

Selecting a journal

- 1** Ensure that you're informed and up to date. Follow journals and their publishers on Twitter and subscribe to RSS feeds and email newsletters.
- 2** Establish a longlist comprising all the journals you could conceivably write for.
- 3** Use the information sources listed in (1) above.
- 4** Search a range of databases – for example, Google Scholar, Scopus, JSTOR, and Web of Science. Use various (combinations of) search terms.
- 5** Think laterally. For example, are there journals in which you could publish papers on (a) methodology or (b) teaching, in addition to your substantive articles?
- 6** Talk to people, especially your institution's subject librarian or information scientist.
- 7** Where possible, establish a league table based on numerical or quasi-objective measures – for example, the impact factor or learned societies' rankings.
- 8** Consider wider factors. For example:
 - a. journals specialising in niche subjects;
 - b. likely quality of peer reviewers;
 - c. scheduled special editions;
 - d. recent changes – for example, of editor or publisher;
 - e. pragmatic considerations – for example, how speedily a journal operates.

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Resources

Philippa J. Benson & Susan C. Silver, *What editors want: an author's guide to scientific journal publishing* (University of Chicago Press, 2012)

Sally Morris et al., *Handbook of journal publishing* (Cambridge University Press, 2013)

Essays on citation analysis and reporting: Web of Science (Thomson Reuters) website – <http://wokinfo.com/essays/>

About Frontinus

We help engineers with pitches, presentations, papers, reports, documents, and publications.

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