



Tips for writing a truly horrible journal paper

Ignore editor and reviewer comments

you can also try to provoke the editor and/or reviewers by disrespectfully dismissing valid and important comments. Less disrespectful,

The fastest way to lose the confidence of the editor, reviewers and readers in your work is to follow this tip.

Give little care to grammar, spelling, figures and tables

Irrespective of the adjective, providing this type of subjective statement is not only imprecise and inappropriate but also creates a straight path to disagreement with reviewers and readers.

Prefer subjective over objective statements

Adding references where not needed and – even worse – not adding references where needed is bound to lead to confusion and misinterpretation of your statements.

Apply incorrect referencing of statements

Readers cannot read your mind; they can only read your article.

Excel in ambiguity and inconsistency

Publication pressure is not a valid excuse for an incomplete literature review.

Take the lazy route and plagiarize

Simply copy and paste one or a group of sentences without adding the proper quotation marks and citations to the original work. Or maybe copy the results themselves

Omit key article components

leave out a detailed description of research methodology so that no-one else can reproduce your work.

Disrespect previous publications

Some authors think that citing the work of others detracts from the novelty of their own contribution. The opposite is true.

Overestimate your contribution

Your own work is much better, more thorough and your conclusions more widely applicable than previous work by others, **right?**