

Student-Friendly Engineering Notebook Rubric



- Exemplary ★★★★★ We did this all the time and very well.
- Proficient ★★★ We did this most of the time.
- Developing ★★ We did this sometimes but need more details
- Beginning ★ We rarely did this or forgot to include it.

Is our notebook easy to follow? (15%) <i>Ask Yourself: Can someone quickly find information? Are pages in order? Did we write the date on our entries?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Team information	Everything is included and easy to find	Most information included	Some information	Missing
Table of contents	Completely updated	Mostly updated	Started but not updated	Missing
Dates and page numbers	Every page is dated and numbered	Usually included	Sometimes included	Rarely included
Organization	Very neat and professional	Easy to follow	Somewhat organized	Hard to understand
Pages in order	Easy to follow in date order or by section	Mostly in date order or by section	Some pages missing, out of order, or sections unclear	Hard to follow
Did we show our engineering design process for our robot and coding projects? (25%) <i>Ask Yourself: Did we explain why we made choices? Did we try more than one idea? Did we make improvements?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Identifying the Problem	Clearly defines the problem	Most parts identified	Basic goals listed	Minimal
Brainstorming ideas	Lots of ideas with comparisons	Several ideas	Some ideas	Few ideas
Choosing a design	Decisions are clearly supported	Good explanations	Some reasons	No reason given
Building prototypes	Many improvements and versions	Several prototypes	Some examples	Few examples
Improving our ideas	Continuous improvements based on learning	Clear improvements	Some changes	Little evidence
Did we explain our robot and code designs? (20%) <i>Ask Yourself: Could another team build our project from our notebook? Did we label our drawings? Did we explain how things work?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Sketches and drawings	Excellent labeled drawings	Detailed sketches	Basic sketches	Few or none
Pictures and notes about builds and coding project	Lots of helpful photos and notes of the design process	Good documentation	Some included	Very few
Measurements and calculations	Used often to help make decisions	Several	A few	None
Technical explanations	Excellent explanations that teach others	Clear explanations	Some explanations	Very little detail
Use evidence	Strong data and analysis	Data supports choices	Limited evidence	Unsupported claims

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Did we test and improve our robot and coding projects? (15%) <i>Ask Yourself: Did we write down what happened? Did we learn from our mistakes? Did testing help us improve?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Testing	Lots of well-planned testing	Regular testing	Some testing	Rarely tested
Recording results	Excellent data and observations	Good records	Some notes	Few notes
Learning from tests	Used results to make better designs	Good explanations	Some reflection	Little reflection
Improvements	Many improvements based on evidence	Several improvements	Some changes	Few changes
Did we work together in an organized way? (10%) <i>Ask Yourself: Did everyone contribute? Did we keep track of what had to be done? Did we make and follow our plans?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Team roles	Roles and responsibilities are tracked	Roles are clear	Some roles listed	Not explained
Meeting notes	Excellent records of meetings	Regular notes	Some notes	Few notes
Planning and following through	Excellent planning, goal setting, and follow-through	Good planning with some follow-through	Some planning with irregular follow-through	Little planning and no follow-through
Did we reflect and learn? (10%) <i>Ask Yourself: What worked? What didn't work? What will we do differently next time?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Reflecting on practice and competition successes and failures	Includes both successes and failures and documents what went right/wrong and why, and what they learned	Often includes detailed reflections of successes or failures	Sometimes includes reflections, but they are not detailed	Includes no reflections or very basic reflections
Planning next steps	Thoughtful goals and plans	Clear next steps	Some ideas	Few ideas
Did we tell our team's story? (5%) <i>Ask Yourself: Can someone read our notebook and understand our whole journey? Does it show how we improved over time?</i>				
Look For	Exemplary ★★★★★	Proficient ★★★	Developing ★★	Beginning ★
Complete story of the season	Complete story from beginning to end	Mostly complete	Some gaps	Many gaps
Growth and improvement	Amazing story of learning and improvement	Clear growth	Some growth shown	Hard to see

Note: This is the Student-Friendly edition of the Engineering Notebook Rubric.
It is a teaching tool designed to help students prepare their notebook for judging.
It is **not** the official rubric that judges will use when scoring an engineering notebook.