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A guide to publishing supplementary material

Many of our journals encourage authors to submit and publish supplementary materials that are not essential for inclusion or that cannot be accommodated in the main article, but that would be of benefit to the reader. Supplementary materials are hosted online with the main article, and can include data sets, video files, sound clips, figures or tables. The main text of the article should stand alone without the supplementary material.

Please consult your journal's Instructions for Contributors to find out whether they accept supplementary materials, and for any journal-specific requirements.

Preparation

Please ensure that each supplementary file is referenced at an appropriate point in the main text of the article. Files should be no larger than 15 MB.

Audio files

Audio files should be saved in one of the below formats:

- Preferred formats: mp3, mp4
- Acceptable formats: AAC, AIFF, WAV

Video files

Authors should follow these guidelines when preparing video files:

- Preferred formats: mpg/mpeg, mp4, mov
- Acceptable formats: wmv, avi
- Minimum dimensions: 320 pixels wide by 240 pixels deep
- Should be viewable in QuickTime or Windows Media Player
- Include a title and pertinent copy for each video, preferably limited to 20 words
- In the case of multiple video files, number them in the order in which they should be viewed
- If associated with a figure, include a citation at the end of the figure caption explaining the video's function, its file format, and that it is accessible at journals.cambridge.org

Other file types

In addition to the audio and video file types listed above, we can also accept the following file formats for supplementary materials:

- pdf
- doc/docx
- xls/xlsx
- ppt/pptx
- jpeg
- tiff
- png
- zip





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Submission

All supplementary materials must be submitted at the same time as your main article, as they will be peer-reviewed with the article. Files should be labelled in such a way that it is clear that they are supplemental to the main article, what they are and to which article they belong, e.g. [First author surname] supplement-movie1.mov.

Publication

Supplementary materials are not edited or typeset, and are published online with the full article in exactly the format supplied by the authors. If files are deemed unacceptable, the author will be responsible for rectifying the problem and supplying an acceptable file. A link to the online supplementary material will be added to the end of the article during production.

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