

Size and format

The overall size of the poster should not exceed 4×4 feet. Make all visual aspects of the poster large enough to view as most people view a poster from two to four feet away. To enhance readability use large fonts, enlarged photos, simple graphs and clear charts.

To create your poster, you can use L^AT_EX (see <http://nxg.me.uk/docs/posters>) or Power-Point (see <http://www.vetmed.wsu.edu/depts-bcu/help/PowerPoint2007PosterGuidelines.pdf>).

You can print your poster in 2 different ways:

- Individual panels. This is a cheaper way to make a poster. The advantage is that you can rearrange the order of the panels according to the dimension of the poster stand you are using as well as the audience. This does not have the same visual impact as a one sheet poster.
- One sheet poster. This needs a special printer. You can get it done at your university (check with your department for details) or at a nearby Staples or Office Depot. It will cost anywhere between \$80-\$120 and will take a couple of days to print.

Tips

- Know your audience and adjust the content of your poster accordingly.
- Keep the information as concise as possible. Use bullets, diagrams, charts and tables to deliver your message quickly and effectively.
- Do not overload the poster. You should mainly state and illustrate key definitions and main results; include only major milestones of your proof.
- Choose an appealing color scheme, use it consistently and do not distract your reader with too many colors.
- Create a summary and conclusions so that people with little time can still get an idea about your work.
- Seek assistance from your supervisor in designing and proofreading your poster. Get feedback from your classmates and professors.
- A good idea is to provide the viewer with a small print out of your poster (on letter-size paper) so that readers can take the poster with them.
- Prepare a brief 5-minute presentation that gives an overview of your poster. This should be appropriate for nonscientific audiences as well as your peers. This will be followed by a short question period with the judge.
- Remember to respect the judges' time and keep to the assigned schedule.

⁰This document is adopted from Poster Tips, http://math.ca/Events/summer07/sessions_poster