



BSBITU313

Design and produce text documents

Learner Guide





BSBITU313 Design and produce text documents

Table of Contents

Table of Contents.....	2
Unit of Competency	5
Performance Criteria.....	6
Foundation Skills	7
Assessment Requirements.....	8
Housekeeping Items	9
Objectives	9
1. Prepare to produce word processed documents.....	10
1.1 – Use safe work practices to ensure <i>ergonomic, work organisation, energy and resource conservation requirements</i> are met.....	11
Using safe work practices	11
Ergonomic requirements	11
Work organisation strategies.....	14
Using energy and resource conservation techniques.....	16
Activity 1A.....	19
1.2 – Identify <i>document</i> purpose, audience and presentation requirements, and clarify with relevant personnel as required.....	20
Purpose, audience and presentation requirements.....	20
Other documents	22
Activity 1B	24
1.3 – Identify <i>organisational</i> and task <i>requirements</i> for text-based business documents to ensure consistency of style and image	25
Organisational and task requirements.....	25
Activity 1C	29
2. Design word processed documents.....	30
2.1 – <i>Design document structure and layout</i> to suit purpose, audience and information requirements of task.....	31
Designing the structure and layout of document	31
Activity 2A	35
2.2 – Design document to enhance readability and appearance, and to meet organisational and task requirements for style and layout	36
Enhancing readability and appearance of a document	36
Organisational and task requirements.....	40

Activity 2B	41
2.3 – Use style sheets and <i>automatic functions</i> to ensure <i>consistency of design and layout</i>	42
Consistency of design and layout.....	42
Style sheets	43
Automatic functions.....	47
Activity 2C	49
3. Add tables and other data	50
3.1 – Insert a standard table into a document, changing cells to meet information requirements	51
Inserting a standard table into a document	51
Inserting text into a table.....	53
Inserting an image into a table	53
Changing cells.....	54
Activity 3A	56
3.2 – Insert and delete columns and rows as necessary	57
Inserting columns.....	57
Inserting rows	57
Deleting columns and rows.....	59
Activity 3B	60
3.3 – Insert images and other <i>data</i> to meet required specifications	61
Watermarks	61
Inserting images.....	61
Modifying images.....	63
Inserting other data	63
Activity 3C	67
4. Produce text documents.....	68
4.1 – Use <i>advanced software functions</i> to enable efficient production of documents.....	69
Using advanced software functions.....	69
Activity 4A	75
4.2 – Enter or import, and edit text and other data to meet required specifications.....	76
Entering and importing text.....	76
Editing text	77
Entering, importing and editing other data	77
Activity 4B	78

4.3 – Preview, adjust and <i>print</i> documents in accordance with organisational and task requirements	79
Preview and print.....	79
Activity 4C	84
4.4 – <i>Name and store</i> text documents, in accordance with organisational requirements and exit application without information loss/damage	85
Naming documents.....	85
Storing documents.....	85
Exiting without information loss or damage.....	88
Activity 4D	89
4.5 – Prepare text documents within <i>designated timelines</i> and organisational requirements for speed and accuracy	90
Timelines.....	90
Time management.....	90
Activity 4E.....	92
4.6 – Use manuals, user documentation and online help to overcome problems with document design and production.....	93
Overcoming problems.....	93
Manuals.....	93
User documentation	93
Online help.....	94
Activity 4F.....	95
Skills and Knowledge Activity.....	95
Major Activity – An opportunity to revise the unit.....	97
References	99

Unit of Competency

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to design and develop text-based documents using advanced features of word processing software.

It applies to individuals who possess fundamental skills in computer operations and keyboarding, and basic skills in operation of word processing software. They may work as individuals who provide administrative support within an enterprise, or may be technical/knowledge experts responsible for production of their own word processed documents.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Unit Sector

Information and Communications Technology – IT Use



Performance Criteria

Element

Elements describe the essential outcomes.

Performance Criteria

Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Prepare to produce word processed documents | 1.1 Use safe work practices to ensure ergonomic, work organisation, energy and resource conservation requirements are met
1.2 Identify document purpose, audience and presentation requirements, and clarify with relevant personnel as required
1.3 Identify organisational and task requirements for text-based business documents to ensure consistency of style and image |
| 2. Design word processed documents | 2.1 Design document structure and layout to suit purpose, audience and information requirements of task
2.2 Design document to enhance readability and appearance, and to meet organisational and task requirements for style and layout
2.3 Use style sheets and automatic functions to ensure consistency of design and layout |
| 3. Add tables and other data | 3.1 Insert a standard table into a document, changing cells to meet information requirements
3.2 Insert and delete columns and rows as necessary
3.3 Insert images and other data to meet required specifications |
| 4. Produce text documents | 4.1 Use advanced software functions to enable efficient production of documents
4.2 Enter or import, and edit text and other data to meet required specifications
4.3 Preview, adjust and print documents in accordance with organisational and task requirements
4.4 Name and store text documents, in accordance with organisational requirements and exit application without information loss/damage
4.5 Prepare text documents within designated timelines and organisational requirements for speed and accuracy
4.6 Use manuals, user documentation and online help to overcome problems with document design and production |

Foundation Skills

This section describes language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills incorporated in the performance criteria that are required for competent performance.

Skill	Performance Criteria	Description
Reading	2.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.6	➤ Recognises and interprets textual information from a range of sources to determine and adhere to requirements
Writing	2.1-2.3, 3.3, 4.2-4.5	➤ Develops documents using required format, accurate spelling and grammar and terminology specific to requirements ➤ Organises content to support purpose and audience of material using clear and logical language
Oral Communication	1.2	➤ Uses specific and direct language, and listening and questioning techniques to clarify requirements
Navigate the world of work	1.1-1.3, 2.1-2.3, 3.1, 3.3, 4.2-4.5	➤ Recognises and follows explicit and implicit protocols and meets expectations associated with own role
Interact with others	1.2	➤ Collaborates with others to achieve joint outcomes
Get the work done	2.1-2.3, 3.1-3.3, 4.1-4.6	➤ Uses advanced features within applications to address routine and complex work tasks



Assessment Requirements

Performance Evidence

Evidence of the ability to:

- Adhere to organisational requirements and strategies when creating text documents including:
 - ergonomic requirements
 - energy and resource requirements
- Adhere closely to task requirements and required specifications by:
 - following designated timelines
 - achieving consistency of style and image
 - ensuring correct editing and style requirements
 - adhering to designated timelines
- Use advanced software features
- Communicate effectively with personnel
- Overcome problems by referring to user documentation, manuals and online help

Note: If a specific volume or frequency is not stated, then evidence must be provided at least once.

Knowledge Evidence

To complete the unit requirements safely and effectively, the individual must:

- Outline various formatting styles and their impact on formatting, readability and appearance of documents
- Explain organisational requirements for ergonomics, work periods and breaks, and conservation techniques
- Describe purpose and contents of an organisational style guide
- Identify purpose, uses and functions of word processing software

Assessment Conditions

Assessment must be conducted in a safe environment where evidence gathered demonstrates consistent performance of typical activities experienced in the information and communications technology – IT use field of work and include access to:

- Office equipment and resources
- Relevant software applications
- Examples of correctly formatted text documents
- Style guides

Assessors must satisfy NVR/AQTF assessor requirements.

Links

Companion volumes available from the IBSA website: http://www.ibsa.org.au/companion_volumes

Housekeeping Items

Your trainer will inform you of the following:

- Where the toilets and fire exits are located, what the emergency procedures are and where the breakout and refreshment areas are.
- Any rules, for example asking that all mobile phones are set to silent and of any security issues they need to be aware of.
- What times the breaks will be held and what the smoking policy is.
- That this is an interactive course and you should ask questions.
- That to get the most out of this workshop, we must all work together, listen to each other, explore new ideas, and make mistakes. After all, that's how we learn.
- Ground rules for participation:
 - Smile
 - Support and encourage other participants
 - When someone is contributing everyone else is quiet
 - Be patient with others who may not be grasping the ideas
 - Be on time
 - Focus discussion on the topic
 - Speak to the trainer if you have any concerns

Objectives

- **Discover** how to prepare to produce word processed documents
- **Know** how to design word processed documents
- **Learn** how to add tables and other data
- **Understand** how to produce text documents
- **Gain** required skills and knowledge for this unit.

1. Prepare to produce word processed documents

- 1.1. Use safe work practices to ensure *ergonomic, work organisation, energy and resource conservation requirements* are met
- 1.2. Identify **document** purpose, audience and presentation requirements, and clarify with relevant personnel as required
- 1.3. Identify **organisational** and task **requirements** for text-based business documents to ensure consistency of style and image



1.1 – Use safe work practices to ensure *ergonomic, work organisation, energy and resource conservation requirements* are met

Using safe work practices

Regardless of the type of work you are carrying out, there are policies and procedures in place to ensure that you are able to perform your work tasks in a safe way. When your task is to design and produce text documents, you need to consider how you can safely work at your computer for long periods of time. When working at a computer for long periods of time, believe it or not, there is opportunity for injury.

There are many injuries you can sustain from working at a computer, including:

- Repetitive strain injury
- Eye strain and discomfort
- Back problems.

There are many safe work practices you should address in order to minimise the chance of injury, including ergonomic requirements and work organisation strategies.

Ergonomic requirements

When producing your text-based documents, it is worth considering any ergonomic requirements that may be relevant to you. Ergonomic requirements are related to improving visibility and accessibility whilst keeping stress and mental fatigue from sounds, vibration, motion and shock at a minimum.

Ergonomic requirements may include:

- Avoiding radiation from computer screens
- Chair height, seat and back adjustment
- Document holder
- Footrest
- Keyboard and mouse position
- Lighting
- Noise minimisation
- Posture
- Screen position
- Workstation height and layout.



Avoiding radiation from computer screens

Tips for avoiding computer radiation include:

- Avoid working in front of your computer for too long
- Use an LED monitor
- Keep a safe distance from your monitor
- Use radiation protection on your computer screen
- Consume plenty of Vitamin A and C (these can help reduce harmful effects of computer radiation)
- Put plants around your computer (they help to absorb some of the harmful radiation)
- Wash your face (particles of radiation can attach themselves to your face)
- Take regular breaks.



Chair height, seat and back adjustment

When you are sat at a desk all day, your chair is a crucial component of your environment. Your chair should allow you to be comfortable whilst accommodating your work surfaces and permitting you to perform your required tasks. The height of your chair is really important; it should adjust to allow you to place your feet on the floor (or footrest) whilst being able to reach your work surface. In order to fully support your back and knees, your chair should allow for the adjustment of the seat or backrest.

Document holder

If required, a document holder should be available for supporting your documents. Depending on how your specific document is going to be used, depends on where you should keep it on your work surface.

Footrest

If you cannot rest your feet comfortably on the floor whilst you are seated, then you should use a footrest.

Keyboard and mouse position

Your mouse and keyboard should be positioned at the same height next to each other, as close as possible in order to minimise reaching. They should both be at a height that allows your forearms, wrists and hands to be parallel to the floor. In order to maintain the best possible posture, your keyboard should be lower than a typical writing surface. If your work space cannot accommodate a keyboard and mouse, an under desk support device should be used.

Lighting

Although working at a computer requires a lower overall light level than other tasks, the lighting within your work area should be set up in a way that minimises visual discomfort (e.g. glare).

The glare from natural and overhead light sources should be minimised as much as possible, for example:

- Rather than directly below overhead lights, position computer between rows of lights
- Have blinds up at any windows in order to control light when necessary
- Tilt monitor downward to reduce any reflection
- If necessary, use a good-quality anti-glare filter on your monitor.

Noise minimisation

Before you start your task, try to identify any distracting noises and think of ways you can reduce these.

For example, use:

- Ear plugs
- Headphones
- Soft music
- A quiet fan.



Posture

Key tips for maintaining good posture when sat at your computer include:

- Keep elbows close to waist
- Keep neck and shoulders relaxed
- Keep forearms, wrists and hands parallel to the floor
- Keep your mouse close
- Keep your monitor at arm's length
- Keep your feet rested comfortably on the floor/footrest
- Adjust the backrest of your chair to ensure full support
- Avoid 'hunching'
- Don't twist your neck.

You should alternate between different postures regularly but remain in a neutral position at all times.

Screen position

Ideally, the screen of your computer should be at about arm's length and positioned so that the top of the screen is around eye level.

Workstation height and layout

Your work surface should complement the task that you are performing whilst accommodating your legs when you are sat in your comfortable position.

Other things to consider about your workstation include:

- Is it private?
- Is it isolated?
- Is it an open space?
- Do you have natural or artificial light?
- Is the layout appropriate?
- Can it be personalised?

As well as the points discussed above, there are many other things to think about.

For example:

- The layout of your desk
- The way you use the telephone (if applicable)
- The technique and speed that you use to type.



Although the points discussed above give you a guideline of the ergonomic requirements you should follow when working at your computer to produce text-based documents, it is worth noting that your ideal requirements may differ from someone else's. You should work in the way that is safe and comfortable for you. More information about safe work practices can be found at www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

Work organisation strategies

Prolonged, static postures will take their toll on your body. You need to address work organisation strategies as well as ergonomic requirements in order to avoid injury when working at your computer for long periods of time.

Work organisation strategies may include:

- Exercise breaks
- Mix of repetitive and other activities
- Rest periods.

Exercise breaks

Whilst sat at your computer, you should do small exercises at regular intervals.

These small exercises may include:

- Head rolls
- Shoulder lifts
- Wrist drops.

Mix of repetitive and other activities

Make sure you take time away from your computer. You should avoid long periods of the same activity; do other tasks to give you a little break from your computer. You should alternate between work activities that use different muscles in your body in order to avoid over use.

Rest periods

When working at your computer you should remember to take frequent mini breaks in order to refresh and relax your muscles and joints. Have little 'stretch' breaks and look away from your screen every now and then to give your eyes chance to rest too. Make sure your 'lunch break' actually involves a break; get away from that computer. Remember to keep moving.

Using the information above, make sure you use safe work practices at all times when sat at your computer producing text-based documents. Take into consideration the policies that may be in place within your own organisation.

The process of assessing the ergonomic conditions and work organisation strategies of your workplace may need to be handled by yourself on a daily basis.

For example, before starting your work each day or throughout your day you may ask yourself:

- Am I having regular breaks to keep stress reduced?
- Am I doing exercises at my computer regularly?
- Do I alter my posture often enough?
- Am I using my keyboard and mouse appropriately?

Other areas should be managed under a risk assessment; this is the responsibility of the Human Resources (HR) department within an organisation. A risk assessment allows for the evaluation of potential risks; it is an employer's responsibility to provide a safe work place.



The policies that may exist within an organisation may relate to:

- Regular formal or informal health and safety meetings
- Reporting of potential hazards or risks
- The way to use equipment correctly
- Keeping workspaces clean, tidy and organised
- Legislation that applies to the organisation
- Emergency/accident procedures
- Storage and maintenance guidelines
- Manufacturer instructions
- Use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

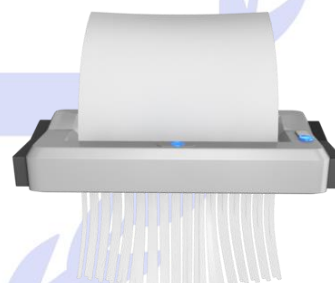
Although it is the employer's responsibility to provide a safe work environment, it is your responsibility to show compliance with the policies that are in place.

Using energy and resource conservation techniques

Within the workplace it is essential to use energy and resource conservation techniques. Not only does it keep your (or your organisation's) bills down, it helps to protect non-renewable resources. From simply turning off the lights to recycling every last scrap of paper, conserving energy and resources is a must.

Top areas to consider improving include:

- Heating
- Lighting
- Water
- Paper use.

**For the production of text documents, the energy and resource conservation techniques you need to consider may include:**

- Double-sided paper use
- Recycling used and shredded paper
- Re-using paper for rough drafts (observing confidentiality requirements)
- Utilising power-save options for equipment.

Double-sided paper use

Try and maximise your paper usage by printing double-sided. Most printers will do this nowadays; you just need to adjust the settings. Also, try to get into the habit of using the 'print preview' feature (if there is one available) to catch any errors before printing your document. This will help to save paper too; every little thing will make a difference.

Recycling used and shredded paper

Make sure you don't throw old documents away; recycle them. Use the recycling system that is in place within your organisation. If they don't have one, make your own system. Aim to only use recycled paper too; think of the trees.

Re-using paper for rough drafts

For documents you have printed one-sided or only used up half of the page; turn this into scrap paper. Use it to jot down your ideas and rough drafts. Remember to recycle when you're done.

Utilising power-save options for equipment

In order to conserve energy when using your electrical equipment, utilise their power-save options. Most computers, if not all, will have built-in energy saving software. Find out what energy saving mechanisms your own computer has. These options allow you to set your computer to go to 'sleep' after periods of inactivity. Although it will not shut down your computer fully (so you won't lose anything) it will consume much less energy. It is worth noting that screen savers do not count; they do not reduce the amount of power used by your computer.

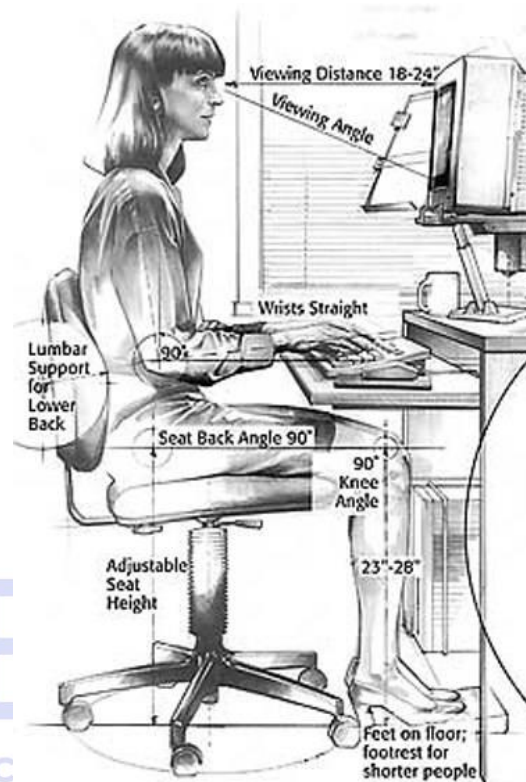
Other tips for conserving the energy used by your electrical equipment include:

- Switch them off when you are not using them, even if it's just a break
- Turn the brightness of your screen down
- Don't leave your equipment on standby mode
- Use efficiency rated equipment
- Unplug devices (like scanners and cameras) when they are not in use
- Plug your devices into a power strip; unplug it at the end of the day.

In order to minimise waste of energy and resources, supervisors or management should aim to:

- Plan ahead and have realistic expectations
- Prioritise and delegate jobs appropriately
- Discourage multiple drafts
- Use relief staff
- Teach and train where necessary
- Provide support
- Clearly define jobs.

The image below summarises the ergonomic issues that have been discussed within this chapter. The image can be found at <http://www.ergonomics-info.com/office-computer-ergonomics.html>.



Activity 1A



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1.2 – Identify *document* purpose, audience and presentation requirements, and clarify with relevant personnel as required

Purpose, audience and presentation requirements

Regardless of the type of document that you are producing, you should identify the purpose, audience and presentation requirements of your document.

Documents may include:

- Brochures
- Calendars
- Faxes
- Flyers
- Forms
- Mail merge documents, including labels
- Memos
- Multi-page letters
- Promotional material
- Reports
- Schedules
- Tables.

When looking at the purposes of documents, there are four general categories:

- To give instructions
- To persuade the reader
- To provide information
- To prohibit something.

Once you know which document you are required to produce, you can determine the tone of the language that you should use. For example, should the document be formal or informal? This will depend on the nature of the document and the audience that it is intended for.

Let's take a look at some examples of documents and their possible purpose, audience and presentation requirements.



Brochures

Generally, brochures are a standard size piece of paper folded two or three times to create a booklet. They are more complicated to print as each page has its own properties such as margins, headings and images. They are usually produced with the intention that people will keep them and refer to them when necessary. Usually, only the people that are interested in the specific topic of the brochure will pick one up. For example, only an expectant parent would pick up a brochure covering pregnancy from the rack in their doctor's surgery. Using this example, the presentation requirements would relate to its purpose and the intended audience; providing information for an expectant parent. Consider the best way to present them this information. Should you use images or bullets to keep it as simple as possible?

Flyers

A flyer, also known as a leaflet, is usually only a single piece of paper, often A4 size. It is a relatively cheap way to get information out to a large number of people. The purpose of a flyer is to offer a small amount of information at a low cost, for a limited amount of time. The audience of your flyer will often depend on the purpose. For example, if you were producing a flyer to promote a night club opening, your intended audience would probably be young people, maybe students. In turn, the presentation requirements of the flyer will often depend on the purpose and the audience.

When considering the presentation of your flyer, think about:

- Whether you are going to print on one or both sides
- What colours you are going to use
- How to emphasise any important details.

Promotional material

Promotional material can be used by an organisation to market their products and services. Promotions are completely different from advertisements; they are not as expensive and just act as an incentive for your customers. Promotional material can help to increase brand recognition and strengthen customer loyalty.

Examples of promotional material include:

- Key rings
- Leaflets
- Mugs
- Bookmarks
- Posters
- Pens
- Bags
- Stickers.



Promotional material can serve many purposes before or after a sale, including:

- Providing product information
- Promoting an organisation
- Reminding your customers about your organisation
- Drawing attention to products.

The audience of your promotional materials will depend on the products and services you offer or your organisation itself.

The presentation of your promotional materials will also depend on your organisation, the products or service you offer, as well as the type of promotional material you are using and your intended audience.

The presentation of your promotional materials should always look professional and may include:

- Company colours
- Different size fonts
- Different materials
- Company logo
- Different backgrounds
- Having important points in bold
- Contact details.



Other documents

Other types of documents include:

- Minutes
- Press release
- Meeting agenda
- Technical/user documentation
- Project proposal.

Minutes

Minutes are part of a meeting that are usually recorded by a professional in order to avoid error. They can be classed as a legal record of what has been said within a meeting.

Depending on the meeting and organisation, minutes can be:

- Hand written
- Recorded (visual or audio)
- Typed in a Microsoft Word document
- Typed in a Microsoft Excel document
- Scribbled down and typed at a later date.

Press release

A press release is a written communication often composed by marketing staff. Its purpose is to announce something of value within the media. They are created carefully in order to avoid any errors; these errors can be damaging and legally costly. Microsoft Word is usually the choice of program to create a press release and will be reviewed by the relevant people before being released.

Meeting agenda

A meeting agenda will usually be distributed to the people that are involved in the meeting in question. It should consist of a list of topics that are going to be discussed. The way that these agendas are produced will depend on the nature of the meeting; Microsoft Word or as an email (or attachment).

Technical/user documentation

User documentation is often written for a large audience – the users of a particular program or product. On the other hand, technical documentation is usually aimed at the experts within a specific field. The purpose and audience will therefore affect the presentation requirements. Depending on their purpose and their audience, these types of documentation are often accompanied by a PowerPoint presentation.

Project proposal

The purpose of a project proposal is to outline and clarify the aim and objectives of the specific project.

It can include many sections, including:

- Budget
- Time table
- Work plan
- Outcomes.



The sections that are included may depend on the nature of your project or the organisational requirements that are in place.

Once identified, the purpose, audience and presentation requirements of your document should be clarified by the relevant personnel. You should make yourself aware of the relevant personnel within your organisation.

Activity 1B



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1.3 – Identify *organisational* and *task requirements* for text-based business documents to ensure consistency of style and image

Organisational and task requirements

When preparing to produce a text-based business document, you should identify any organisational and task requirements that are related to your project. Every organisation will have a set of guidelines in place for producing text-based business documents in order to comply to company image and ensure consistency. Every document that you produce should have the same 'feel' and be professional in portraying your organisation.

Organisational requirements may include:

- Company colour scheme
- Company logo
- Consistent corporate image
- Content restrictions
- Established guidelines and procedures for document production
- House styles
- Observing copyright legislation
- Organisation name, time, date, document title, filename, etc. In header/footer
- Templates.

These organisational requirements will apply to all of the document types that were discussed in the previous chapter.

Company colour scheme

Deciding on a company colour scheme is not as easy as it sounds. The human mind is highly responsive to colour, therefore it should be considered carefully.

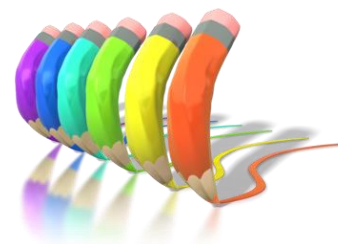
Let's look at the things that can be associated with certain colours:

- Red implies danger, aggression, warmth or passion
- Green implies ethics, growth, freshness and finance
- Purple implies luxury, wisdom, wealth and royalty
- Blue implies seriousness, professionalism, authority and calm
- Yellow implies warning, sun, happiness and friendliness.



Tips for choosing colours schemes for your documents:

- Understand your audience
- Analyse other colour schemes
- Think about how your colours will look using different devices
- Be different
- Think about the psychological responses of your colours
- Do your research.



Regardless of which colour scheme your organisation requires you to use within your text-based business documents, make sure you stick to it. Your chosen colour scheme needs to be appropriate for the document you are creating and its audience whilst sticking to your organisational image.

Company logo

A company logo is a symbol that is used by organisations in order to create and promote recognition. It acts as a visual representation of everything that your organisation stands for.

A good logo can:

- Lead to more business
- Enhance first impressions
- Indicate professionalism
- Build loyalty
- Establish brand identity.

Think about the logos you come across on a daily basis. What makes you look at them? What makes you remember them?

Whatever your company logo is, you should ensure it is included within your text-based business documents wherever necessary. When using your company logo, consider its positioning and size carefully.

Consistent corporate image

In order to maintain your organisation's image and its branding identity, it is essential that you produce documents that are consistent with your organisation. The lack of consistency will have a negative effect on your organisation's image and identity.

It may be a good idea to have and refer to guidelines, for example:

- What materials to use
- What fonts to use
- What colours to use and how to use them
- Logo size and positioning
- Spacing usage
- How to use images.

When you are creating text-based business documents, keep your organisation's image in the back of your mind. If there are templates available; use them. If you don't have templates to use, make sure your document looks like it belongs to your organisation. Don't use anything that isn't consistent with your company's image or identity.

Content restrictions

When you are planning to produce text-based business documents, you should ensure that there are no restrictions regarding the content you can include.

Established guidelines and procedures for document production

When producing your text-based business documents, you should follow any guidelines and procedures that are in place within your organisation. Doing so will ensure consistency within your documents.

House styles

House styles are the styles of document production that an organisation has developed. There are many advantages of using house styles, including consistency between your documents. House styles should be simple otherwise the document can be confusing and quite difficult to produce.

House styles may include many features, for example:

- Margin size
- Header and footer content
- Font type and size
- Document layout
- Heading style
- Logo position.



Observing copyright legislation

The Australian Copyright Act 1968 outlines the legislation that is in place regarding copyright. You need to be aware of this when producing your text-based business documents.

You can find more information at www.comlaw.gov.au.

Organisation name, time, date, document title, filename, etc. In header/footer

The information you include within the headers and footers of your documents is your decision. It is worth checking to see if there are any guidelines within your organisation as to what you should include. Whether it's the date, the organisation name or the document title, this should be consistent throughout your documents.

Templates

Within some organisations, there will be existing templates you can use as a starting point when producing your own text-based business documents.

By using a template you can ensure that all your documents have the same properties, including:

- Styles
- Layouts
- Spacing
- Fonts
- Sizes.

You should consider using the existing templates within your programs and organisations. If there isn't one or they don't suit your needs, then think about developing one. It will save you time in the future and will make sure that all of your documents are consistent in style.

These organisational and task requirements need to be identified in order to ensure consistency of the style and image of your text-based business documents. Refer to organisational templates and style guides if you are uncertain of how to keep your documents consistent.

If you are involved in the development of a policy or guideline relating to the standards of documents, consider:

- Its title
- The policy statement
- The purpose of having it
- The scope that it covers
- The objectives of the policy
- The details of the policy.



Activity 1C



Business & Technology College



2. Design word processed documents

- 2.1. **Design** document **structure and layout** to suit purpose, audience and information requirements of task
- 2.2. Design document to enhance readability and appearance, and to meet organisational and task requirements for style and layout
- 2.3. Use style sheets and **automatic functions** to ensure **consistency of design and layout**



2.1 – Design document structure and layout to suit purpose, audience and information requirements of task

Designing the structure and layout of document

The structure and layout of your document should be designed in a way that suits its purpose, audience and information requirements. This may relate to the requirements of your organisation too.

Although the structure and layout of your documents may vary depending on the type of document you are creating, this chapter will look at some of the best ways to design the structure and layout in a way that suits its purpose, audience and relevant requirements.

Design may include:

- Balance
- Diversity
- Relative positioning of graphics and headings
- Simplicity
- Text flow
- Typography.

Balance

Within design, balance is the concept of equilibrium within your document. Our sense of balance is innate and you should aim to develop documents that offer visual stability. When elements aren't balanced on the page, this can be quite disturbing and uncomfortable. When considering balance, it's a good idea to imagine an axis. The visual weight should be equal on either side of your imaginary axis.

There are two main ways to achieve a balance within your document: through symmetry or asymmetry.

Symmetry:

- Is a mirror image
- Repeats a reversed design on opposite side of axis
- Is formal
- Is ordered
- Can often be boring.

Asymmetry:

- Achieves balance through contrast
- Is informal
- Involves different elements that have equal visual weight
- Considered more interesting
- Is more dynamic.



By ensuring that your design is balanced, you can be sure that your document will be structured in a way that suits its purpose, audience and requirements.

Diversity

Within your document, aim to demonstrate diversity:

- Use a range of different things
- Give a variety
- Be different
- Strive to be unique
- Don't be like anything else.



Relative positioning of graphics, headings and white space

The relative positioning of the graphics, headings and white space within your document will ensure that it suits the purpose, audience and requirements of the document.

Relative positioning is a confusing concept and is often misused. The original position of any element is static; this will fall where you expect it to (this depends on the structure of your document). Within relative positioning, you can use top, bottom, left and right to move an object to a specific point on your page. What is unique about this positioning is the starting point; the element's starting point is the point where it normally is within the flow of the document. It is helpful for when you need to slightly tweak the position of one of your objects, rather than completely resetting it.

Simplicity

Simplicity creates impact and when used within text-based business documents, it can help keep the structure and layout suited to the purpose, audience and requirements of the document.

There are many ways to ensure the simplicity of your document, including:

- Only use one single typeface design
- Keep your document organised
- Use a straightforward layout
- Keep your structure basic.

Text flow

Text flow is the way in which you allow your text flow from page to page or column to column. The software that you are using will work out when the text will no longer fit on the page and start a new page.

Your software does this using:

- The formatting of your document
- The formatting of your paragraphs
- The margins you have set up
- The size of the paper you are using
- The type of printer that you are using.

Also, within some kinds of documents that you will need to design and produce; you can control how your text flows within columns. It is possible to create a link between the text boxes you wish your text to flow between. In this case, when the first box is full with text, it will automatically flow into the next box; and so on. Text flow can help you structure documents in a way that suits its purpose, audience and requirements.

Typography

Typography is the technique of arranging letters and words in a way that makes written language readable. Within the production of your documents, you will compose your text in a readable, visually satisfying and coherent way. This is typography.

The arrangement of type involves selecting:

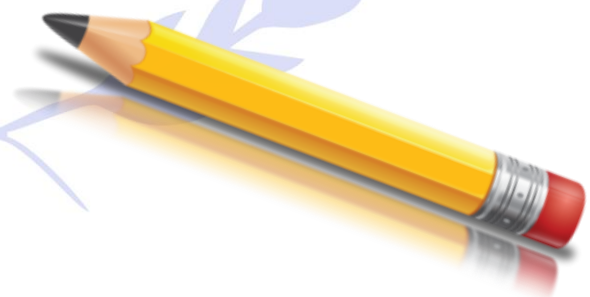
- Point size
- Letter-spacing
- Typefaces
- Line length
- Line-spacing.

By considering typography, you can ensure that the structure and layout of your document will suit its purpose, audience and requirements.

When designing the structure and layout of your document, there are many elements that you may need to consider.

The elements within the structure and layout of your design may include:

- Boxes
- Colour
- Columns
- Drawing
- Graphics
- Headings
- Letter and memo conventions
- Page layout
- Photographs
- Typeface
- White space.



These elements should be used in a way that produces a readable and coherent document. The correct use of these elements will ensure that the structure and layout of your documents suit its purpose, audience and requirements.

Let's take a look at a standard document. Although it won't apply to every type of document, it's a good place to start.

What is included?

- Title page
- Contents table
- Introduction
- Body text
- Appendices and annexes.



Title page

For any document that is in a report style or format and contains multiple pages, a title page will usually be added. A title page will detail the title of the document, the date and the document number and status.

Contents table

A contents table will usually be included within certain document templates; if not, you can add one. A contents table will contain the headings that are discussed throughout the document and can help a reader locate the relevant information quickly.

Introduction

Your document may require an introduction in order to provide an explanation for why it was designed and produced. An introduction should be written logically and include the scope, background and approach discussed within the document.

Body text

The main section of a document will be the information that is relevant and needs to be included. To ensure that the document can be read with ease, consider using sections, titles, headings and sub-headings. Labelling things numerically or alphabetically can also be helpful.

Headers and footers are often included within a document and can make it easier to navigate through a document. They also make a document look professional. The information within a header or footer should be simple; the date, the file name or a page number perhaps. Too much information in a header or footer is off-putting.

For many documents, it may be necessary to insert extra elements (e.g. images, tables or graphs). These will be discussed later in unit.

Appendices and annexes

The appendices and annexes within a document will contain any extra material that supports or complements the information discussed in the document itself. The information included within the appendices and annexes are often necessary in order to obtain a full understanding of the document.

Appendices are usually numbered 1, 2, and 3. Annexes are labelled as A, B and C.

Activity 2A



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2.2 – Design document to enhance readability and appearance, and to meet organisational and task requirements for style and layout

Enhancing readability and appearance of a document

When designing and producing a text-based business document, it is essential to select the correct layout and style; you need to ensure that it is readable and fit-for-purpose.

Different layouts and styles that you may want to consider may include:

- Paper size and page orientation
- Text font, colour and size
- Headings and subheadings
- Paragraphs
- Margins and page breaks
- Headings and footers
- Justification
- Spacing (line and paragraph)
- Page numbering
- Language
- Underlining, italics and bold
- Tables.

Although the different layouts and styles will depend on the type of document you are producing, the information that is included within the document and the requirements of your organisation, there are basic guidelines that can help you design your documents. Let's have a look at some examples.

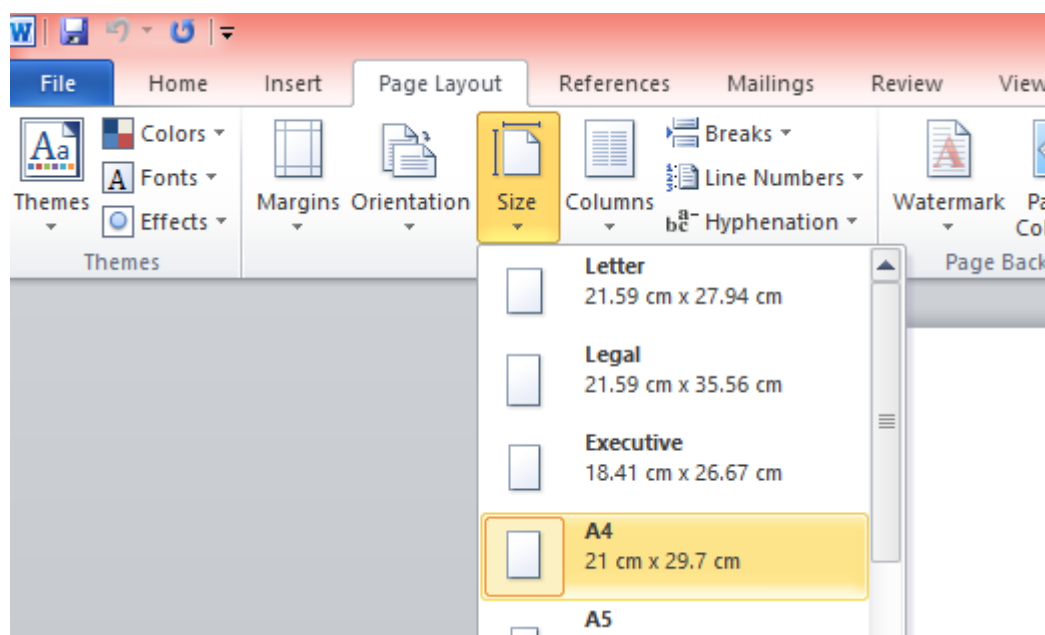
Paper size and page orientation

What size should your document be? A4? A3? That will depend on the document itself.

To adjust the page size of a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
2. Click the 'Size' tab
3. Use the drop down menu to select your desired page size.

Refer to the image below.

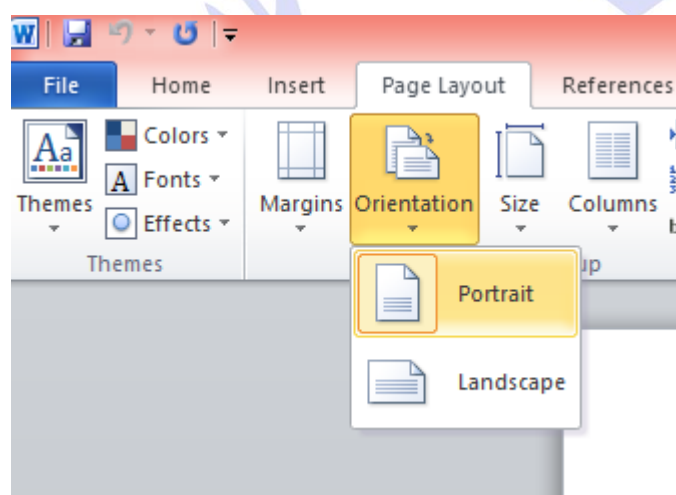


What page orientation should your document include? Landscape or portrait? This will depend what information is included. Although it is possible to use both, it is not advised; it can get quite confusing.

To adjust the page orientation of a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
2. Click the 'orientation' tab
3. Choose portrait or landscape.

Refer to the image below.



Text font, colour and size

Like everything else, the font, colour and size of your text will depend on the type of document you are producing and the organisational requirements.

Although there isn't a standard font that is considered to enhance readability or appearance, business documents usually use Arial, Times New Roman or Calibri.

- This is Arial
- This is Times New Roman
- This is Calibri.

Usually, coloured text is not advised within business documents. However, there may be instances that you do need to use coloured text.

Don't:

- Use **neon** colours
- Use multiple **colours** within one word.

The standard text size to use within business documents is size 12.

- This is size 8
- This is size 12
- **This is size 18.**

You can see why size 12 is more appropriate.

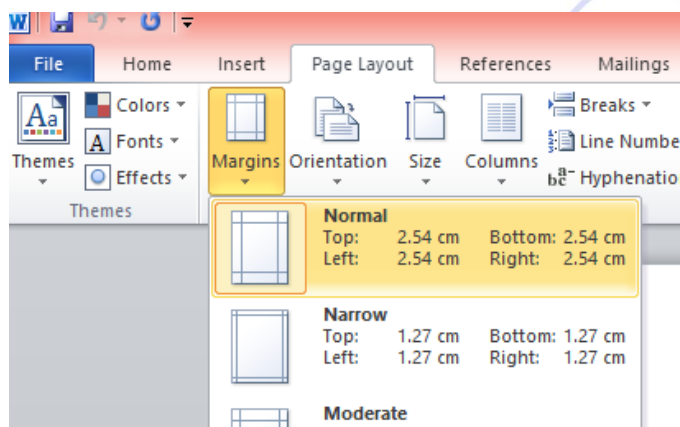
Margins and page breaks

The margin size of your document can be altered to suit your document or your organisational requirements. Margin size is usually 2.54cm.

To adjust the margins within a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
2. Click the 'Margins' tab
3. Choose margin size or design a custom margin.

Refer to the image below.



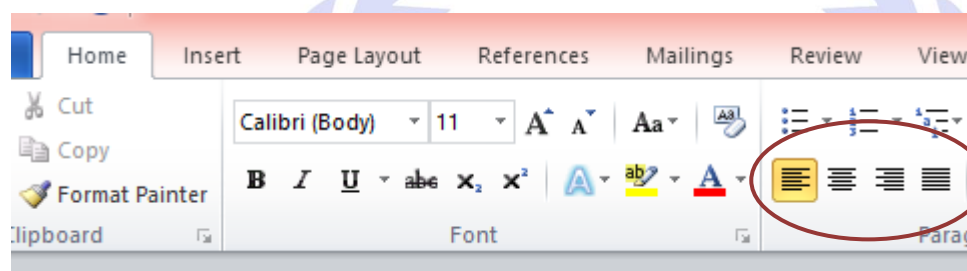
Justification

How should the text within your document be justified? Left or right? Left justification is considered to be easier to read.

To alter the justification of the text within a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Home' tab
2. Highlight the text you wish to justify
3. Click the type of justification you wish to apply.

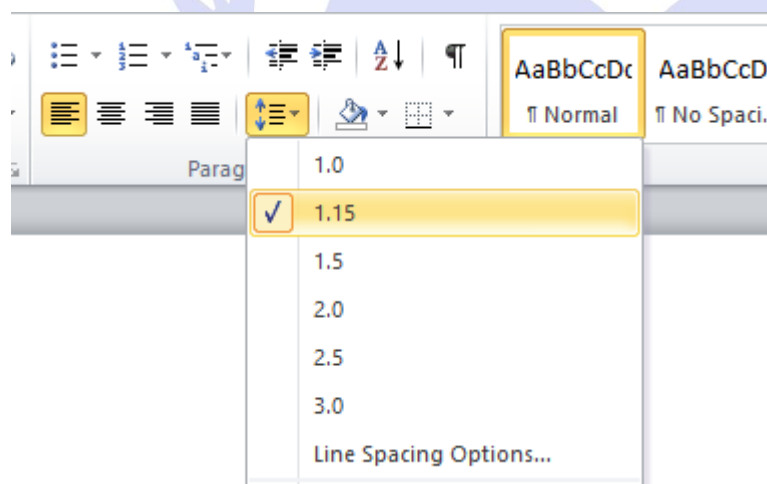
Refer to the image below.



Spacing

The spacing of your document is an important element when thinking of the readability and appearance of your document. Should you use single or double line spacing? Typically, 1.0 or 1.15 spacing is used within business documents.

Refer to the image below to see which button allows you to alter the line spacing within a Microsoft Word document.



Consider the spacing of your paragraphs too – should you leave a gap between paragraphs?

Language

The language you should use within a document will depend on the type of document and the task requirements. You should consider any relevant cultural aspects. Also, consider the types of words you should use, depending on the purpose of the document. Don't use unnecessary jargon.

Underlining, italics and bold

Again, the use of underlining, *italics* and **bold** type will depend on the document itself.

Typically:

- Underlining can be used to gain attention and clarify
- *Italics* can be used to emphasise certain words
- **Bold** can be used to identify particular elements
- All three elements can be helpful within headings and subheadings.

Tables

Certain documents will require tables; these will be discussed later in the unit.

There are many different layouts and styles; the one you choose will depend on the type of business document you are developing.

Organisational and task requirements

Your document should be designed in a way that meets any relevant organisational and task requirements with regards to style and layout.

As discussed in Chapter 1.3, organisational requirements may include:

- Company colour scheme and company logo
- Consistent corporate image and content restrictions
- Established guidelines and procedures for document production
- House styles and templates
- Observing copyright legislation
- Organisation name, time, date, document title, filename, etc. In header/footer.

It is important to consider the requirements within your organisation when designing and producing any business document.

The policies and procedures surrounding business documents that exist within your organisation may outline:

- How to develop the documents and any style guides that should be used
- Where to keep copies of the documents and the correct way to store any data
- How much to spend when developing the documents
- Any quality assurance checks that may be required
- Any security issues that should be considered
- Any legal policies or procedures relating to documents.



Activity 2B



Business & Technology College



2.3 – Use style sheets and *automatic functions* to ensure consistency of design and layout

Consistency of design and layout

Each document that you produce for your organisation should have the same 'feel'. There should be consistency with everything, including the materials and packaging used. When necessary, every document should include a company logo and colour scheme.

Any templates that are designed and used within your organisation should be consistent and reflect professionalism. Any considerations into leaving out particular aspects of consistency with the design and layout of your documents should only be done so for a specific purpose; 'to feel different' is not really a good enough reason. If you do have the freedom to experiment with the consistency of the design and layout of your documents, then this is your personal choice. For example, the design of business cards is usually rule free; unique design and layouts are more appropriate. It is still a good idea to take the points regarding consistency that are discussed within this unit when designing and producing documents.

Consistency of design and layout may include:

- Annotated references
- Borders
- Bullet/number lists
- Captions
- Consistency with other business documents
- Footnotes/endnotes
- Indentations
- Page numbers
- Spacings
- Typeface styles and point size.



In order to ensure consistency of design and layout, you may need to use style sheets and automatic functions. The specific style sheets and automatic functions that you may be required to use may depend on your organisational style requirements. It is a good idea to develop a checklist to assess your documents against. This checklist should outline the guidelines that exist within your organisation.

For example:

- Balance aspects
- Colour theory aspects
- Visual design aspects
- Depth aspects
- The technical knowledge that you have.

Balance aspects

Using balance within your documents can help to avoid overloading it with information. As well as this, it can help the reader scan quickly through the document or locate their required information swiftly. You should know how to create the appropriate balance for your type of document (discussed more in Chapter 2.1). Whether you use symmetrical or asymmetrical balance may depend on the document, its purpose or your organisational requirements.

Colour theory aspects

This part of your checklist will outline what colours should be used within your documents and will, again, depend on the requirements of your organisation. The different connotations for different colours were discussed in Chapter 1.3. You should know which colours are safe and which can be combined. Think about cultural influences that may affect a colour's meaning.

Visual design aspects

You should know what looks good for a particular document and why it does look good.

The aspects that should be considered within this part of the checklist may include:

- White space
- Colours
- Fonts
- Grids
- Motion
- Balance.



Depth aspects

When considering the depth aspects of a document, you should think about the content and audience. How many pages should you include? Should you have lots of pages with minimal information on them or a few pages with lots of information on them?

The technical knowledge that you have

Within this section, you should consider the most appropriate tools or software that can be used to create the document in question. You need to know what tools, time and resources that you have available before you start the process.

Once you are aware of the organisational requirements surrounding the development of a document, you should review the needs and wants of the client or customer. You should gather your content, mock up a design and check this with them. Is it good to go? Or does it need re-designing?

Style sheets

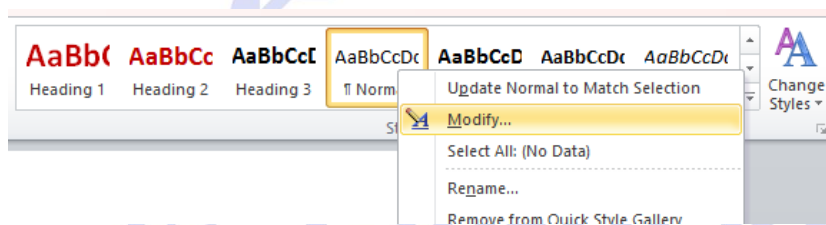
Style sheets, also known as templates, are a feature that is used in the production of many types of documents; they allow you to store and apply a specific formatting to your documents. It is a file or a form that defines the layout of a document. Style sheets will only affect the visual layout of a

document – not the structure. They are useful as you can have a style sheet for each type of document that you are responsible for creating. For example, you could have a style sheet for all your business letters and a different style sheet for all your personal letters. Although they may have different names, these style sheets exist within many different programs, including QuarkXPress, PageMaker, Adobe and Microsoft Word. When using style sheets to produce text-based business documents, you can specify many things; page size, margins, spacing and text font and colour.

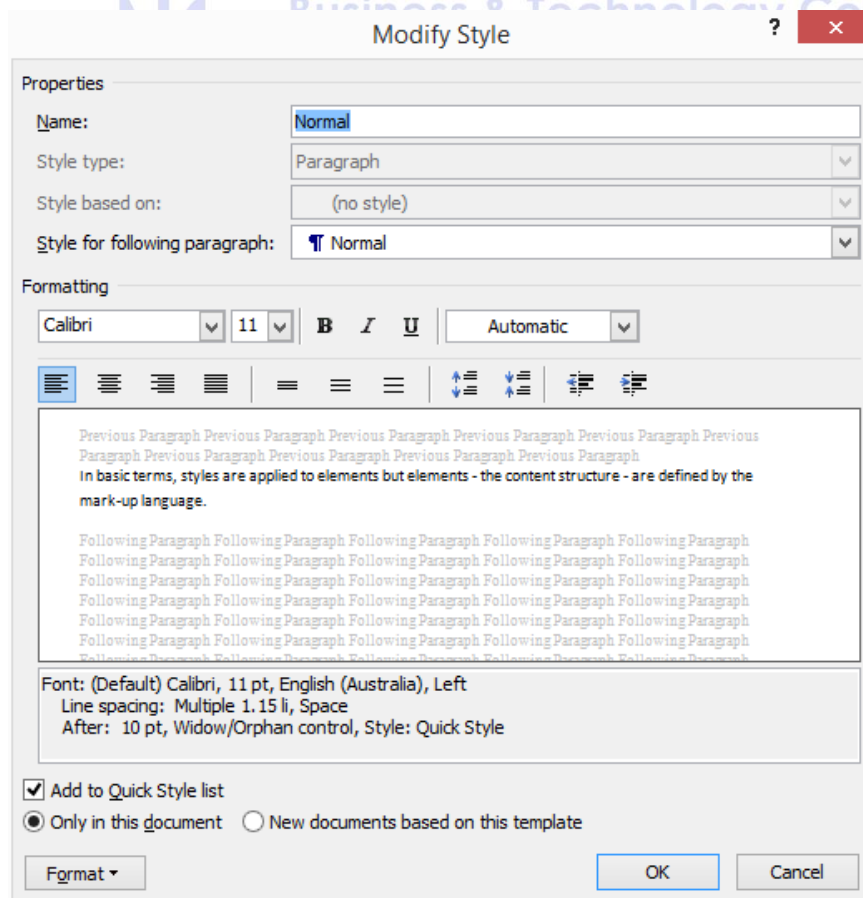
Within a Microsoft Word document, you are able to create a style that can be applied to all of your documents.

To do this, follow these steps:

1. Right click on the style that you wish to modify
2. Click the 'Modify...' option.



The following box should appear:



This allows you to modify the styles that you wish to use within your documents. As we can see in this example, the 'Normal' style contains text that is size 11 and in Calibri font.

Style sheets in HTML documents

Style sheets are commonly used within the design and development of web pages and can expand your ability to improve the appearance of your web pages.

Previous attempts to improve the presentation of web pages have created many issues. For example, the flexibility of these techniques can be limited, they create difficulties for people with a disability and they increase the complexity of web pages. The techniques within these attempts sometimes work, for some people; but not for everyone, every single time. Whilst superseding the limited range of presentation techniques that are available in HTML, style sheets can solve the problems outlined above.

Style sheets have many benefits, including making it easier to specify:

- The indentation of lines
- The amount of white space between lines
- The colours of backgrounds and text
- The style and size of the text.

Let's take a look at the www.training.gov.au homepage.



Now let's look at the Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) for this homepage.

```
<!DOCTYPE html PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD XHTML 1.0 Strict//EN" "http://www.w3.org/TR/xhtml1/DTD/xhtml1-strict.dtd">
<html xmlns="http://www.w3.org/1999/xhtml" lang="en-au" xml:lang="en-au" autopagermatchrules="1">
  <head>...</head>
  <body>
    <div id="page">
      <span class="topLink">...</span>
      <div id="header">...</div>
      <div id="layoutWrapper">
        <div id="twoColLayoutWrapper">
          <div id="twoColLayoutLeft">
            <div id="breadcrumbs">...</div>
            <div id="newQuickHelpDiv">...</div>
            <div class="layoutContentWrapper" id="layoutContentWrapper">
              <span class="skiplink">...</span>
              <div id="headerPrint">...</div>
            </div>
          <div class="onecol2">
            <div class="boxInfoNew" style="border-bottom: 0px solid #CCCCC; padding-top: 0; padding-bottom: 15px;">
              <h1>Welcome to training.gov.au</h1>
              <p>...</p>
              <div class="widgetNormal" style="width: 630px !important; padding-bottom: 12px;">...</div>
              <span style="font-size: 1.2em">...</span>
              <br>
              <br>
            </div>
          </div>
        </div>
      </div>
    </body>
  </html>
```

This site helps you to perform basic and advanced searches and view details about: -

Cascading Style Sheets (CSS)

CSS is a style sheet language that is used for describing the presentation (the look and formatting) of a document.

For example the following CSS will set the colour of the text within a paragraph as blue and surrounds it with a solid orange border:

```
P. special {  
  
colour: blue;  
  
border: solid orange;  
  
}
```

Dos and don'ts

Style sheets dos:

- Do start from top and work your way down
- Do include the important elements
- Do use other documents for inspiration
- Do mark up content instead of using images
- Do use them at every possible opportunity
- Do focus on well-organised layouts that are user friendly.

Style sheets don'ts:

- Don't use tables
- Don't forget to compress any images used
- Don't have a design that is too busy
- Don't use text within navigation menus when converting to CSS – use regular text that is readable.



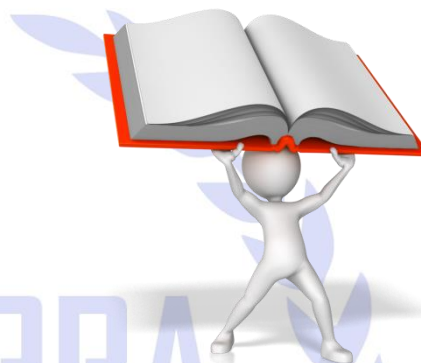
Find more information about style sheets at <http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/present/styles.html>.

Automatic functions

There are many functions within the programs that you are using to create your documents. These functions allow for consistency within the design and layout.

Automatic functions may include:

- Auto correct
- Auto date
- Auto format
- Auto text
- Default settings
- Headers and footers
- Page numbering
- Styles
- Table headings.



Auto correct

This feature will correct certain spelling mistakes as you type your document. This mainly focuses on common spelling mistakes. For example: if you type 'adn' your auto correct feature will change this for 'and' without you even realising.

Be careful with words such as 'from'. If you type 'form' instead, it will not change it for you.

It is possible to set your own auto correct entries; this way, you can replace an entire string of text with another.

Auto date

If you create documents that contain the date, this date will need regularly updating. Rather than having to do this manually, and risk forgetting or making mistakes, the programs that you use can do this automatically. For example, you can set Microsoft Word to display a date that will automatically update.

Auto format

In order to keep the format of your documents consistent, you can use the auto format feature within some programs. As well as saving time, the auto format feature can ensure that each of your documents are formatted the same. When using the auto format feature, there are many problems that can occur which can cause frustration when creating your documents. Some aspects within the auto format feature don't work like they should and sometimes do things irregularly. Therefore, you will need to weigh up the benefits of using an auto format feature against the risks that it imposes.

Auto text

Within Microsoft Word, the auto text feature allows you to store particular parts of your document and re-use them in the future. This can include anything from formatted text or paragraphs, to images, headers and footers. This can be helpful, can save time and can ensure consistency between your documents.

Default settings

When opening a new document, unless you choose otherwise, the program will use a default template. For example, within Microsoft Word, the default template is called 'Normal.dot' and unless you select a different one, this is the one that will be used.

Headers and footers

Headers and footers are often included within a document and can make it easier to navigate through a document. They also make a document look professional. The information within a header or footer should be simple; the date, the file name or a page number perhaps. Too much information in a header or footer is off-putting. By creating your own headers and footers and using these in each of your documents, you can ensure consistency of your documents.

Page numbering

By using the page numbering function within the programs that you use to create your documents, you can ensure consistency. By using the existing styles you can ensure that your documents have the same kind of page numbering (e.g. colour, size, and font).

Styles

Styles are the aspects of document production that already exist within a program or that an organisation has developed. There are many advantages of using styles, including consistency between your documents. Styles should be simple otherwise the document can be confusing and quite difficult to produce.

Table headings

To ensure consistency within your documents, any tables that are used within them should include the same style of headings. For example, the size, font and colour of each of your table headings should be the same.



1
2
3

Activity 2C



Business & Technology College



3. Add tables and other data

- 3.1. Insert a standard table into a document, changing cells to meet information requirements
- 3.2. Insert and delete columns and rows as necessary
- 3.3. Insert images and other **data** to meet required specifications



3.1 – Insert a standard table into a document, changing cells to meet information requirements

Inserting a standard table into a document

Although it is possible to insert a document into a variety of types of documents, this chapter will focus on Microsoft Word documents – this is where most text-based business documents will be created.

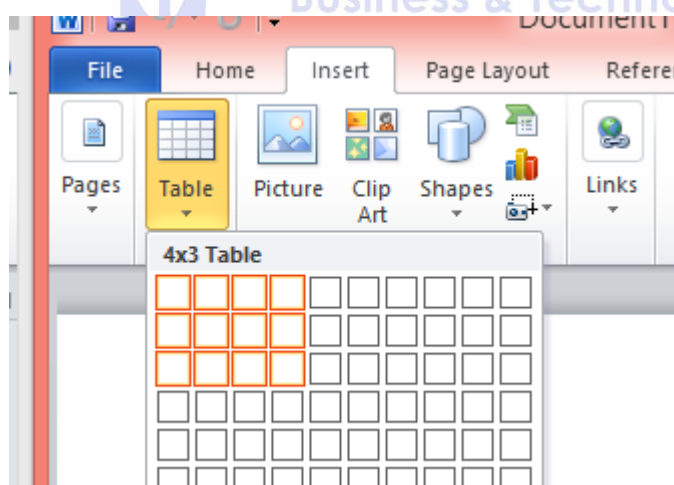
There are many methods that can be used to insert a table into your Microsoft Word; this chapter will look at a few examples.

Method one

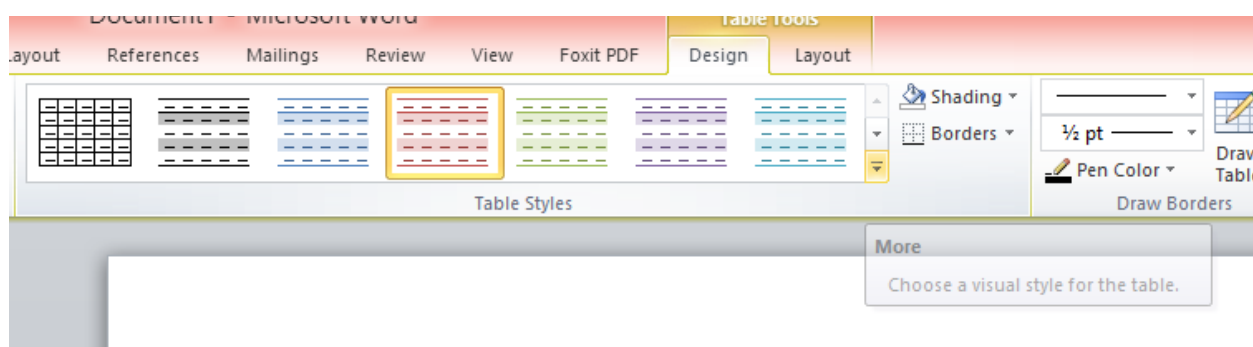
Follow these steps:

1. Click the place in your document where you want the table inserting
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the 'Table' tab
4. Using your cursor, highlight the size of the table that you wish to insert
5. Click there and the table will be inserted.

See image below.



From this, you can alter the formatting and style of your table using the 'Design' and 'Layout' tab. This allows you to change the colours, borders and styles of your table. See image below.



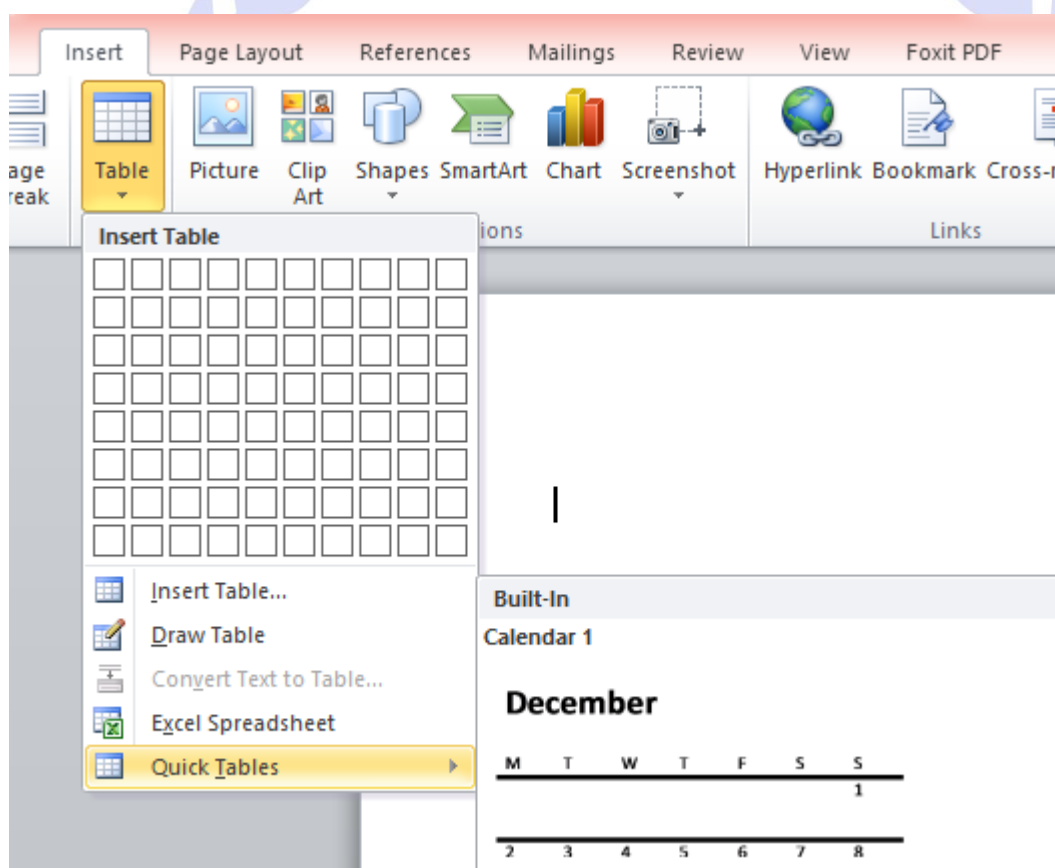
Method two

Follow these steps:

1. Click the place in your document where you want your table inserting
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the 'Table' tab
4. Click 'Quick Tables'
5. Choose which table you wish to insert from the drop down list.

See image below.

Once you have inserted this type of table, you will need to replace the existing information with the information that you want.

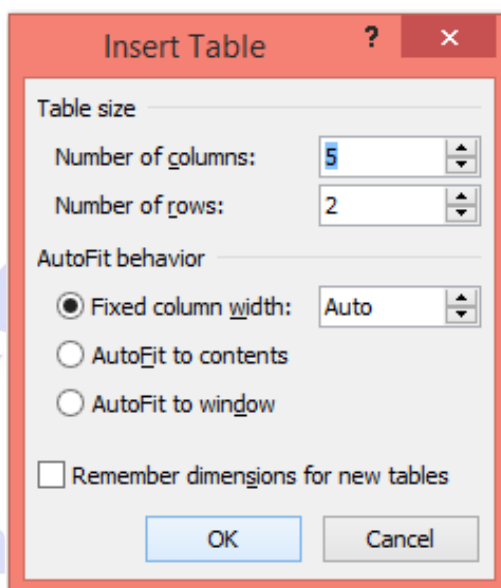


Method three

Follow these steps:

1. Click the place in your document where you want the table inserting
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the 'Table' tab
4. Choose 'Insert Table'

5. In the window that appears (see the image below), specify the options of your table.
For example, how many rows and columns do you want?
6. Click 'OK'.



Inserting text into a table

To start adding text into your table, simply click on the cell that you wish to type in and start typing. You can move between cells by using your cursor, the 'Tab' key on your keyboard or the arrow keys.

To change the orientation of the text within your table, follow these steps:

1. Select the cell that contains the text that you wish to rotate
2. Right click using your cursor
3. Select 'Text Direction'
4. Choose the options that you require.

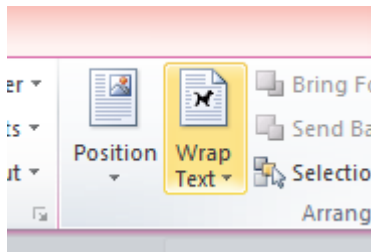
Take a look at the following example:

Sample text	Sample text
Sample text	Sample text

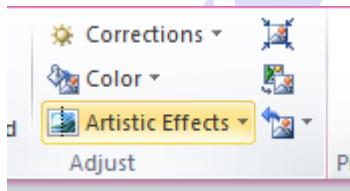
Inserting an image into a table

As well as text, you can also insert images into a table when necessary. To do this, use the normal 'Insert Picture' function as you would when inserting a picture into the main body of your document or simply

copy and paste your image from the original document. You may need to alter the formatting of the image you have inserted to ensure that it sits right within your table. You can do this by using the 'Position' or 'Wrap Text' function and selecting the appropriate option. See the image below.



It is also possible to use features within Microsoft Word to apply art effects to your images; this can make it look more like a painting, drawing or sketch. It allows you to enhance your images easily. See image below.



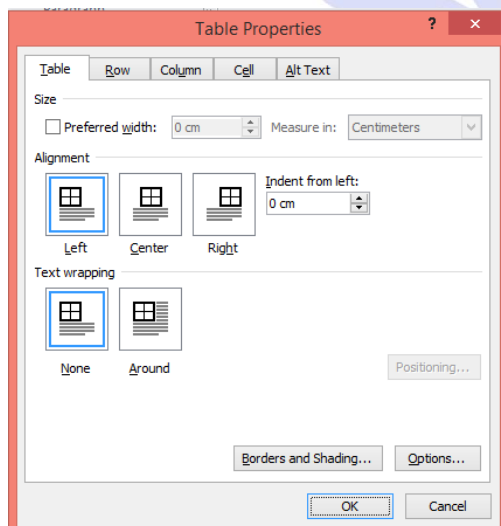
Changing cells

Once your table is inserted, you may need to change cells in order to meet any relevant information requirements. For example, you may want your table to have a particular colour, weight and style of border and certain cells may need to be shaded in a particular colour. You can also alter how your table sits within your document; does the text need to wrap around your table or not?

To change the properties of your table, follow these steps:

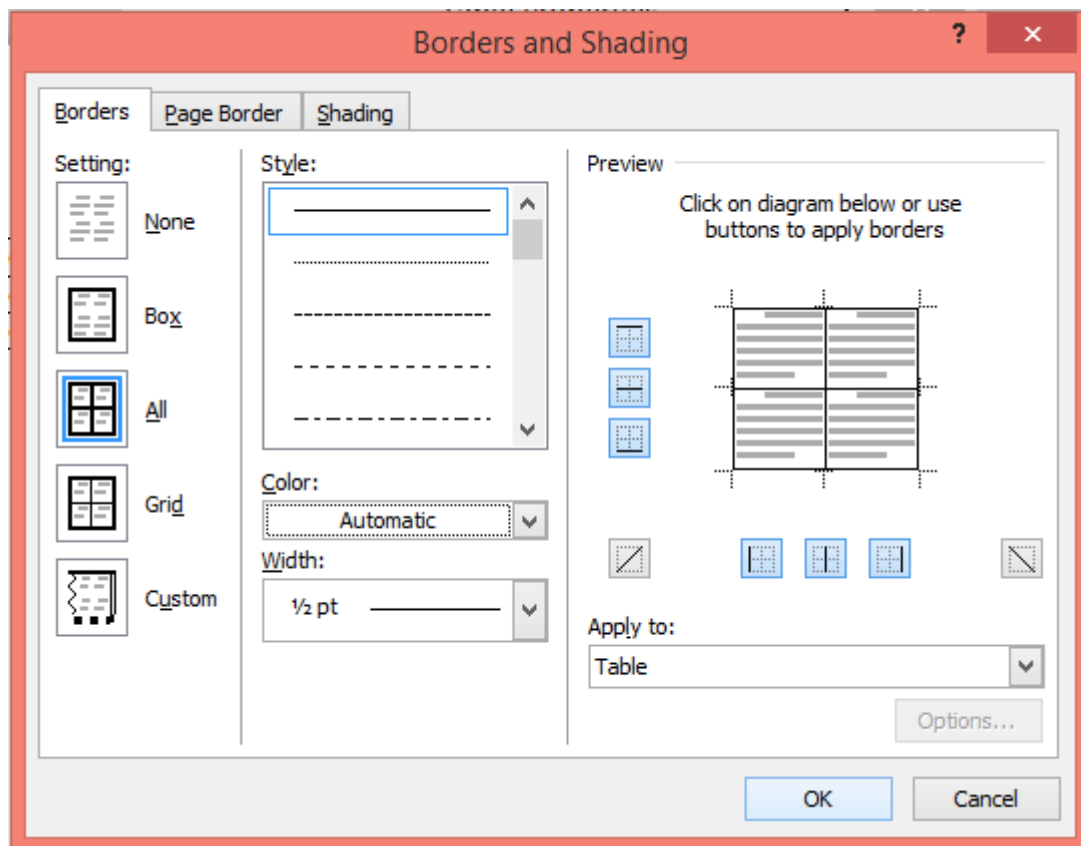
1. Right click in your table somewhere
2. Click 'Table Properties'.

The following box will appear:



This box allows you to change things like the alignment and the text wrapping around your table.

To further this, you can click the 'Borders and Shading...' button; the following box will appear:



This function allows you to change colours, weights and styles of the borders used within your table, as well as the colours used to shade your table or certain cells. The tables that you insert into your documents should be changed into a style or format that is consistent with previous documents of the same kind, previous tables used within documents and the organisation's style guide.

Let's compare an unchanged table to a changed one.

Sample	Sample	Sample
Sample	Sample	Sample
Sample	Sample	Sample

Sample	Sample	Sample
Sample	Sample	Sample
Sample	Sample	Sample

Activity 3A



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3.2 – Insert and delete columns and rows as necessary

Inserting columns

To insert an extra column into your table, follow these steps:

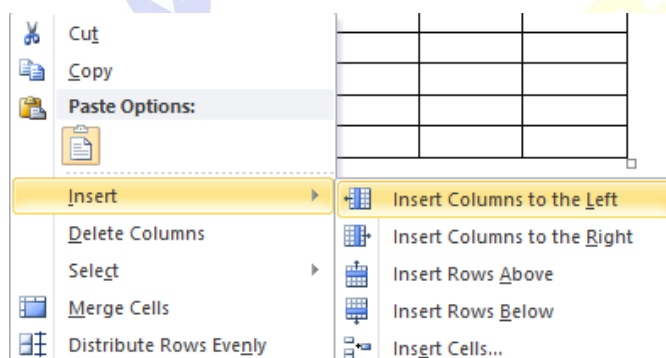
1. Highlight the column to the left or right of where you want your new column to appear
2. Click 'Layout' within your 'Table Tools' tab
3. In the 'Rows & Columns' section, click 'Insert Left' or 'Insert Right'.



Another way to add columns to your table includes:

1. Highlighting the column to the left or right of where you want your new column to appear
2. Right click with your mouse
3. Click 'Insert'
4. Select either 'Insert Columns to the Left' or 'Insert Columns to the Right'.

See image below.

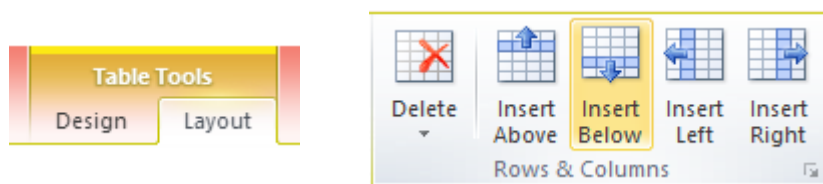


Inserting rows

To insert an extra row into your table, follow these steps:

1. Highlight the row above or below where you want your new row to appear
2. Click 'Layout' within your 'Table Tools' tab

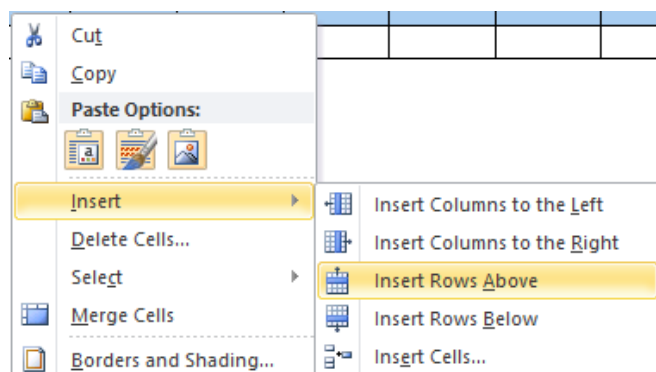
3. In the 'Row & Columns' section, click 'Insert Above' or 'Insert Below'.



Another way to insert a row into your table includes:

1. Highlighting the row above or below where you want your new row to appear
2. Right click with your mouse
3. Click 'Insert'
4. Select either 'Insert Rows Above' or 'Insert Rows Below'.

See image below.



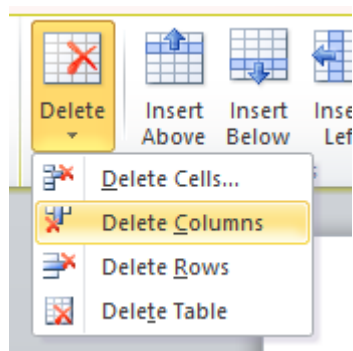
A third way to add a row in your table is to click at the end of the current row – just outside of your table. Then press 'Enter' on your keyboard to add your new row.

Deleting columns and rows

To delete a row or column from your table, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Layout' tab under 'Table Tools'
2. Highlight the row or column that you wish to delete
3. In the 'Rows & Columns' section, click 'Delete'
4. Choose either 'Delete Columns' or 'Delete Rows'.

See image below.



Activity 3B



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3.3 – Insert images and other *data* to meet required specifications

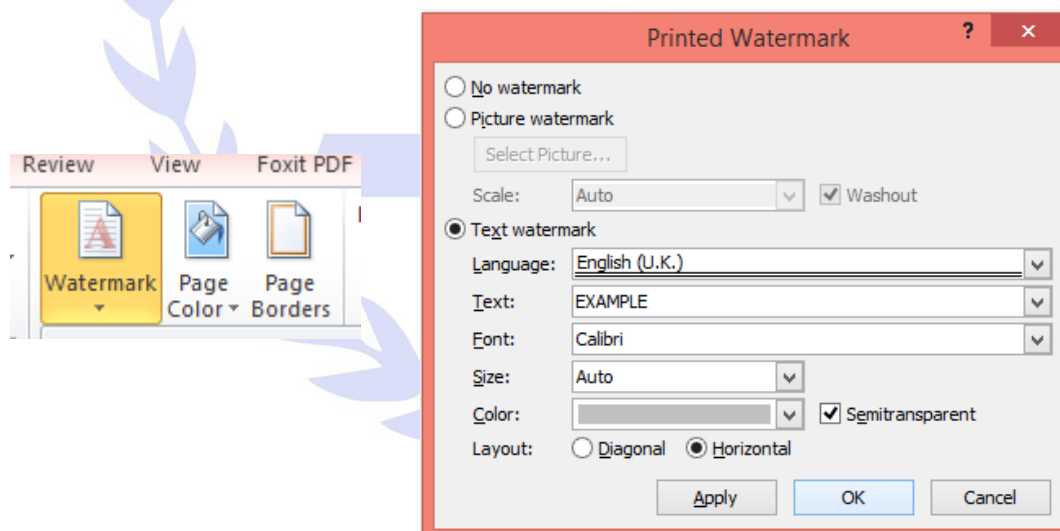
Watermarks

Your documents can be designed with watermarks, logos and a host of other identities. Watermarks are the text or images that appear behind the text within your document. You can alter the text or image so that it doesn't interfere with the text within your document. You can insert an existing watermark from a gallery or use a watermark with your own custom text.

To insert a watermark, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
2. In the 'Page Background' sections, click 'Watermark'
3. Choose an existing watermark within the gallery or click 'Custom Watermark'
4. Click 'Text watermark'
5. Type the text you wish to use and modify it to meet your specifications
6. Click 'OK'
7. Use 'Print Layout' view to see what you watermark will look like on your printed document.

See images below.



Inserting images

As discussed in Chapter 3.1, images can be added into your tables if necessary. Depending on the required specifications of the document that you are designing and producing, you may need to insert images into the body of your document too. Images can allow you to communicate more effectively. This chapter will look at three different methods that can be used to insert an image into a Microsoft Word document.

Method one

One method that can be used to insert an image into a Word document is by 'copying and pasting'.

Follow these steps:

1. Once you have located the image you wish to insert (on a website, on your computer or in another document), right click the image
2. Select 'Copy' or 'Copy Image' or select the image and press Ctrl and C together
3. In your Word document, click where you want to insert your image
4. Right click and select 'Paste' or press Ctrl and V together
5. Your image will appear; from this, you can modify your image to meet your specifications.

Method two

You can also insert an image into a Word document by using the 'Insert' feature.

Follow these steps:

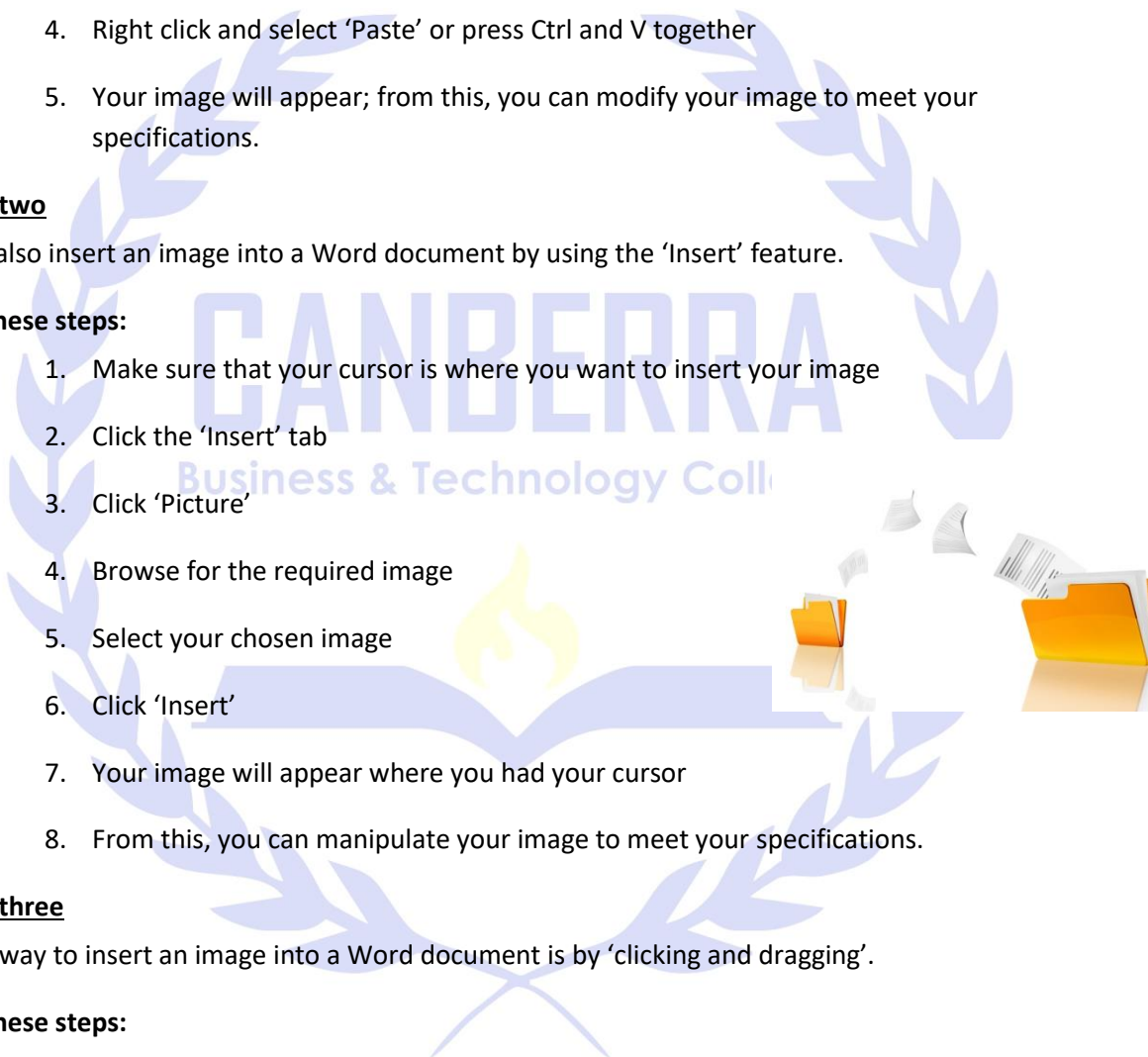
1. Make sure that your cursor is where you want to insert your image
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click 'Picture'
4. Browse for the required image
5. Select your chosen image
6. Click 'Insert'
7. Your image will appear where you had your cursor
8. From this, you can manipulate your image to meet your specifications.

Method three

Another way to insert an image into a Word document is by 'clicking and dragging'.

Follow these steps:

1. Find the image that you need by browsing your documents
2. Click and drag the image over to your Word document
3. Release the mouse when you have positioned your cursor in the correct place
4. From this, you can manipulate your image to meet your specifications.



Modifying images

There are many ways to enhance your images in order to achieve organisational requirements and your required specifications.

For example, you can:

- Resize your image
- Move your image around your document
- Alter the text wrapping of your image
- Add artistic effects to your images
- Change the colour of your images
- Make corrections to your images
- Crop your images
- Rotate your images.

There are many other things you can do to your image; these can be found in the 'Format' tab when modifying an image.

Inserting other data

As well as images, you may need to add a wide variety of other data into your documents.

Data may include:

- Clip art
- Data from other software applications
- Digital photographs
- Files
- Graphics
- Quotes
- References
- Scanned photographs and logos
- Tables, graphs and charts.



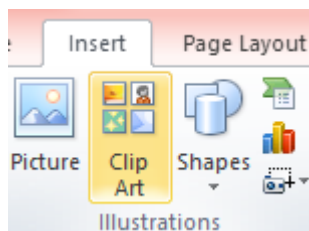
This chapter will look at the methods of inserting some of the examples above.

Inserting clip art

To insert clip art into a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Insert' tab
2. Select Clip Art
3. Search for the image that you wish to add
4. Click your chosen image and it will insert it into your document.

See image below.

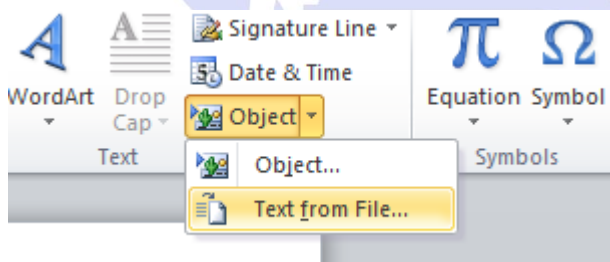


Inserting files

To insert text from another file into a Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click in your document where you want to insert the text
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the arrow next to 'Object'
4. Select 'Text from File...'
5. Locate the file that you wish to insert
6. Double click the file.

See image below.



Inserting scanned photographs and logos

To insert an image that you have scanned into your computer, follow these steps:

1. Click in your document where you want the scanned photo or logo to appear
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click 'Picture'
4. Browse your files to locate photo or logo
5. Select the image
6. Click 'Insert'.

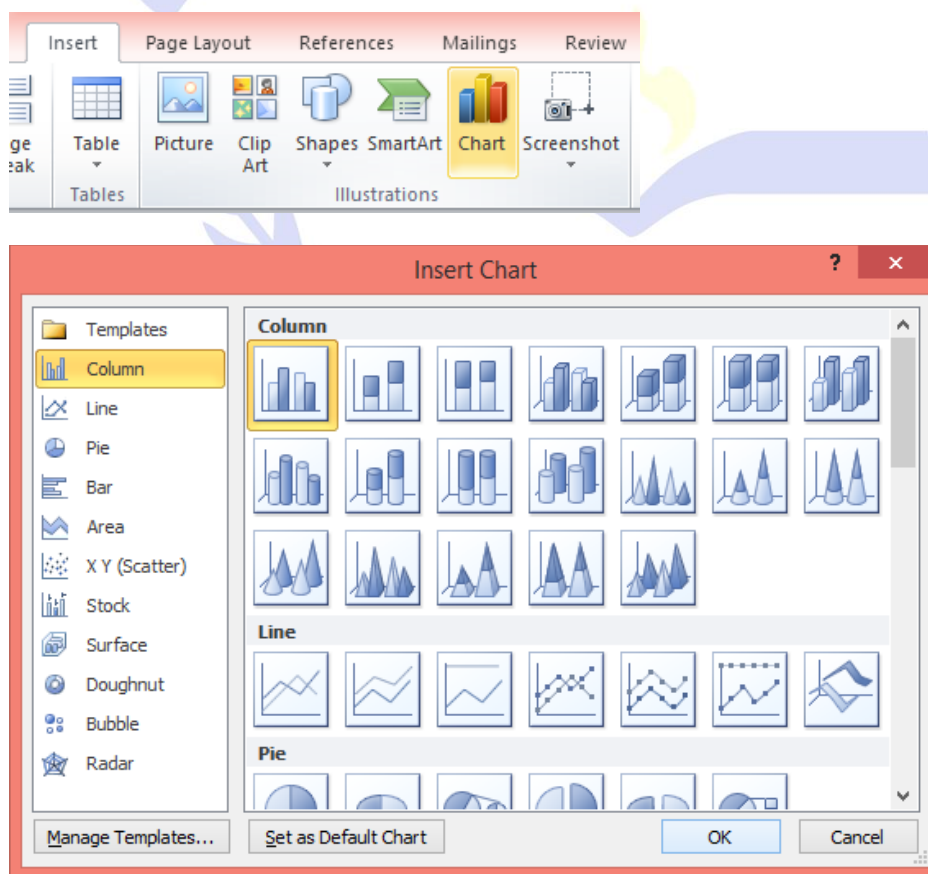
Inserting tables, graphs and charts

Chapter 3.1 looked at the different methods for inserting a table into a Word document; this chapter will look at how to insert graphs and charts.

To insert a graph or chart into a Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click in your document where you want to insert your graph or chart
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the 'Chart' tab
4. From the options that appear, choose the type of graph or chart you require
5. Click 'OK' to insert your chosen graph or chart
6. A spreadsheet will open alongside your Word document
7. Change the information to the information that your require
8. Change the labels to the labels that you require
9. Give your graph of chart a title, if necessary
10. Close the spreadsheet window.

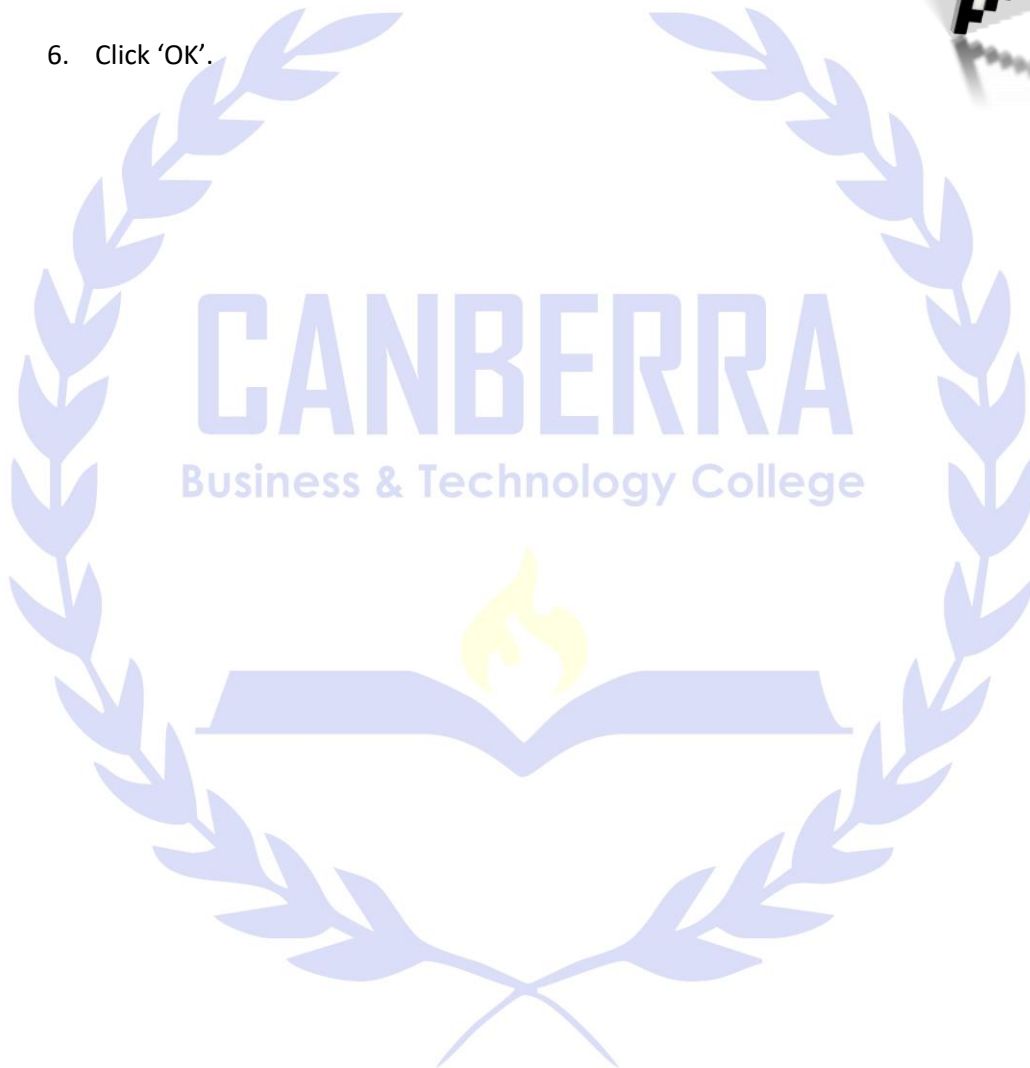
See images below.



Inserting a hyperlink to other data, software or digital images

Follow these steps:

1. Highlight the target file, image or text
2. Create a 'Bookmark' by going to 'Insert' and selecting 'Bookmark'
3. In the bookmark table, add a name to your file, image or text
4. Select your hyperlink text or image and go to 'Insert Hyperlink'
5. Select the bookmark
6. Click 'OK'.



Activity 3C



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4. Produce text documents

- 4.1. Use **advanced software functions** to enable efficient production of documents
- 4.2. Enter or import, and edit text and other data to meet required specifications
- 4.3. Preview, adjust and **print** documents in accordance with organisational and task requirements
- 4.4. **Name and store** text documents, in accordance with organisational requirements and exit application without information loss/damage
- 4.5. Prepare text documents within **designated timelines** and organisational requirements for speed and accuracy
- 4.6. Use manuals, user documentation and online help to overcome problems with document design and production



4.1 – Use *advanced software functions* to enable efficient production of documents

Using advanced software functions

When designing and producing text-based documents your priority should be to ensure that the readers can understand the information in your document. A good design can be the clarity of your communication. In order to ensure efficient production of your documents, you will need to use the range of advanced software functions that are available. When using the advanced software functions, you should keep in mind that to use them efficiently you should only apply the ones that apply to the particular document that you are creating; don't over-design. Once you have used the advanced software functions that you wish to use you will need to proofread and check all of the elements that you have included. If your document seems too over-bearing and there is too much going on, then you may need to re-think and re-write. The advanced software functions that you need to use may depend on your organisation's style guide.

Advanced software functions may include:

- Alternate headers and footers
- Drawing tools
- Graphics tools
- Importing data/objects/pictures
- Mail merge
- Newspaper columns
- Sections
- Sort
- Styles
- Tables
- Templates.



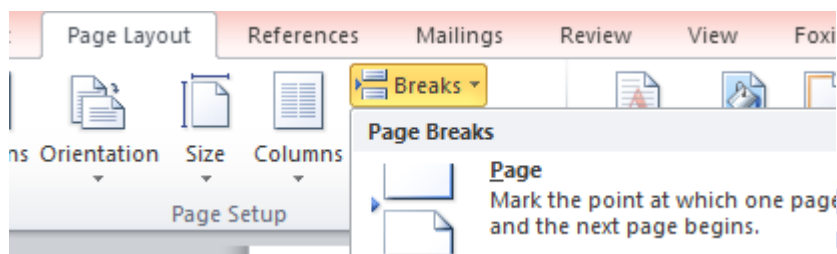
Many of the examples above have already been discussed throughout this unit. This chapter will take a look at a few examples of advanced software functions and how they can help to ensure the efficient production of your documents.

Alternate headers and footers

You may wish to have different headers and footers within your document; if so, you will need to divide your document into sections. Remember that headers and footers belong to a specific section; not the document as a whole. Different sections of your document can have different headers and footers. When inserting a section break, confusion may arise as to where to put it. Usually, a 'Next Page' section break will be inserted at the bottom of the page that is just before the page where you want the new header or footer to start. For example, if your new header or footer needs to be on page seven, the 'Next Page' section break should be inserted at the bottom of page six.

To add a section break, follow these steps:

1. Click 'Page Layout' tab
2. In the 'Page Setup' options, click 'Breaks' (see image)
3. Choose the appropriate break.

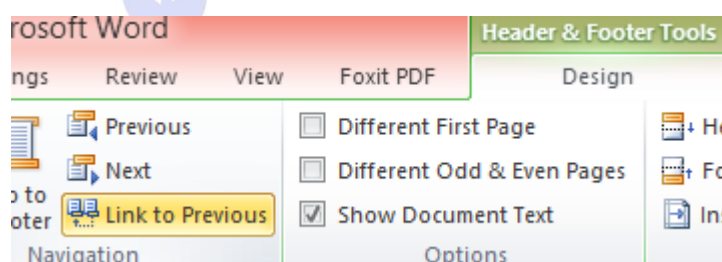


You will then need to break the link between the previous section and the new section.

To do this, follow these steps:

1. Double-click in the header of your new section
2. Click the 'Design' tab
3. In the 'Navigation' options, click the 'Link to Previous' option.

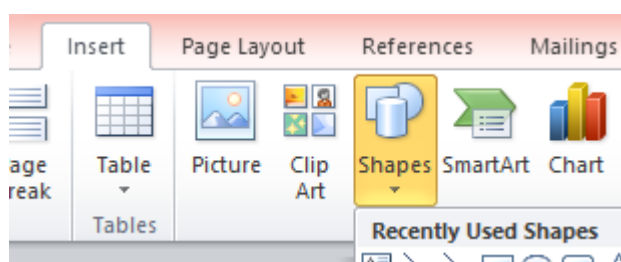
See image below.



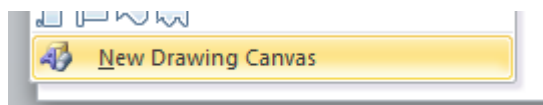
After completing these steps, you're ready to change your header or footer. It will look as if nothing has changed as breaking the link will not change anything; it allows you to make changes. From this, you can change the header or footer as you normally would.

Drawing tools

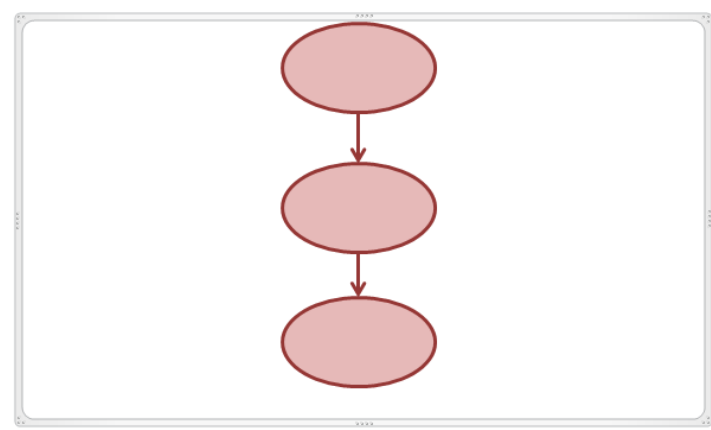
When creating your documents, you may need to use the drawing tools. These can be located under the 'Insert' tab in 'Shapes'. See image below. From this, you can choose which shape you wish to insert into your document.



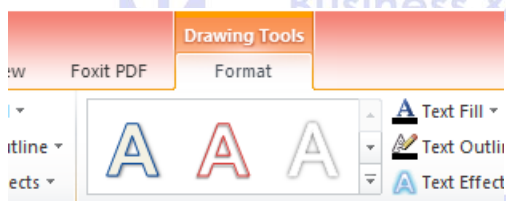
If you need to insert shapes that are connected together, you will need to insert a 'New Drawing Canvas' into your document first. This can be found at the bottom of the 'Shapes' options. See image below.



This can be useful for creating things like flow diagrams. See image below.



Remember to use your 'Drawing Tools' tab to change the format of any shapes that you insert into your document. See image.

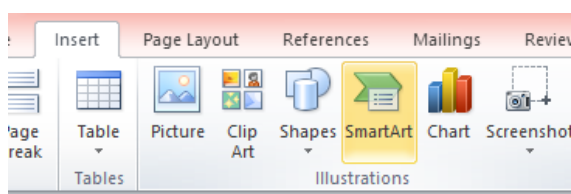


Graphics tools

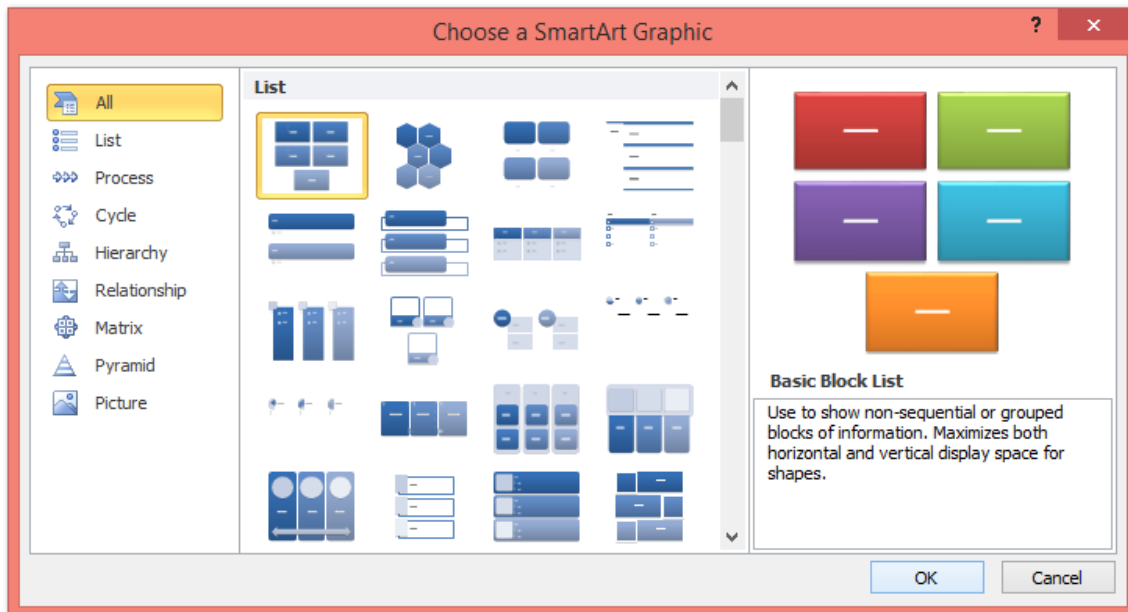
Although text-based documents should obviously be predominantly text information, illustrations and graphics can help your reader to understand and remember the information within your document better. Normally, manually creating the graphics to include in your document can be time consuming and quite difficult. There is a 'SmartArt' tool within Microsoft Word that can make this job easier. This tool can be used to create a visual representation of the information and ideas of your document. SmartArt allows you to choose from a variety of different layouts which can communicate your message easily and effectively.

To create a SmartArt graphic, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Insert' tab
2. 'Click SmartArt'.



In the window that appears, you can choose the type of graphic that you wish to insert. See image below. Once you have chosen, click 'OK'.



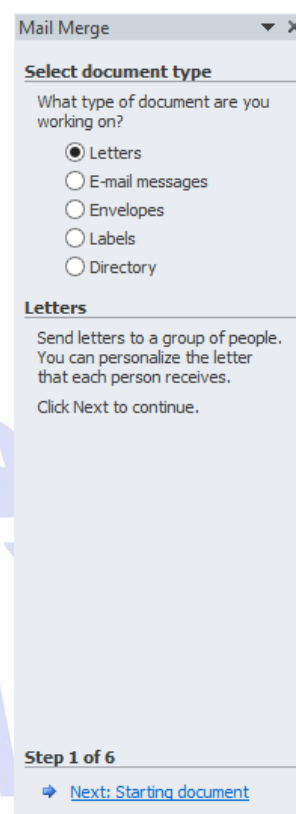
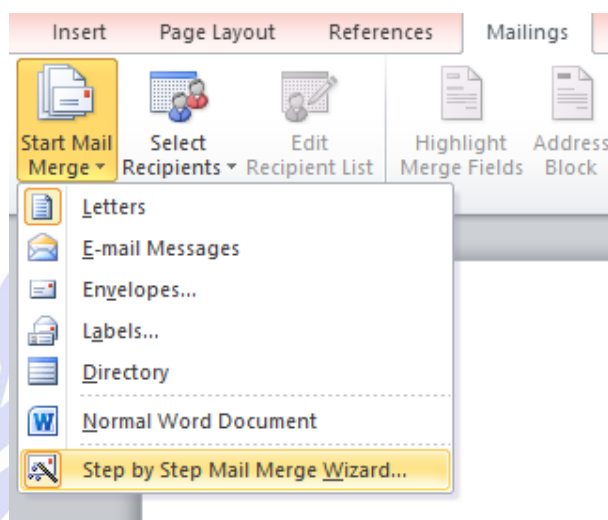
Mail merge

When creating letters in Microsoft Word, you may want to use the Mail Merge feature. This allows you to personalise your letters with names and addresses from a database.

To create a Mail Merge, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'Mailings' tab

2. Click 'Start Mail Merge'
3. Click 'Step by Step Mail Merge Wizard' (see image below)
4. In the task pane, click 'Letters'
5. Click 'Next: Starting document' (see image to the right)



6. Select the starting document
7. Select your recipients
8. Write your letter
9. Preview your letter
10. Complete the merge.

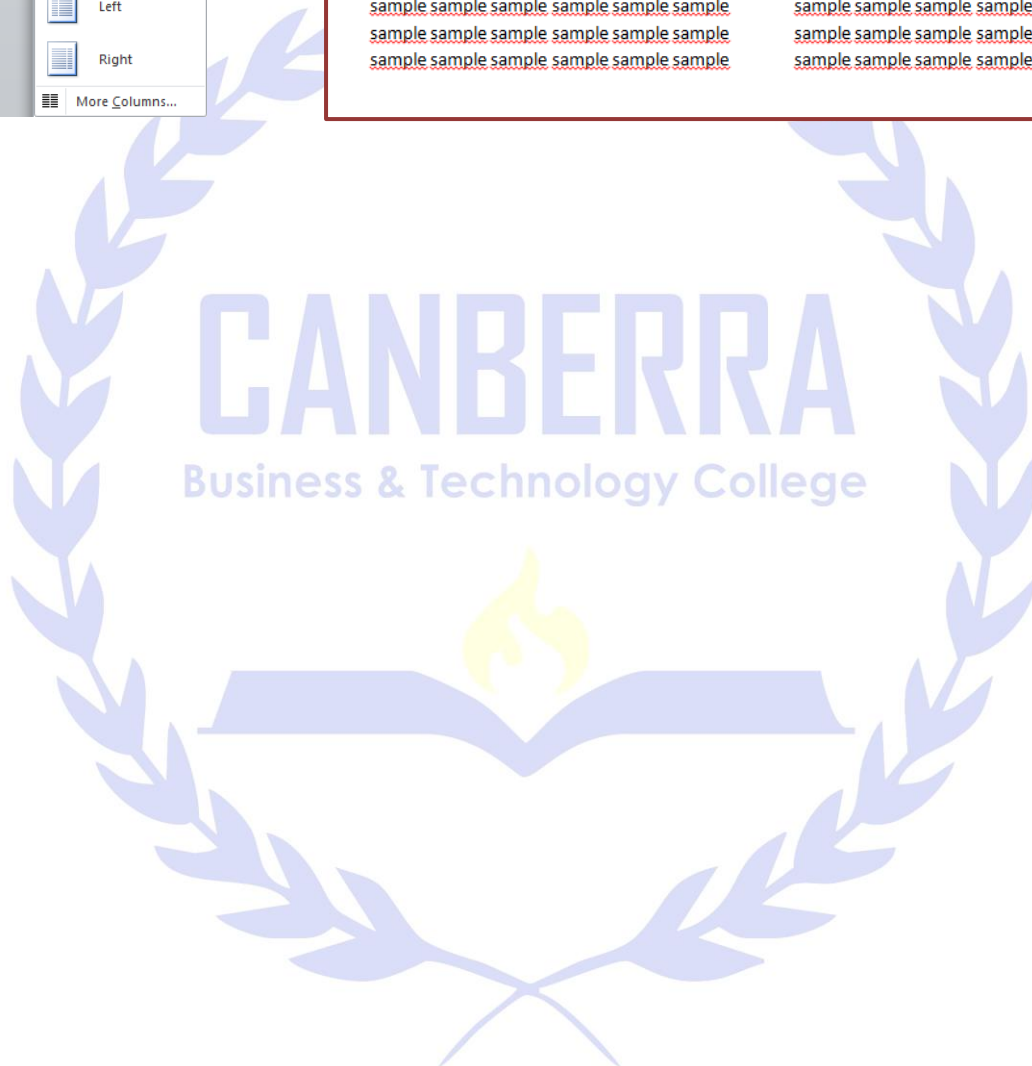
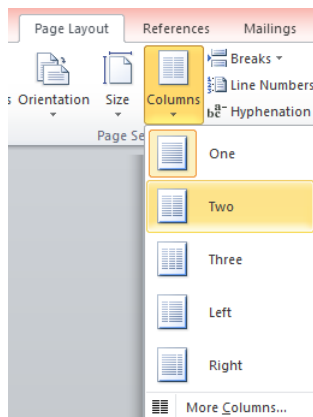
Newspaper columns

If you wish to apply newspaper style columns to the text within your document, highlight this specific text and apply the column formatting.

Follow these steps:

1. Highlight the text that you wish to put into columns
2. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
3. Click the 'Columns' button
4. Select how many columns you wish to apply
5. Extra options can be found in 'More Columns'.

See images below. The image on the right shows the difference between the one column and two columns options.



Activity 4A



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4.2 – Enter or import, and edit text and other data to meet required specifications

Entering and importing text

Of course, you can simply type the text that you require into your document. But what if you are repeatedly using the same block of text? There must be an easier way. If you have a block of text that is formatted in a particular way and you know you will need this at various points in the future, then you can add your selected text to the 'AutoText' gallery. This means that when you need this block of text again, you can select it using 'AutoText' from your 'AutoText' gallery.

You can also change the 'AutoCorrect' settings within Microsoft Word and add text entries that you will be using often. This means that Word will automatically complete this familiar word, phrase or sentence after typing the first few characters.

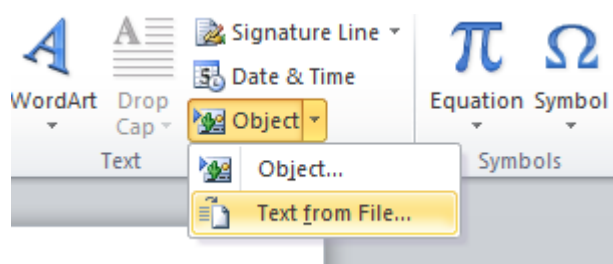
The data that you wish to use within your document may come from an external source. For example, there may be data in a workbook, database or another text file that you wish to include within your document. This external source is connected to your program through a data connection; information that defines how to locate, log in and access the required external source. This connection information is stored in a connection file; for example, Data Source Name files (.dsn) or Office Data Connection files (.odc). The process of repeatedly copying data is prone to errors and can be very time consuming; connecting to an external data source can eliminate these issues. When using an external data source, you need to ensure that you have authority to access this data and can actually do so. In a Microsoft Word document, you can also import external data using the Mail Merge feature; this was discussed in the previous chapter.

You can also import other files without using a connection. For example, worksheets, Access tables, queries and other text files.

To insert text from another file into a Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click in your document where you want to insert the text
2. Click the 'Insert' tab
3. Click the arrow next to 'Object'
4. Select 'Text from File...'
5. Locate the file that you wish to insert
6. Double click the file.

See image below.



Editing text

Once you have entered or imported the required text into your document, you may need to edit it in order to meet your organisational requirements and specifications.

This may involve changing things like the:

- Size of the text
- Colour of the text
- Font of the text
- Alignment of the text.

You may also want to add headings and sub-headings or format some of your text into columns. All of these examples have been discussed throughout the unit and should be used in order to keep within your required specifications.

Entering, importing and editing other data

Throughout the production of your document, you may need to enter, import and edit other types of data.

For example, you may need to include:

- Watermarks
- Images
- Clip art
- Data from other software applications
- Digital photographs
- Files
- Graphics
- Quotes
- References
- Scanned photographs and logos
- Tables, graphs and charts.



Refer to Chapter 3.3 for details of a few of these examples.

Activity 4B



Business & Technology College



4.3 – Preview, adjust and *print* documents in accordance with organisational and task requirements

Preview and print

Before printing your completed document, you will need to preview it and make any necessary amendments.

To preview a Microsoft Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'File' tab
2. Click the 'Print' option
3. Your preview will appear at the right of your screen.

From this, you can assess your document and ensure that it is in accordance with any relevant organisational and task requirements. If necessary, amendments should be made to your document. When any amendments to your document have been completed, reviewed and previewed, it is then time to print your document. The way that you print your document should also be in accordance with any relevant organisational and task requirements.

Printing may include:

- Print merge
- Print to file
- With comments
- With drawing objects
- With field codes
- With hidden text.



Print merge

Print merge can be used in programs such as Corel DRAW and is useful when producing documents with serial numbers (e.g. lottery tickets, certificates or tickets). This process involves the automatic merging of a drawing with the information within a text file. The result of this process is then sent to a printer.

Print to file

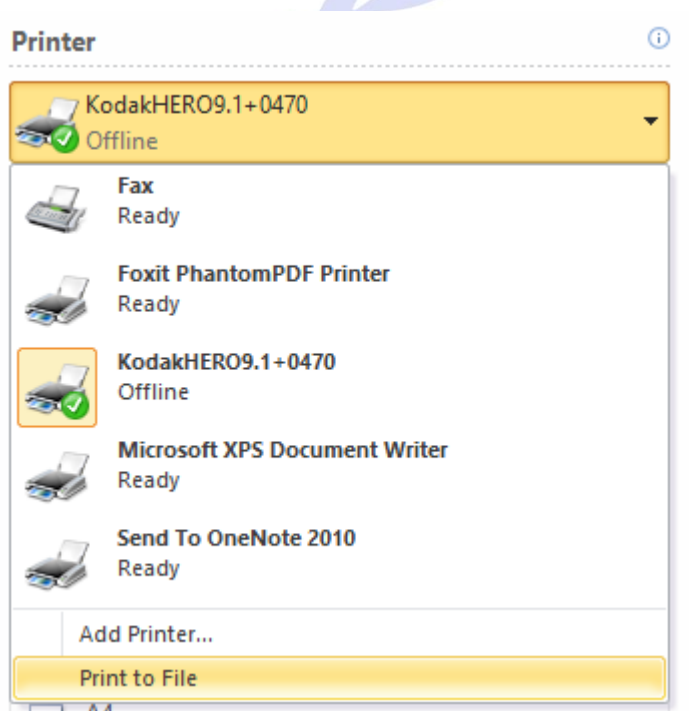
When printing to file, the formatting and layout information of your document is saved. This means that the printer can reproduce your document without the computer or program that you used to create it.

This printing option is useful if:

- You want to send your document to a commercial printer
- You don't have a printer handy but you want to archive your document and print it later
- You want to send your document to someone that has the same printer, but doesn't have the program that you used to create your document.

To print to file, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'File' tab
2. Click 'Print'
3. Select the 'Printer' drop down menu
4. Tick the 'Print to File' box (see image below)
5. Click 'Print'
6. If applicable, select a name and location for your document.



It's worth noting that printing to file is not supported by all programs and doesn't work easily on newer printers.

Print with comments

When printing a document such as an Excel workbook that contains comments, you can alter the settings so that these comments are printed; either where they appear on the document itself or at the end of the document.

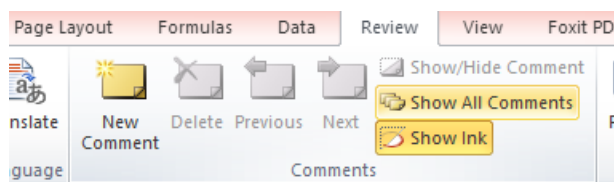
To display an individual comment, follow these steps:

1. Click on the cell that contain the comment
2. Click the 'Review' tab
3. In the 'Comments' options, click 'Show/Hide Comment'.

To display all of the comments within your document, follow these steps:

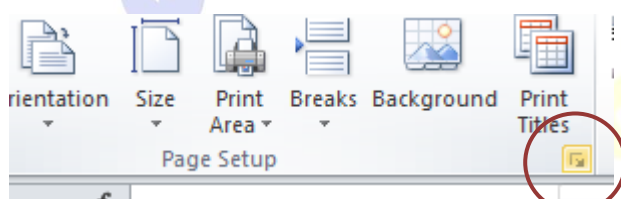
1. Click the 'Review' tab
2. In the 'Comments' options, click 'Show All Comments'.

See image below.



Then:

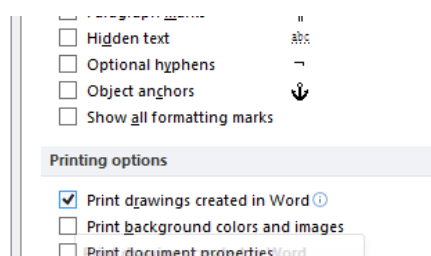
1. Click the 'Page Layout' tab
2. In the 'Page Setup' options, click the dialog box launcher (see image)
3. Click the 'Sheet' tab
4. Click the arrow next to 'Comments'
5. Choose either 'At end of sheet' or 'As displayed on sheet'
6. Click 'Print'.



Print with drawing objects

To print with drawing objects in a Word document, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'File' tab
2. Click 'Options'
3. Click 'Display'
4. In the 'Printing Options', check the 'Print drawings create in Word' box
5. Print your document as normal.



Print with field codes

Field codes are used for creating letters and labels in the mail merge feature and can be used within a document as placeholders for any data that may change.

Fields that are automatically inserted occur when you:

- Insert a page number
- Create a table of contents
- Insert a cover page.

You can also manually insert fields if you wish to automate aspects within your document although this is not normally necessary.

To see the codes for a particular field, click the 'Field' dialog box and click 'Field Codes'.

To insert a field, follow these steps:

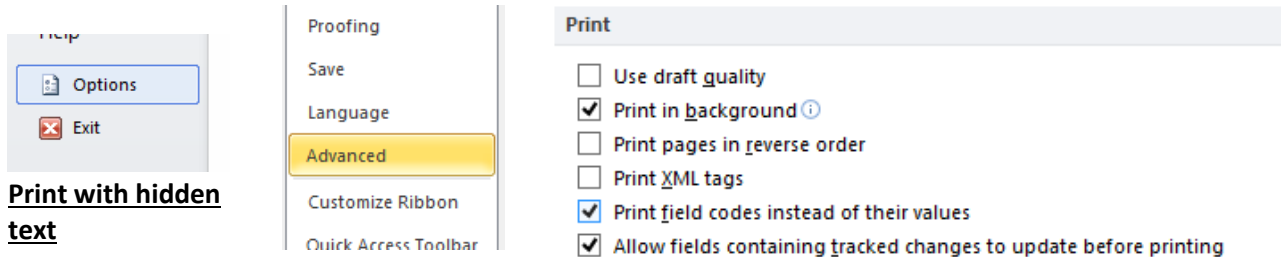
Click where you want to insert a field

1. Click the 'Insert' tab
2. In the 'Text' options, click 'Quick Parts'
3. Click 'Field'
4. In the 'Categories' list, select a category
5. In the 'Field Names' list, select a field name
6. Format as you wish.

To print with field codes, follow these steps:

1. Click the 'File' tab
2. Click 'Options'
3. Click 'Advanced'
4. Scroll down to the 'Print' section
5. Check the 'Print field codes instead of their values' box
6. Click 'OK'
7. Print as normal.

See images.



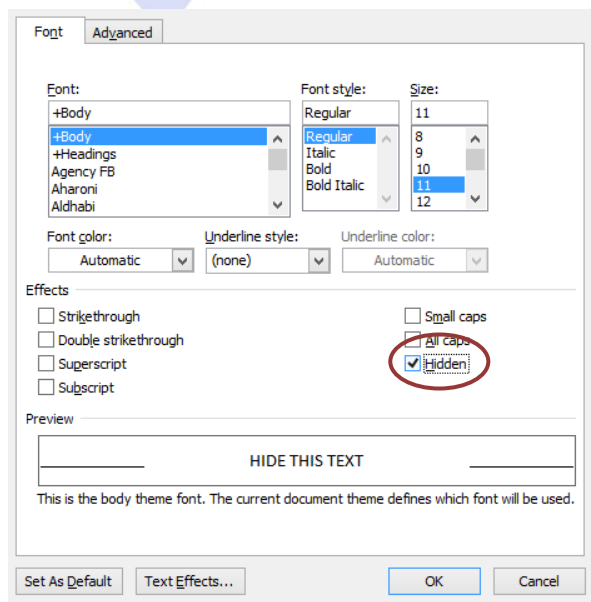
Print with hidden text

You have the option to hide particular text within your document; although this text will be part of your document, it won't appear unless you choose to show it. This can be useful if you need to print two different versions of the same document. In one copy, you are able to hide certain parts of the text and have two different documents without having to save two separate copies.

To hide text within your document, follow these steps:

1. Highlight the text that you want to hide
2. Right click
3. Click 'Font'
4. Check the 'Hidden' box
5. Click 'OK'.

See image below.



Once you have hidden the parts of text you don't want to appear on your printed document, you can print as normal.

Activity 4C



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4.4 – Name and store text documents, in accordance with organisational requirements and exit application without information loss/damage

Naming documents

Naming your documents appropriately will help in the future when you or others need to relocate them. Each of your document names should be clearly different and sorted into the correct order. If necessary, use the date within the names of your documents. Your organisation may have a system in place for naming your documents; make yourself familiar with it. You need to be able to find your document again so don't worry if the name looks too long. For example, 'report' is just not going to cut it. Whichever naming system you decide on, ensure that you are consistent from then on.

File name extensions

The extension of a file name is the set of characters that is added to the end of a file name. This extension determines which program should be used to open the document. For example, myfile.txt has the extension 'txt'. This indicates that this file can be opened with programs that are associated with that extension (e.g. Notepad or WordPad).

Tips when naming your documents include:

- Use keywords
- Use your name or initials
- Use date
- Use alphabetic codes
- Use version numbers
- Use descriptors
- Use underscores
- Use common names
- Be detailed
- Be consistent.



Storing documents

The efficient storage of your documents is necessary. You should have a good filing system that is relevant to your own needs or your organisational requirements. Whichever storage method you decide to use; be consistent. Remember to keep your document files separate from your program files; this will eliminate any accidental deletions.

Tips when storing your documents include:

- Store similar documents together
- Don't save unnecessary documents
- Avoid large folder structures
- Use shortcuts rather than having multiple copies
- Colour code your folders
- Think about storing documents online (e.g. MicrosoftSharePoint 2010 or Windows Live SkyDrive)
- Make sure that the documents that you use every day can be accessed easily.

Locating files

You should take advantage of the folders within your computer (e.g. my documents and my library). You can customise these files and add new folders to make it easier to locate your files. Using the 'Start' bar or 'Windows Explorer' you can search for the file that you need. In Microsoft Word, under the 'File' tab, the 'Recent' tab holds all the recent documents that you have been working on, making it easier for you to find them.

You can move files or folders to the appropriate locations by 'cutting and pasting' or 'clicking and dragging'.

Naming and storing documents may include:

- Authorised access
- File names according to organisational procedure e.g. Numbers rather than names
- File names which are easily identifiable in relation to the content
- File/directory names which identify the operator, author, section, date
- Filing locations
- Organisational policy for backing up files, storage in folders/sub-folders
- Organisational policy for filing hard copies of documents
- Security/password protection
- Storage on hard/floppy disk drives, CD-ROM, tape back-up.



Issues when naming and storing documents that often arise may include:

- Too many characters (file names can only be up to 260 characters)
- Restricted characters (< > ? \ / ; * are all characters that cannot be used in file names)
- Compatibility issues.

Remember to:

- Regularly back your files up
- Use passwords if necessary
- Follow organisational policies when storing hard copies.

Exiting without information loss or damage

Whilst working on your document, remember to save – often. This will help you to minimise the chance of any information being lost or damaged.

To save a document, either:

- Press Ctrl and S together
- Click the 'File' tab and click 'Save' or 'Save as'
- Click the save icon across the top of your document (see image).



Once you know that you have saved your document, you can then close it. If your document does close without saving, you may find that your program recovers the unsaved version.

Damage to a document

Damage to a document usually involves a file corruption or a virus; you should close applications properly to minimise the chance of these occurring. If Windows determines a program holds a security risk, then it will close it and notify you of the risk. If this does occur, it is usually because that program uses your computer's Random Access Memory (RAM) in a way that may be exploited by a virus. A virus can be harming to your computer. Data Execution Prevention (DEP) is a security feature that Windows uses to track how the programs within your computer use memory. If this feature identifies that the memory is being used incorrectly, it will close the program and notify you. You can add programs that you trust to an exception list to stop this feature from closing it; but you should be sure.

If compatibility issues between documents occur and Windows closes a program, this could be due to the possibility that the program may damage Windows if it is allowed to run.

Activity 4D



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4.5 – Prepare text documents within *designated timelines* and organisational requirements for speed and accuracy

Timelines

Timelines are where key planned events and tasks are marked in the required sequence of their occurrence on a suitable scale. You need to ensure that the document you are producing is completed within the designated timelines of your organisation. Although timelines can be difficult to meet, it is essential you try your best in order to keep your client happy. If you know early on in the process that your timeline is not realistic, then communicate this as early as possible; necessary adjustments can then be made.

Designated timelines may include:

- Organisational timeline e.g. Deadline requirements
- Timeline agreed with internal/external client
- Timeline agreed with supervisor/person requiring document.

Designated timelines may be:

- Within organisational deadline
- Within an agreed period
- By the end of the month
- Daily
- As requested.

Time management

In order to keep to your designated timeline, it is beneficial to have good time management skills. This involves consciously planning and exercising control over your time and how you use it. For example, in order to increase efficiency and effectiveness when designing and producing your document, you should plan the amount of time you need to spend on individual activities.

Good time management tips may include:

- Recording your deadlines
- Prioritising your tasks
- Keeping track of your progress
- Knowing how to deal with possible problems that may arise.



Recording your deadlines

You need to be aware of any deadlines before starting a task; this allows you to plan your activities carefully. Plan using diaries, schedules or memos; whatever works best for you.

Prioritising your tasks

To make sure you use your time in the most efficient way possible, it is essential that you prioritise your tasks. The act of prioritising your tasks allows for the most valuable use of your time. A key thing to remember is to not spend too much time on tasks that are not as important as the other tasks. Make to-do lists and set mini deadlines to help keep you on track.

Keeping track of your progress

Use the diaries, schedules or memos that you have created to keep an eye on your progress. Are you hitting the deadlines you have given yourself? Should you be doing something differently? You need to check throughout the process that you are on target to meet the final deadline and assess your methods if not.

Knowing how to deal with possible problems that may arise

In order to stick to your plan and timelines you need to know how to deal with potential problems before they occur. When a problem does occur and you don't feel you are able to deal with it; don't dwell on it. Don't waste any time; just simply refer to someone who will know. This will keep you on track to meet your deadline.



Activity 4E



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4.6 – Use manuals, user documentation and online help to overcome problems with document design and production

Overcoming problems

When producing text-based documents, you may come across problems with the designing and production process. These can often be overcome by using manuals, user documentation or online help.

Manuals

Manuals are documents that intend to give assistance to a person who is using a particular system. They are often written documents that use accompanying images or diagrams (e.g. screen shots). Manuals aim to use language that the user will understand and they use jargon minimally. If the use of jargon is necessary, it is usually thoroughly explained. Manuals can usually be found as a hard copy or as a digital copy on the internet, stored on your computer or stored on CD or DVD.

The things that a manual may include are:

- A cover page, a title page and a copyright page
- Frequently asked questions
- Where to find further help, including contact details
- Information on how to navigate through manual
- A troubleshooting section
- A glossary and/or index.



User documentation

Documentation is the information that is provided to help you use a particular program, including technical manuals and online information. Although manuals are the most common form of documentation, there is a wide variety of forms that they come in. User documentation is a valuable tool for on-the-job training and can range from Installation guides, to How-to guides and Administrator guides.

User documentation is often divided into categories, for example:

- Installation
- Reference
- Tutorial.

User documentation should:

- Use current terminology
- Contain a list of error codes
- Use clear descriptions
- Operate as stated
- Be consistent
- Include relevant references
- Document any differences within program versions.

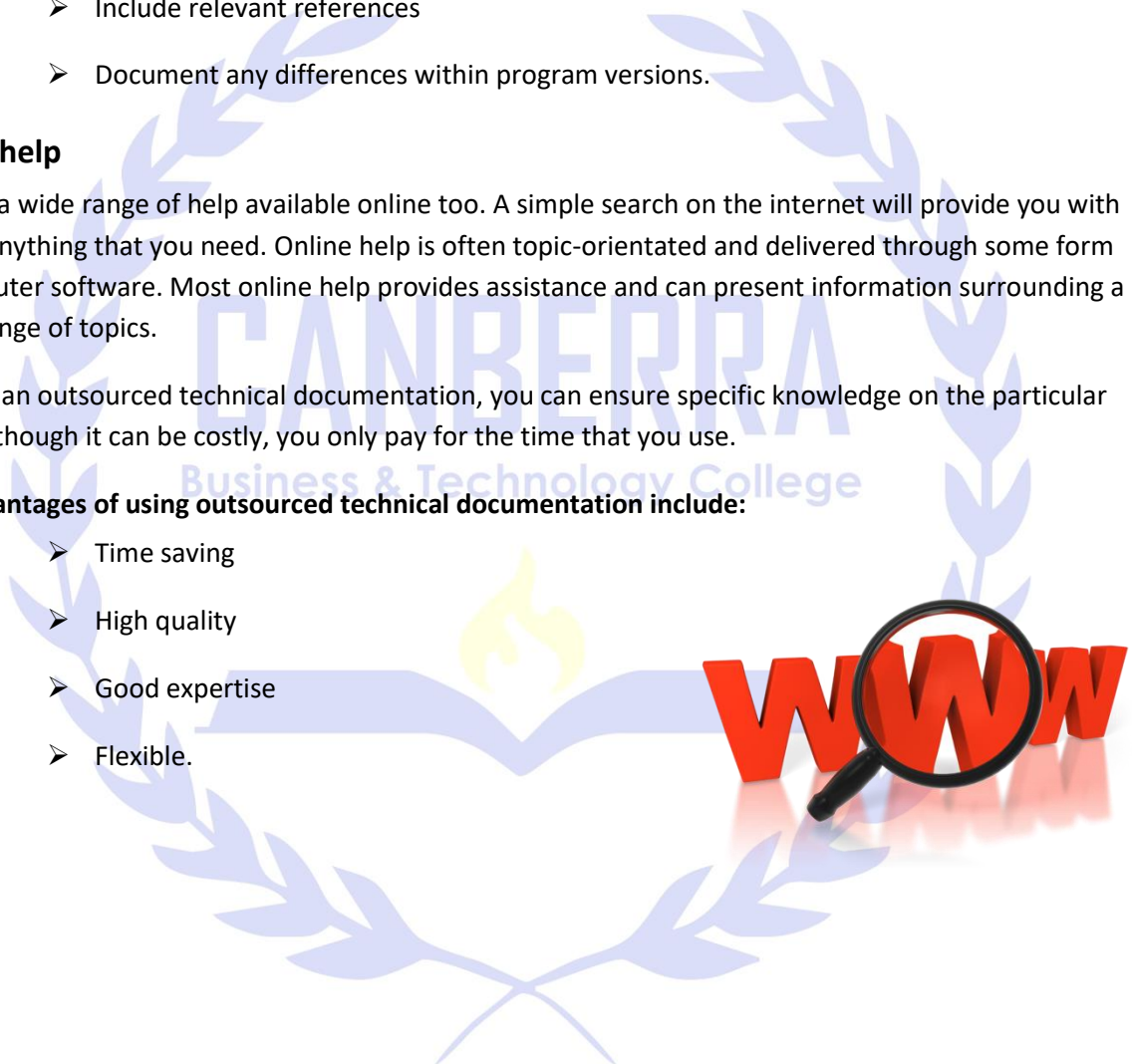
Online help

There is a wide range of help available online too. A simple search on the internet will provide you with almost anything that you need. Online help is often topic-orientated and delivered through some form of computer software. Most online help provides assistance and can present information surrounding a broad range of topics.

By using an outsourced technical documentation, you can ensure specific knowledge on the particular issue. Although it can be costly, you only pay for the time that you use.

The advantages of using outsourced technical documentation include:

- Time saving
- High quality
- Good expertise
- Flexible.



Activity 4F



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Skills and Knowledge Activity



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Nearly there...

Major Activity – An opportunity to revise the unit

At the end of your Learner Workbook, you will find an activity titled 'Major Activity'. This is an opportunity to revise the entire unit and allows your trainer to check your knowledge and understanding of what you have covered. It should take between 1-2 hours to complete and your trainer will let you know whether they wish for you to complete it in your own time or during the sessions. Once this is completed, you will have finished this unit and be ready to move onto the next, well done!



Congratulations!

You have now finished the unit 'Design and produce text documents.'



References

These suggested references are for further reading and do not necessarily represent the contents of this Learner Guide.

Australian Copyright Act 1968: www.comlaw.gov.au.

Ergonomics image: <http://www.ergonomics-info.com/office-computer-ergonomics.html>.

Safe Work Australia: www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au.

Style sheets: <http://www.w3.org/TR/html401/present/styles.html>.

Training.gov website: www.training.gov.au.

All references accessed on and correct, as of 09/03/15, unless otherwise stated.

