



How to Choose a Good Journal



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Introduction

- - Choosing the right journal ensures your research reaches the intended audience.
- - Affects your academic reputation and career progress.
- - Avoids predatory journals and unethical practices.

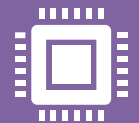
Step 1: Define Your Publication Goals




- Do you need visibility for tenure or academic promotion?



- Do you aim to reach practitioners or interdisciplinary audiences?



- Example: For interdisciplinary AI applications in medicine, consider journals like IEEE JBHI or Nature Digital Medicine.



Step 2: Match Journal Scope

- - Read 'Aims and Scope' on the journal website.
- - Example: Journal of Machine Learning Research (JMLR) is highly technical, not suited for applications-focused papers.
- - Look at past articles – are they similar to your topic?

Step 3: Analyze Journal Metrics

- Impact Factor (IF) – Clarivate Web of Science.

- SCImago Journal Rank (SJR) – www.scimagojr.com

- CiteScore – Scopus.

- Example: IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks has IF > 10, SJR Q1.

Step 4: Verify Indexing

- Is the journal indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, DOAJ?

- Example: 'Applied Soft Computing' is indexed in Scopus and WoS (Q1 category).

- Avoid journals not found in any indexing databases.



Step 5: Understand the Review Process

- Double-blind vs. single-blind vs. open review.

- Average review time: 4–12 weeks (varies).

- Example: PLOS ONE provides median time to first decision (around 30 days).

Step 6: Check APC and Access Policy

- Open Access (OA) may have Article Processing Charges (APC).

- Example: MDPI journals charge ~CHF 2000, while Indonesian journals often free.

- Some offer APC waivers for low-income countries.



Step 7: Beware of Predatory Journals

- Promises of fast publication (e.g., 3 days).

- No editorial board or fake affiliations.

- Example: 'International Journal of Advanced Computer Technology' once accepted 'Get me off your f*** mailing list'.



Step 8: Use Evaluation Tools

- Think. Check. Submit.
(<https://thinkchecksubmit.org>)

- Elsevier Journal Finder
(<https://journalfinder.elsevier.com>)

- Springer Journal Suggester

- Use SCImago
(<https://www.scimagojr.com>)



Step 9: Consult Experts and Peers

- Talk to advisors, mentors, or senior researchers.

- Post queries in ResearchGate or academic LinkedIn groups.

- Ask what journals your institution recommends.



Final Tips for Journal Selection

- - Always read the Author Guidelines in detail.
- - Prepare multiple submission plans (A, B, C).
- - Be honest about the novelty of your research.
- - Don't aim too high or too low – match your level.

Summary

- Define your goals and audience.

- Check journal scope, indexing, and reputation.

- Beware of fake or predatory journals.

- Use tools and consult with experienced researchers.



Q&A

- Thank you for your attention!

- Let's discuss your questions and concerns about journal selection.