

Writing Abstracts¹

The abstract is a summary of your paper. It provides enough information for the reader to learn the project's purpose and results. It is written in a concise and forthright fashion with no extras and no frills (but it should be easy to read – readers often decide whether to read any further based on the abstract.) The abstract should include the following information (and be between 100 and 150 words):

- A one sentence statement of the purpose
- A description of the participants included in the research
- The most important results
- Any conclusions or implications you offer

The abstract should not be indented. The title “Abstract” should be centered at the top of page two (following your title page.) Most authors write the abstract after they have completed the rest of the paper.

¹ Based on Salkind, N.J. (2003). Exploring Research, Fifth Edition. Upper Saddle River, New Jersey: Prentice Hall. pg 261.