

PHYSICS LABORATORY REPORT FORMAT

GENERAL:

Laboratory reports are due at the beginning of the next laboratory period. Late laboratory reports **will** receive a grade penalty. Attendance in lab is mandatory. No make-up labs will be allowed. The lowest lab score received during the semester will be dropped before calculation of final grade.

Laboratory reports will be graded and returned. Laboratory reports containing errors may be corrected and handed back to the instructor for regrading. Only labs handed in on time may be regraded. Labs to be regraded must be handed in within one week. No corrections received after more than one week will be regraded.

It is preferred that laboratory reports be typed (computer-generated, including text, tables and graphs). This is excellent practice for developing enhanced computer skills. Computers with Microsoft Word, Excel and other applications programs are available to all students in the student computing center in the Dryfuss Building.

Laboratory reports should be complete, concise and well-written. Rarely will it be necessary that reports exceed two to three pages (not including graphs). Reports are to be neat and on standard size, 8.5" x 11" paper (not on paper torn out of spiral ring notebooks). Please invest in a stapler of your own.

REPORT FORMAT:

Date
Name

Experiment Number: Title

Purpose: A brief explanation of the purpose of the experiment (1-2 sentences).

Procedure: A brief description of the experimental methodology. Often, a reference to the laboratory manual, classroom instructions, or handout is sufficient.

Experimental Data: A complete listing of **all** experimental data.

Calculations: Show all calculations. For multiple data points, a single example calculation is sufficient as long as all calculated results are shown.

Results: A brief explanation and concise listing of the results of the experiment including percent error calculations.

Discussion: A brief discussion of the success or failure of the experiment to achieve its purpose. A full discussion of the possible sources of errors and their potential contributions to the observed experimental error is to be included.

Note: Experimental data, calculations, results and percent errors can often be formatted into a single table.