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Business Letter Writing: A Comprehensive Guide**

Preferred Letter Format

The most preferred format for business letters at present is the block format. This format presents the entire letter in a single, justified block of text without paragraphs.

Types of Business Letters

There are numerous types of business letters, including:

- Inquiry letters
- Order letters
- Complaint letters
- Sales letters
- Thank-you letters

Writing a Successful Business Letter

To write a successful business letter, follow these steps:

- Plan your letter: Determine the purpose, audience, and tone of your message.
- **Use clear and concise language:** Avoid jargon and use specific examples to support your points.

- Proofread carefully: Check for errors in grammar, spelling, and punctuation.
- Consider the reader's perspective: Write in a manner that resonates with your audience.

Do's and Don'ts of Business Letter Writing

Do's:

- Use proper grammar and punctuation.
- Be specific and avoid vague language.
- Keep it brief and to the point.
- Use a professional font and layout.

Don'ts:

- Use slang or informal language.
- Overuse exclamation points or other punctuation marks.
- Be negative or accusatory.
- Send a letter without proofreading it.

Addressing a Business Letter Without a Name

If you do not know the recipient's name, use the following general salutations:

- "To Whom It May Concern"
- "Dear Manager"
- "Dear Hiring Manager"

Rules When Creating Business Letters

Three essential rules to follow when creating business letters include:

- Use a professional tone.
- Be clear and concise.

Avoidance in Business Letters

Certain elements should be avoided in business letters, such as:

- Personal opinions.
- Unprofessional language.
- False or misleading information.

Letter Styles

Two common letter styles used for business letters are:

- Block format
- Modified block format

Opening Sentences

A good opening sentence for a business letter should:

- Grab the reader's attention.
- State the purpose of the letter.
- Be specific and engaging.

7 C's of Writing a Business Letter

The "7 C's" of writing a business letter are:

- Clear
- Concise
- Complete
- Courteous
- Considerate
- Correct
- Credible

In a formal letter, the sender's address comes first, followed by the date and the recipient's address.

Correct Format for a Business Letter

The correct format for a business letter includes the following elements:

- Sender's address
- Date
- Recipient's address
- Salutation
- Body paragraphs
- Closing
- Signature
- Typist's initials

Most Efficient Letter Style

The block format is considered the most efficient letter style for business letters due to its simplicity and ease of reading.

Best Writing Type

Formal writing is the preferred style for business letters. It conveys a professional and respectful tone.

Most Commonly Used Format

The block format is the most commonly used format for typing business letters.

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