

For Authors and Editors

Our books

Browse active book series accepting proposals

Propose a book idea

Prepare & submit a manuscript

Promote your book

Policy and ethical guidelines

Copyright & permissions

Copyright and permissions for reusing material in your RSC book

Specialist Periodical Reports

Books FAQ

Our books

Our books provide in-depth, up-to-date and authoritative coverage across the chemical sciences and related areas, making them valuable references for students, researchers and scientists in academia and industry. Our editors and authors are leading scientists and experts in their profession from across the globe.

What we publish

We publish different types of books for all audiences and individuals, from critical assessments of the latest advances in a specific research field, to introductions to topics for non-experts.

Monograph: A book intended to be a complete treatment of a single subject, written by one or few co-authors.

Contributed work: A book intended to be a complete treatment of a single subject written by multiple contributors led by a volume editor.

Encyclopedia: A book or set of books offering comprehensive information on all or specialized areas of knowledge arranged according to alphabetic table of contents.

Textbook: A book intended for use in education, usually providing an overview of a subject.

Reference: A book such as encyclopedias and dictionaries that are not intended to be read front to back, but to provide specific facts when needed.

Proceedings: A book covering (a selection of) lectures or papers given at a conference or workshop.

Thesis: A book detailing an author's research, written to fulfill the requirements for attaining a degree.

Professional book: Presentation of a field for the advanced training of persons working in this field.

General interest: A book intended for a general readership without expertise in the field - its style, layout, and presentation targets a broad audience.

Handbook: A well-structured and exhaustive chapter wise presentation of a usually broad documentation of the status of a research field.

Why publish with us?

Our editorial team combines both significant experience of the book publishing industry with subject expertise in the chemical sciences and related fields. As an editor or author, we will be consistently available to support and guide you through the full publication process for your book.

The relevance and quality of our books is important to us, and each proposed book undergoes a peer review process. Our commissioning editors work with editors and authors to develop their ideas for books, and ensure the published title will reach the relevant audience and fulfil its potential impact.

Once approved, we provide support through the writing and editing process, and then our specialised production staff take over once the manuscript is submitted.

We provide:

- Assistance for gaining necessary permissions and understanding the sometimes complicated copyright challenges around re-use of figures
- Full copy-editing, typesetting and indexing for manuscripts
- Cover design service – working with you to develop the most appealing design for your book
- Complimentary copies sent upon publication (as agreed in your contract)

Your book will be:

- Available electronically across a range of formats (PDF, HTML, EPUB), and discoverable through multiple indexing and aggregating services and databases, such as Clarivate's Books Citation Index, SciVerse Scopus, Google Books, Amazon Search Inside Service.
- Marketed globally in our catalogues, through targeted email campaigns and at conferences. We can also provide promotional PowerPoint slides and flyers on request.

In addition, our book authors and editors are eligible for a 35% discount on the book they contributed to, and a 25% discount on all other Royal Society of Chemistry books.

Interested? [Propose a book idea](#)

Browse active book series accepting proposals

As a learned society publisher, we accept book proposals in a broad range of subject areas. We welcome the opportunity to evaluate new proposals.

Browse our active series of published books for inspiration for your next book proposal.

We welcome submissions for book ideas.

Propose a book idea

If you have an idea for a book, please read through the following information and guidelines on how to submit a book proposal to the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Process overview

Click to see a step-by-step overview of the lifecycle of a book, from preparing a proposal to printing the finished book.

Prepare a book proposal & submit. You complete our Book proposal form. The form will guide you through the information needed for proposing a book idea. For more information, see [How to prepare a book proposal](#).

Proposal sent for peer review. We arrange for the proposal to be reviewed by subject specialists and researchers working in the field. We discuss with you all feedback that we receive from the reviewers, working with you to address any concerns where necessary.

Proposal presented to the RSC. The proposal, together with the reviewers' comments and any response from you, is collated by the commissioning editor and presented to the RSC books review board for consideration and final acceptance.

Contract offered. We offer you a contract for the book, which sets out your rights and responsibilities in detail.

Book prepared. The book is written. Our editorial team is on hand to offer support and guidance during this time. The final and complete manuscript is submitted to us.

Note: timescales for writing a book vary depending on the type of book and whether it is authored or edited.

Typescript submitted. We assess the submitted manuscript and ensure all necessary materials have been supplied. See Prepare and submit your manuscript.

Book enters production. The manuscript is passed to the production team. They will arrange for the manuscript to be copy-edited and typeset. Once this has been completed you will be sent the proofs to check and correct.

Indexing. We arrange for an index to be created.

Publication. The eBook and print book are published. The eBook versions available vary depending on the type of book.

Sales & marketing. We market your book worldwide.

Prepare & submit a manuscript

The following information gives advice and instructions on preparing a chapter or book and submitting it to us.

It is important that you adhere to the information on this page to ensure your manuscript is prepared and submitted to us correctly so that we are able to process and publish the book efficiently and on time.

Format & layout

- The manuscript should be prepared in Microsoft Word. If you want to use a different application, please contact us to discuss this first.
- Text should use 2.0pt line-spacing.
- Punctuation and spelling must follow standard English practice. The use of either British or American English is acceptable, but must be used consistently.
- Standard IUPAC nomenclature must be used.
- SI units and symbols must be used.
- Abbreviations must be defined at first mention in the chapter and abbreviated thereafter. A list of abbreviations may be provided at the end of the chapter if necessary.
- Numbers with five or more digits should have spaces every three digits (eg 10 000, 2 000 000 – commas, eg 10,000, should not be used). Numbers with five or more decimal places should have spaces every three decimal places (eg 3.141 592 62).
- Units should be presented in inverse style (eg m s⁻¹ and not m/s).

Chapter abstract

Each chapter will need a chapter abstract. The abstract is very important in promoting the book content. The abstract:

- should be a single paragraph of 50–200 words, briefly summarising the chapter
- will be present only in the eBook version of the book, and not the print book (with the exception of the Issues in Environment Science and Technology series and some specialist periodical reports)
- must not contain any reference citations, figures or footnotes

Headings

- The chapter text should be divided into sections with headings, as appropriate.
- All main words within a heading should be capitalised.
- No full point is needed at the end of a heading.
- Acknowledgement and reference sections should be at the end of the chapter, and these headings are not numbered.
- Headings should be numbered as follows (where X is the chapter number)*.

- X Chapter Title
- X.1 Main Section Heading
- X.1.1 Sub Section Heading
- X.1.1.1 Lower Sub Section Heading

** Books in the Issues in Environmental Science and Technology series do not have chapter numbers. Section headings should follow the numbering: 1 Main section heading; 1.1 Sub section heading; 1.1.1 Lower sub section heading.*

Images

- Figures should be supplied as TIFF or EPS files, with a resolution of 600 dpi or greater and at a final size of 20 x 12 cm.
- Photographs should be provided at the best resolution available (minimum 600 dpi) as TIFF, PDF or JPEG files.
- Figures should be supplied ready for printing, without further retouching or redrawing.
- Figures should be adequately labelled, and this must remain legible after reduction.
- Information not necessary to the discussion – for example, solvents or temperatures – should be omitted from legends.
- Avoid using long, complicated schemes or large figures as these may end up some distance from the textual discussion.
- Over-large schemes or blocks of structures will be reduced to fit the page so you will need to ensure that detail is not lost in reduction – for example, make sure that lines are thick enough to be visible after reduction, and only label significant atoms in ORTEP-style diagrams.
- Figures must be cited in the text. The recommended location of a figure to appear should be indicated as follows:

[Figure X.1 near here]

- Figures taken from internet sites are not usually of reproducible quality, and may also be copyright protected; the original authors should be contacted for a suitable file and permission.
- Figures should all be submitted as separate files and not embedded in the typescript (with the exception of ChemDraw files).

Colour figures

Your contract will state whether the use of colour is allowed in the printed book or not. The use of colour figures will be considered only where scientifically necessary.

In the eBook version, any figures supplied in colour will appear in colour, regardless of whether the printed book is in colour or black and white. However, the same figure captions will be used in both the print and electronic version so refrain from mentioning colour in the caption.

** Books in the Issues in Environmental Science and Technology series do not have chapter numbers, so schemes should be numbered 1, 2, 3 etc. (not X.1, X.2....).*

Tables

- Tables should be supplied in Word format.
- Do not supply tables as image files or in Excel or PowerPoint.
- Tables should be single-line spaced.
- Footnotes in tables should be self-contained, labelled with superior lower-case letters, and listed as a block of text beneath the table.
- The table must be cited in the text.
- The approximate location of a table to appear should be indicated as follows:

[Table X.5 near here]

Captions

- All figures and tables should have a caption.
- Items should be numbered as X.1, X.2, etc consecutively throughout the chapter*.

- Items should be referred to by their number in the text. Do not use phrases such as 'in the figure above' as the final placement of items may change during typesetting.
- If a figure has been previously published, the correct copyright information must be included in the caption as stipulated by the copyright holder.
- When writing the caption for a figure, please bear in mind that a figure may be black and white in the print book but appear in the electronic book in colour, so the caption must make sense for both situations. Your contract will state if the use of colour is allowed in the printed book or not.
- A separate list of all figure and table captions should appear at the end of the main text document.

* Books in the Issues in Environmental Science and Technology series do not have chapter numbers, so items should be numbered 1, 2, 3 etc. (not X.1, X.2...).

Equations

- These should be set in Mathtype (or Word Equation Editor, where Mathtype is unavailable).
- They should be displayed on a separate line in the main text.
- They should be numbered consecutively throughout each chapter ((X.1), (X.2) etc) in parentheses at the right-hand side of the page*.
- Symbols for variables and physical constants should be italicised.
- Matrices and vectors should appear in bold.

* Books in the Issues in Environmental Science and Technology series do not have chapter numbers, so equations should be numbered 1, 2, 3 etc. (not X.1, X.2...).

References

- References should be superscripted in the text (for example, one day.³⁶ The next...).
- CASSI Journal abbreviations should be used.
- For authors using EndNote, an EndNote style file is available in Templates & sample documents.
- A list of references in numerical order (following the Vancouver system) should appear at the end of the chapter. References should only appear once in the list. If the same source is cited more than once the reference number should be repeated.
- Books in the Issues in Toxicology series must also include the full article title and the full page range in the reference lists.
- References supplied in the Harvard (author/date) system will not be accepted. Please note that the Advances in Chemistry Education series is an exception to this rule.

Journal articles

A. Name, B. Name and C. Name, Journal Title, year, volume, first page.

When page numbers are not yet known, articles should be cited by DOI (Digital Object Identifier) – for example, T. J. Hebdon, R. R. Schrock, M. K. Takase and P. Müller, Chem. Commun., 2012, DOI: 10.1039/C2CC17634C.

For books in the Issues in Toxicology series, you must also include the full article title and the complete page range.

Books

A. Name, B. Name and C. Name, Book Title, Publisher, Publisher's Location, edition, year. For example, S. T. Beckett, Science of Chocolate, Royal Society of Chemistry, Cambridge, 2000.

If you are referencing published conference proceedings, these should be cited as for a book.

Book chapters

A. Name, in Book Title, ed. Editor Name(s), Publisher, Publisher Location, edition, year, chapter, pages.

The 'ed.' in the example above stands for 'edited by'. If the book has no editors this should be left out.

Theses

A. Name, PhD thesis, University Name, year.

Lectures, meetings & conferences

A. Name, presented in part at Conference Title, Place, Month, year.

Reference to unpublished material

You should not reference unpublished work without the permission of those who completed the work.

For material accepted for publication, but not yet published: A. Name, Journal Title, in press.

For material submitted for publication, but not yet accepted: A. Name, Journal Title, submitted. For material that has yet to be submitted for publication: A. Name, unpublished work.

Online resources (including databases, websites & wikis)

Name of resource, URL, (accessed date).

Please note the most important information to include is the URL and the date accessed. For example, The Merck Index Online, <http://www.rsc.org/Merck-Index/monograph/mono1500000841>, (accessed January 2016).

Preprint servers (for example, arXiv)

For example: V. Krstic and M. Glerup, 2006, arXiv:cond-mat/0601513.

Patents

The name of the patentee must be given. For example, A. Name, Br. Pat., 123 456, 2016. B. Name, US Pat., 1 234 567, 2015.

Software

T. Bellander, M. Lewne and B. Brunekreef, GAUSSIAN 3 (Revision B.05), Gaussian Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, 2003.

Electronic supplementary information (ESI)

If you wish to provide additional content to accompany your chapter, for example extra figures, data tables or a video, we can now host this alongside the chapter files online.

Please submit any ESI files along with your manuscript, ensuring that they are clearly marked as ESI. ESI will be made available online at the same time as the ebook is published, or when the print book is published for print-only titles.

Templates & sample documents

Chapter Template

Sample chapter, for use as you prepare your book / chapter

Royal Society of Chemistry EndNote style file

Issues in Toxicology EndNote style file

Submitting a manuscript

Large File Transfer system

Our Large File Transfer (LFT) system provides a secure means to upload large files.

As soon as you are ready to submit the final and complete manuscript, we'll send you a link to the LFT. This link will have an expiry date so please do let us know if you're not ready to send the typescript in.

All the folders for the book should all be zipped into one complete zip file before uploading. If the zip file exceeds the 1 GB limit then please split into two or send chapter by chapter.

How to create a zip file

In Windows Explorer, navigate to where the folders are that you want to zip; select all the folders. Right-click on the highlighted files, and select 'Send to' followed by 'Compressed (zipped) folder'.

In OSX, navigate to where the folders are that you want to zip; select all the folders. Right-click on the highlighted files, and select 'Compress Items'.