

# SIGCHI Conference Proceedings Format

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## ABSTRACT

UPDATED—September 11, 2023. Gardener’s Best Friend is a mobile app for people who want to journal the status of their plants. The journal houses information about the plants’ health and watering schedules entered by the user, as well as sunlight preferences. The purpose of this app is for users to keep up with their plants’ schedules and learn more about their garden, and for users to get closer to their plants by taking pictures and writing about them in a journal. Gardener’s Best Friend allows the user to add a plant by asking them to enter information about the plant, express whether the plant is inside or outside, and take a picture of the plant that is either taken from the camera or added from the gallery. Once a plant is added, the user can then provide updates about their plant, take or upload new pictures of their plant, and write about their plant in their journal. Gardener’s Best Friend provides general information about each of the user’s plants, such as the plant’s preferences regarding soil types and sunlight. The app can send notifications to the user reminding them when they need to water their plants, using a watering schedule provided by the user. The location of the user is also used for the weather to determine if the user needs to water their plant that day based on if there has been some precipitation or not. Overall, the app is meant to be used by the average gardener, looking to keep records of their plants.

## Author Keywords

Authors’ choice; of terms; separated; by semicolons; include commas, within terms only; this section is required.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This format is to be used for submissions that are published in the conference proceedings. We wish to give this volume a consistent, high-quality appearance. We therefore ask that authors follow some simple guidelines. You should format your paper exactly like this document. The easiest way to do this is to replace the content with your own material. This document describes how to prepare your submissions using L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X.

## 2. PAGE SIZE AND COLUMNS

On each page your material should fit within a rectangle of 7 × 9.15 inches (18 × 23.2 cm), centered on a US Letter page (8.5 × 11 inches), beginning 0.85 inches (1.9 cm) from the top of the page, with a 0.3 inches (0.85 cm) space between two 3.35 inches (8.4 cm) columns. Right margins should be justified, not ragged. Please be sure your document and PDF are US letter and not A4.

## 3. TYPESET TEXT

The styles contained in this document have been modified from the default styles to reflect ACM formatting conventions. For example, content paragraphs like this one are formatted using the Normal style.

L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X sometimes will create overfull lines that extend into columns. To attempt to combat this, the .cls file has a command, \sloppy, that essentially asks L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X to prefer underfull lines with extra whitespace. For more details on this, and info on how to control it more finely, check out <http://www.economics.utoronto.ca/osborne/latex/PMAKEUP.HTM>.

### 3.1 Title and Authors

Your paper’s title, authors and affiliations should run across the full width of the page in a single column 17.8 cm (7 in.) wide. The title should be in Helvetica or Arial 18-point bold. Authors’ names should be in Times New Roman or Times Roman 12-point bold, and affiliations in 12-point regular.

See \author section of this template for instructions on how to format the authors. For more than three authors, you may have to place some address information in a footnote, or in a named section at the end of your paper. Names may optionally be placed in a single centered row instead of at the top of each column. Leave one 10-point line of white space below the last line of affiliations.

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Every submission should begin with an abstract of about 150 words, followed by a set of Author Keywords and ACM Classification Keywords. The abstract and keywords should be placed in the left column of the first page under the left half of the title. The abstract should be a concise statement of the problem, approach, and conclusions of the work described. It should clearly state the paper’s contribution to the field of HCI.

### 3.3 Normal or Body Text

Please use a 10-point Times New Roman or Times Roman font or, if this is unavailable, another proportional font with serifs, as close as possible in appearance to Times Roman 10-point. Other than Helvetica or Arial headings, please use sans-serif or non-proportional fonts only for special purposes, such as source code text.

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**Table 1.** Table captions should be placed below the table. We recommend table lines be 1 point, 25% black. Minimize use of table grid lines.

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On pages beyond the first, start at the top of the page and continue in double-column format. The two columns on the last page should be of equal length.

### 3.6 References and Citations

Use a numbered list of references at the end of the article, ordered alphabetically by last name of first author, and referenced by numbers in brackets. Your references should be published materials accessible to the public. Internal technical reports may be cited only if they are easily accessible (i.e., you provide the address for obtaining the report within your citation) and may be obtained by any reader for a nominal fee. Proprietary information may not be cited. Private communications should be acknowledged in the main text, not referenced (e.g., “[Borriello, personal communication]”).

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The heading of a section should be in Helvetica or Arial 9-point bold, all in capitals. Sections should *not* be numbered.

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Headings of subsections should be in Helvetica or Arial 9-point bold with initial letters capitalized. For sub-sections and sub-subsections, a word like *the* or *of* is not capitalized unless it is the first word of the heading.

#### 4.1.1 Sub-subsections

Headings for sub-subsections should be in Helvetica or Arial 9-point italic with initial letters capitalized. Standard `\section`, `\subsection`, and `\subsubsection` commands will work fine in this template.

## 5. FIGURES/CAPTIONS

Place figures and tables at the top or bottom of the appropriate column or columns, on the same page as the relevant text (see Figure ??). A figure or table may extend across both columns to a maximum width of 17.78 cm (7 in.).

Captions should be Times New Roman or Times Roman 9-point bold. They should be numbered (e.g., “Table 1” or “Figure ??”), centered (if one line) otherwise justified, and placed

beneath the figure or table. Please note that the words “Figure” and “Table” should be spelled out (e.g., “Figure” rather than “Fig.”) wherever they occur. Figures, like Figure ??, may span columns and all figures should also include alt text for improved accessibility. Papers and notes may use color figures, which are included in the page limit; the figures must be usable when printed in black-and-white in the proceedings.

The paper may be accompanied by a short video figure (we recommend staying within five minutes in length). However, the paper should stand on its own without the video figure, as the video may not be available to everyone who reads the paper.

### 5.1 Inserting Images

When possible, include a vector formatted graphic (i.e. PDF or EPS). When including bitmaps, use an image editing tool to resize the image at the appropriate printing resolution (usually 300 dpi).

## 6. QUOTATIONS

Quotations may be italicized when “*placed inline*”.

Longer quotes, when placed in their own paragraph, need not be italicized or in quotation marks when indented.

## 7. LANGUAGE, STYLE, AND CONTENT

The written and spoken language of SIGCHI is English. Spelling and punctuation may use any dialect of English (e.g., British, Canadian, US, etc.) provided this is done consistently. Hyphenation is optional. To ensure suitability for an international audience, please pay attention to the following:

- Write in a straightforward style.
- Try to avoid long or complex sentence structures.
- Use common and basic vocabulary (e.g., use the word “unusual” rather than the word “arcane”).
- Briefly define or explain all technical terms that may be unfamiliar to readers.
- Explain all acronyms the first time they are used in your text—e.g., “Digital Signal Processing (DSP)”.
- Explain local references (e.g., not everyone knows all city names in a particular country).
- Explain “insider” comments. Ensure that your whole audience understands any reference whose meaning you do not describe (e.g., do not assume that everyone has used a Macintosh or a particular application).
- Explain colloquial language and puns. Understanding phrases like “red herring” may require a local knowledge of English. Humor and irony are difficult to translate.
- Use unambiguous forms for culturally localized concepts, such as times, dates, currencies, and numbers (e.g., “1–5–97” or “5/1/97” may mean 5 January or 1 May, and “seven o’clock” may mean 7:00 am or 19:00). For currencies, indicate equivalences: “Participants were paid ¥ 25,000, or roughly US \$22.”
- Be careful with the use of gender-specific pronouns (he, she) and other gendered words (chairman, manpower, man-months). Use inclusive language that is gender-neutral

(e.g., she or he, they, s/he, chair, staff, staff-hours, person-years). See the *Guidelines for Bias-Free Writing* for further advice and examples regarding gender and other personal attributes. Be particularly aware of considerations around writing about people with disabilities.

- If possible, use the full (extended) alphabetic character set for names of persons, institutions, and places (e.g., Grøn-bæk, Lafrenière, Sánchez, Nguyễn, Universität, Weißenbach, Züllighoven, Århus, etc.). These characters are already included in most versions and variants of Times, Helvetica, and Arial fonts.

## 8. ACCESSIBILITY

The Executive Council of SIGCHI has committed to making SIGCHI conferences more inclusive for researchers, practitioners, and educators with disabilities. As a part of this goal, the all authors are asked to work on improving the accessibility of their submissions. Specifically, we encourage authors to carry out the following five steps:

1. Add alternative text to all figures
2. Mark table headings
3. Add tags to the PDF
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For more information and links to instructions and resources, please see: <http://chi2016.acm.org/accessibility>. The \hyperref package allows you to create well tagged PDF files, please see the preamble of this template for an example.

## 9. PAGE NUMBERING, HEADERS AND FOOTERS

Your final submission should not contain footer or header information at the top or bottom of each page. Specifically, your final submission should not include page numbers. Initial submissions may include page numbers, but these must be removed for camera-ready. Page numbers will be added to the PDF when the proceedings are assembled.

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## 11. CONCLUSION

It is important that you write for the SIGCHI audience. Please read previous years’ proceedings to understand the writing style and conventions that successful authors have used. It is particularly important that you state clearly what you have done, not merely what you plan to do, and explain how your work is different from previously published work, i.e., the unique contribution that your work makes to the field. Please consider what the reader will learn from your submission, and how they will find your work useful. If you write with these

questions in mind, your work is more likely to be successful, both in being accepted into the conference, and in influencing the work of our field.

## 12. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Sample text: We thank all the volunteers, and all publications support and staff, who wrote and provided helpful comments on previous versions of this document. Authors 1, 2, and 3 gratefully acknowledge the grant from NSF (#1234–2012–ABC). *This whole paragraph is just an example.*

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Your references should be published materials accessible to the public. Internal technical reports may be cited only if they are easily accessible and may be obtained by any reader for a nominal fee. Proprietary information may not be cited. Private communications should be acknowledged in the main text, not referenced (e.g., [Golovchinsky, personal communication]). References must be the same font size as other body text. References should be in alphabetical order by last name of first author. Use a numbered list of references at the end of the article, ordered alphabetically by last name of first author, and referenced by numbers in brackets. For papers from conference proceedings, include the title of the paper and the name of the conference. Do not include the location of the conference or the exact date; do include the page numbers if available.

Citing something[1]. Citing something else.[2]

## REFERENCES

1. Epic Games Inc. The Unreal Engine.  
<https://www.unrealengine.com/en-US>, 2022.
2. J. G. Smith and H. K. Weston. Nothing particular in this year’s history. *J. Geophys. Res.*, 2:14–15, 1954.