

## **Poster Presentations: Top Tips**

- One of the most common mistakes people make when creating a poster is to overload it with information - TRY AND AVOID THIS! No one wants to read a poster that is jammed full of text.
- A poster should represent a 'snapshot' of your work - so show the bits that are most interesting and which can be represented by both text AND high quality images.
- Your poster should be eye-catching; it should draw people towards it. However, be aware that your use of colors is just as important in the poster as it is when you're making a Google Slide presentation – so avoid clashing colors.
- A background color for the poster board that contrasts with the color of the paper used for the text often works well – for example, a dark blue poster board with text printed on white paper.
- Your title and full name should be clearly represented at the top of your poster.
- It is useful to design your poster around the standard 'Introduction', 'Methods', 'Results', and 'Conclusions' approach. However, since posters often represent work currently in progress, there is more flexibility to represent a few (or perhaps only pilot) results along with a speculative set of conclusions.
- Make sure that your poster is actually legible and remember that people may be reading it from a distance of several feet or more away - SO KEEP THE TEXT SIZE LARGE (minimum 24 point font).
- Keep the text formatting consistent throughout (i.e, use the same font and colors for main text, titles of individual sections etc.).
- Make sure that your poster has a 'story' to tell but remember that people will not necessarily be reading all of it, or they may read just bits of it.... So make sure that whatever you include, that it is interesting!
- Make good use of images throughout your poster - but make sure these are of high quality and are relevant to the work you are presenting.
- If you are creating a poster using board and text/images that will be glued onto it, make sure you try out various combinations of where these pieces of text/images will go. It can be very helpful to put the board onto the floor and arrange your text/images onto it to see how they look. Ask friends, parents, and teachers for their opinions of how your poster looks in different combinations of text/image placement. Remember: you want your poster to attract people to come and read

it, so test this out before you print the final versions and stick them onto your board!

- Make sure that your contact details are clearly given on the poster (or on printed business cards to hand out) and make sure to include acknowledgements to the people who helped you (usually placed somewhere in the bottom left or right-hand side of the poster)
- Making a high quality poster is time-consuming. Do not underestimate how long it will take ! You should allow for at least 3-4 weeks from original plans to the final version.

The above tips were retrieved and adapted from: <http://www.stars.rdg.ac.uk/poster.html>

## **For more poster/presentation tips:**

### [Designing Effective Poster Presentations](#)

This site contains numerous links to other websites that deal with communication via posters.

[published by: University at Buffalo, The State University of New York Library]

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