

1 General

Maintaining a laboratory notebook is one important aspect of laboratory work. The notes recorded in the laboratory notebook regarding what has been done and observed during laboratory experiments serve as the foundation for

- publishing new observations and results in chemistry journals
- reporting work
- confirming or replicating important results (syntheses, measurements, etc.)
- patenting results and new inventions

Based on the entries made in the laboratory notebook, another researcher in the same field should be able to understand and, if necessary, replicate the experiments conducted.

2 Laboratory Notebook

A laboratory notebook should be a bound book with numbered pages. The supervisor provides an appropriate notebook to the student (researcher) for this purpose. Entries in the laboratory notebook should be made with archival-quality ballpoint pens. Information from the laboratory notebook is transferred to a computer for reporting or publication writing purposes. Not the other way around.

3 Things to be recorded in the laboratory notebook

- The laboratory notebook provides a record of the stages of the laboratory experiment and serves as the basis for writing reports, publications, and more.
- The laboratory notebook must have regular page numbering, and pages must NOT be removed.
- Entries in the laboratory notebook should not be erased using correction fluid, an eraser, or similar tools. Instead, incorrect entries should be crossed out so that the underlying text remains legible.
- Supplementary materials, such as printouts from measuring instruments, written work instructions, images, etc., can be attached to the laboratory notebook. In such cases, the attached paper should be glued into the book, labeled with the date and your initials, and secured with lines drawn over the corners so that any removal can be easily detected.
- The laboratory notebook should NOT include unrelated matters, lecture notes, etc.

You can use either the Finnish or English language in the laboratory notebook.