

# How to SELECT A TARGET JOURNAL



## When to select a journal?

- Early in the writing process, to ensure a good fit for your study's topic, importance, and relevance
- Knowing the journal requirements helps during writing



## Where to select a journal?

- Indexes, institutional websites, or the free Edanz Journal Selector ([www.edanzediting.com/JOURNAL-SELECTOR](http://www.edanzediting.com/JOURNAL-SELECTOR))



## How to select a journal?

- Match criteria that matter to you with those of journals
- Check past issues, make shortlist of journals, and order them strategically



## Don't forget!

- Choose only journals that are peer reviewed
- Submit your manuscript to only **one** journal at a time
- Check the journal is trusted by using the checklists at [thinkchecksubmit.org](http://thinkchecksubmit.org)

## What matters to you?

Prestige and trust;  
mark of achievement

Journal reputation



Reach



Speed

Do you have a  
deadline or want to  
be the first to publish?

High visibility and access to  
readers who may talk about,  
share, and cite your work  
and be future collaborators

## What matters to journals?

New knowledge,  
high-quality content  
and language, ethical  
practice, peer review  
and production quality;  
for some:  
novelty and high/wide  
potential impact

Journal reputation



Readership

People reading and citing  
the journal's contents  
(can depend on journal type,  
publication frequency and  
mode, inclusion in indexes)

## Tips for using the Edanz Journal Selector



Type in the secure text box to find target journals that match your:

- Draft title, keywords, notes, outlines, or abstract
- Field of study
- Preferred publisher
- Journal names or ISSNs (international standard serial numbers)



Filter by:

- Field of study
- Whether indexed in Science Citation Index (SCI) or SCI Expanded
- Whether open access options are available
- Publication frequency
- Range of Journal Impact Factors



Find journals with recent papers similar to yours; make shortlist:

- Ask for advice from a colleague or an Edanz expert



## Factors to consider in journal selection

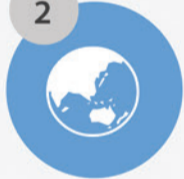
1



### Aims & scope

- Topics (multidisciplinary, unidisciplinary, or subdisciplinary), focus (e.g., theory or practice, basic or applied), evidence levels or study types?
- Selectivity (% acceptance)?
- Are novelty and potential impact important?

2



### Audience

- Depends on Aims & scope (e.g., generalists or specialists; international, regional, or national?)
- Researchers, practitioners, or policy-makers?
- May depend on publication mode

3



### Article type

- What article types are accepted and not accepted?
- Are there limits on length or number of illustrations or references, or are supplementary files allowed?
- Is prior inclusion in a preprint server allowed?

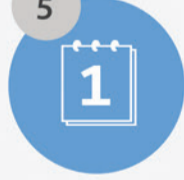
4



### Peer review

- Model of peer review (pre/post-publication, closed/open, collaborative, cascading); are reviews published?
- Speed of peer review?
- Are requests for fast-track review allowed?
- Are presubmission inquiries allowed?

5



### Production

- Publication frequency: how many issues per year, or is there continuous online publication?
- How many articles per issue?
- Publication speed?

6



### Mode, rights

- Print only (circulation?), print plus online version with or without early view, or online only?
- Pay-per-view, subscription, open access (green/gold), or hybrid?
- Author or journal or publisher/owner owns copyright?

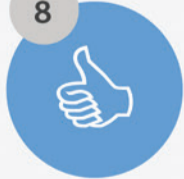
7



### Cost, services

- Submission fee, production fee (color/page charges), article processing charge for open access?
- Editing/illustration service, news release service, and social media promotion included in publication charge?
- Postpublication commenting and altmetrics tracking?

8



### Reputation

- Is the journal/publisher well known?
- Is the journal affiliated with a professional society?
- Are the editor/s and editorial board well known?
- Is the journal recommended by your library/society?
- Have you or your colleagues read/cited it?
- Have your peers or colleagues published in it and say they value its peer review process?
- Is it known for quality content, language, and production?
- Is it in respected general or specific indexes?
- Does it have a long history and an online archive?
- Bibliometrics (e.g., Journal Impact Factor)?



Knowing what factors to look for when selecting your target journal will help you save time when publishing your next article.

<https://learning.edanz.com>

<https://www.edanz.com/journal-selector>

<https://twitter.com/edanzscience>

<https://www.facebook.com/EdanzScience>

edanz

INNOVATIVE  
SCIENTIFIC  
SOLUTIONS