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The *Biochemical Journal* places emphasis on the prompt publication of **Full-length Papers** (on average about 6 months after receipt), **Rapid Papers** (on average within 3 months of receipt), **Reviews** and **BJ Letters**. It is the Journal's policy to publish papers in English in all fields of biochemistry, provided that they make a sufficient contribution to biochemical knowledge. Papers may include new results obtained experimentally, descriptions of new experimental methods of biochemical importance, or new interpretations of existing results. Theoretical contributions will be considered equally with papers dealing with experimental work. All work presented should have as its aim the development of biochemical concepts rather than the mere recording of facts. Preliminary or inconclusive experiments should not be described.

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The paragraphs below are a summarized version of information provided in the Biochemical Society's *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors* [*Biochem. J.* (1988) **249**, 1–20]. Copies are available from the Editorial Office.

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1. **Full-length Papers** (normally eight printed pages maximum)
2. **Rapid Papers** (four printed pages maximum)
3. **Letters** (two printed pages maximum)
4. **Reviews** (usually solicited)

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Full-length Papers should not normally exceed eight printed pages, including figures and tables. Longer papers may be acceptable if their content justifies their length, but authors should remember that short papers are generally published with the least delay.

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