In the latter case, it must be made explicit which parts of original texts have been condensed and/or omitted. In all cases of translations, it must be clear exactly which sections of the submitted manuscript represent a direct translation and which are the author's own interpretation, with quotes clearly marked and with page numbers. The manuscript title should refer to the original paper (e.g. "Smith (1850) revisited" or "A commentary on Smith (1850)"), but authorship should be assigned to the translator / commentator at submission. When citing these papers we encourage citation of both the original author and the translator / commentator. Authors should contact the Editorial Office ([annabelle.redfern@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:annabelle.redfern@bristol.ac.uk)) with a brief outline proposal in the first instance, including a copy of the original text.

*Editorials:* continue Richard Gregory's tradition of presenting ideas, sometimes controversial, that might get people to think about and challenge the underlying assumptions of the theories and experimental techniques we use in our field. Ideas should initially be sent to the Chief Editors, aiming for 1500-2000 words in length.

*Replies:* commenting upon an article published in Perception, may be considered for publication but the author should contact the editorial office to gauge suitability before submission. Replies should be shorter than the target article in length.

*Philosophy Corner:* This section is for reflections on the conceptual foundations of sensory/perception science where empirical insight meets philosophical inquiry. Contributions may question the assumptions behind standard methods, revisit classical ideas in light of modern evidence and thought, or reflect on how perception relates to cognition, artificial systems and/or consciousness. In short, these papers provide bridges between perception and philosophy, particularly philosophy of mind or philosophy of science. The aim is to encourage dialogue between psychologists and philosophers. Contributions should be written in a suitable style for a broad

readership across psychology, neuroscience, and philosophy. Abstracts are limited to 250 words, and the body text (excluding captions and references etc.) can be up to 8,000 words. However, to encourage concision, submissions over 3,000 words will go through a second stage of triage by the section editor, who might ask for a reduction in length if appropriate. Results and figures can appear in these papers if appropriate, but this is not a requirement. Short & Sweet-style papers will be considered but handled through the Philosophy Corner channel and will not be flagged as Short & Sweet. Similarly, Replies are welcome in the spirit of debate but will be titled 'A reply to...' rather than appearing in a Reply section.

*Obituaries:* Perception publishes obituaries for those who have made significant contributions to the field of perception research. Presubmission enquiries for obituaries should be submitted to the editorial office [[annabelle.redfern@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:annabelle.redfern@bristol.ac.uk)]. The enquiry should include a Curriculum Vitae, list of publications, and clearly outline the impact the deceased had on the field. This can be the person's main scientific contributions as well as other roles that have impacted the Perception community in a positive way. The editors-in-chief will decide whether an invitation to submit the actual obituary is opportune and inform the author(s) of that decision. Personal information as well as (non-copyrighted) photos can be part of the obituary. Obituaries are typically reviewed by the editors-in-chief, who have the duty to check the correctness and the quality of the obituary.

### Clinical trial registration

The journal conforms to the [ICMJE requirement](#) that clinical trials are registered in a [WHO-approved public trials registry](#) at or before the time of first participant enrollment as a condition of consideration for publication. The trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract.

### Reporting guidelines

Your manuscript **must** follow the relevant [EQUATOR Network reporting guidelines](#), depending on the type of study. The [EQUATOR wizard](#) can help identify the appropriate guideline. You will need to upload the appropriate checklist with your submission.

Other resources can be found at [NLM's Research Reporting Guidelines and Initiatives](#).

If your research involves animals, you will be asked to confirm that you have carefully read and adhered to the [ARRIVE guidelines](#).

### Formatting your manuscript

## Accepted file types

The preferred format for your manuscript is Word. You do not need to follow a template, but please ensure your heading levels are clear, and the sections clearly defined.

The LaTeX files are also accepted. A LaTeX template is available on the [Sage Journal Author Gateway](#).

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## Abstract

Please include an unstructured abstract of up to 250 words between the title and main body of your manuscript that concisely states the purpose of the research, major findings, and conclusions. If your research includes clinical trials, the trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract. Submissions that do not meet this requirement will not be considered.

For clinical trials, the trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract.

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## Keywords

Please include a minimum of 4 keywords, listed after the abstract. Keywords should be as specific as possible to the research topic.

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- Contact information for the corresponding author: name, institutional address, phone, email
- Acknowledgments section
- Declaration of conflicting interest
- Funding statement
- Ethical approval and informed consent statements
- Data availability statement

## Acknowledgments

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obtain consent from non-author contributors who you are acknowledging in your manuscript.

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Please include your ethics approval statements under this heading, even if you have already included ethics approval information in your methods section. If ethical approval was not required, you need to explicitly state this. You can find information on what to say in your ethical statements as well as example statements on our [Publication ethics and research integrity policies page](#).

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Please include any participant consent information under this heading and state whether informed consent to participate was written or verbal. If the requirement for informed consent to participate has been waived by the relevant Ethics Committee or Institutional Review Board (i.e. where it has been deemed that consent would be impossible or impracticable to obtain), please state this. If this is not applicable to your

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The following summary describes the peer review process for this journal:

Identity transparency: Single-anonymized

Reviewer interacts with: Editors

Review information published: None

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