

Reviews of Modern Physics Style Guide

XI. TABLES

Tabular material of more than four lines should not remain as part of the text. It should be treated as a separate, numbered table, complete with a descriptive caption. All such tables must be cited at least once in the text and are numbered with roman numerals consecutively in order of their appearance in the text. For the production file, assemble tables at the end of the manuscript, before the figures. Like the figures, tables will be inserted as close as possible to where they are cited in the text. Some guidelines for preparation of tables are given below. For further examples, see any recent issue of *Reviews of Modern Physics*.

A. Table sizes

There are four standard table widths:

- (1) narrow (one column in a two-column format, 8.6 cm or 3.4 in.)
- (2) wide (spanning two columns in a two-column format, 17.8 cm or 7.0 in.)
- (3) medium (1.5 column width, 14 cm or 5.5 in.)
- (4) turned table (one-page length turned sideways, 25.4 cm or 10.0 in.)

Turned tables can be formatted in REVTeX 4 using the `\turnpage` command, but cannot be spanned across pages. The other table sizes are formatted automatically in REVTeX 4. The default is that tables span the full width of the column in which they are placed. Using tables in REVTeX is convenient but requires careful attention and occasionally the use of extra packages such as `longtable`. Consult the REVTeX 4 documentation for details.

To accommodate extremely wide tabular material, tables can read across facing pages (35.6 cm or 14.0 in.). This type of table requires special handling by the production staff and should be identified in a cover letter.

B. Table captions

A table caption may consist of only a title or may contain several sentences and be treated as a paragraph.

The caption is positioned above the table, unlike a figure caption, which appears below. It begins with the word “TABLE,” in capital letters, followed by the appropriate roman numeral and period, and then the caption text.

Examples:

TABLE I. Spin-orbit parameters.

TABLE II. The correlation dimension estimated in different redshift surveys at different scale ranges. For abbreviations, see List of Abbreviations for Sky Surveys and Survey Instruments.

When a table includes abbreviations, either identify these in the caption or – as in the example above – refer the reader to a list of abbreviations. Keep in mind that readers of a review article may be new to the field and unfamiliar with its jargon.

C. Lines and space in tables

A simple table needs lines in only three locations: two lines together at the beginning and end of the table and a single line separating the headings and columns of entries. A more complicated table, one made up of several parts and having more than one set of headings, will need additional space and lines. Extra space running horizontally can be used to distinguish broad groups among the entries.

REVTeX 4 has changed the way such lines are printed. In the past, merely using the `tabular` environment to construct a table was sufficient to produce a table as described above. Now, the `ruledtabular` environment has taken over some of this functionality. The `ruledtabular` environment should surround the `tabular` environment. This will produce double lines as described above. Consult REVTeX 4 documentation for details.

D. Headings within tables

Always capitalize the first word in all headings and subheadings.

Column headings are separated from the body of the table by a horizontal line. They are usually dropped to the bottom of the heading area. However, units of measure that pertain to each entry in a whole column should be included in parentheses and placed as the last entry in the heading on their own line (Table II) or spaced off from the heading on the same line (Table III).

TABLE II Placement of units in a single column.

Branching ratio (%)
1
2
3

TABLE III Placement of units in two columns.

E_x (MeV)	J^π
2720	2^-
411	2^-