

LAD WORK What makes a good Data / Results Table?

Data / Results Table:

- Separate Paper
 - You should NOT record your data directly on the LAD sheet.
- Title
 - The 2-part title should include the LAD #, and a short descriptive title.
- Plan ahead
 - Your table should be constructed and printed before lab so you can take down your data somewhat neatly and clearly in the lab.
 - You should start to plan out the embedded calculations.
- One sheet of paper
 - Avoid going on to a second page
 - Yet you do not need to try to fill the page.
 - Leave extra room just in case you forgot a column or row and need to add it during the LAD
- Table format
 - Columns and rows (In Excel use the file menu>page setup>sheet tab>in print section, check the “Print Columns and Headings” box. This will cause the Excel sheet letters across the top and numbers down the sides to show when you print. This will allow you to plan your embedded calculations.)
 - Learn to control the width of your columns and rows.
 - Learn how to control the borders.
 - Even if you have several sets of data, put it all in the SAME table.
- Units (you know, g, ml, etc)
 - Do not put units in the cells of the spread sheet, only numbers – Excel will not know how to calculate it a number has letters with it.
 - Put units at the head of the columns or rows as appropriate (Thus you only need write them once.)

How do you know what to write in your data / results table?

- Data
 - Read the Procedure of the LAD carefully looking for cue words like “measure, take the mass of, record, determine” which tell you that there is data to be collected.
- Results
 - In the Processing the Data section LAD words like “calculate, determine, average, compute” tell you that there is a calculation to be made and you will need to report it on the data/results table.
 - There should be a separate line item for each calculation.

Embedded calculations: (to be completed before the lab if possible or during down time in the lab or while doing the calculations right after the lab – do NOT leave it until later when you may not be able to remember what you did.)

- Since you have printed the numbers and letters of the rows and columns you can plan out your calcs easily.
- Each calculation must begin with an = sign.
- Check out the sample below.