

AP Chemistry Laboratory Notebook

The laboratory notebook provides a permanent record of your work in lab and be used as a reference in college courses. Some universities require students to submit their lab notebook to verify lab experience prior to giving college credit for the lab. In AP Chemistry, a quadrille ruled composition notebook (graph paper) will serve as your lab notebook.

Lab Notebook Guidelines:

1. Must be a quadrille ruled composition notebook (graph paper).
2. All entries must be in **blue or black ink**.
3. All entries must be neat, legible, and complete.
4. Title and date each entry.
5. Write lab reports on the **RIGHT side** of the notebook. Information on the **RIGHT side will be graded**.
6. The LEFT side is for your own use (notes from pre/post lab discussions, sample calculations, etc.) LEFT Side will not be graded.
7. Errors should be crossed out with a single line. Do not use white out. You will not be penalized for any material neatly crossed out.
8. Do not skip pages.
9. Do not leave large blank spaces between texts.
10. Pages should never be torn out of the notebook.
11. Loose leaf sheets of paper should not be stapled or taped into the notebook. If you want it graded, it should be written in your notebook (exception: computer generated graphs/data tables can be taped into notebook where appropriate)
12. Never copy observations/work from another student. Your lab notebook is a record of what *you* observed or measured.
13. You must have your lab notebook complete with the title, pre-lab, purpose, and procedure prior to class on the day of lab. If you fail to do so, you will not be permitted to participate in lab and will not receive credit for the lab.

Notebook Structure:

- Page 1: Title Page (Your name, course name, instructor, block)
- Page 2: Periodic Table
- Page 3 and 4: Table of Contents (For each lab you will write page #, title, and date)
- Page 5: Beginning of Lab #1

Lab Entries: Each lab should include the following components:

1. **Date and names of lab partners**
2. **Title**
3. **Pre-lab** (if applicable): Some labs will require a pre-lab assignment.
4. **Purpose:** Summarize the purpose for doing the lab (1-2 sentences).
5. **Procedure:** An outline of the procedure. Do not copy the entire handout. Phrases are acceptable. Your procedure should be clearly written so that someone else could repeat the experiment.
6. **Data/Observations:** Organize your data in neat tables. Be sure to label all units and record the correct number of significant figures. Graphs should be set up properly with a title and axes labeled.
7. **Calculations:** Show at least one sample for all calculations. Write formulas, show units, and record answers with correct digits and units. (HINT: it might be helpful to perform calculations on scratch paper first). Calculations should be done after the lab is completed.
8. **Post-lab questions** (if applicable): Answer any post-lab questions in this section.
9. **Summary:** Must be written in the **third person passive voice**, Standard English and in complete sentences. The Summary should include the following:
 - A summary of the results.
 - A detailed discussion of the results when appropriate. What do the results mean, what is the significance of the results, etc.?
 - In a quantitative experiment, you must attempt to analyze the experiment.
 - What factors might contribute to errors in the results of the experiment?
 - What is the effect of these factors on the results?
 - Written conclusions that address the purpose of the lab.
10. **Student signature and date:** This verifies that your lab report is your own original work and that you have adhered to the honor code.

Before Lab	During Lab	After Lab
Title Pre-lab Purpose Procedure Set up data tables	Data/Observations Some calculations (if necessary to proceed with lab)	Calculations Post-lab questions Summary Signature and date