Basic Definitions

**Open Access**

Open Access is “unrestricted, online access to peer reviewed and published scholarly research papers.”

**Gold Open Access**

Gold OA is where a paper is published immediately as OA in an online journal and is therefore stored in the publisher’s system. To cover the costs of gold OA, publishers normally charge a fee to the author or their institution, known as the **Article Processing Charge (APC)**. The version of the paper released as gold OA is the version of record: i.e. the publisher’s final (formatted) version. Gold does not mean ‘gold standard’ or that it is ‘better’ than Green.

**Green Open Access**

Green OA is where a paper is stored in an online open repository other than the publisher’s system. This can be an institutional repository, or one designated by the funder of the research e.g. Europe PubMed Central. Note: The version of the paper released as green OA is normally the accepted manuscript: i.e. the paper as accepted for publication, including all changes resulting from peer review, but not necessarily incorporating the publisher’s formatting or layout. Some publishers only permit green OA after an **embargo period**. The embargo period starts from the date of publication.

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Useful Links

Open Access Oxford: openaccess.ox.ac.uk
Oxford Research Archive: ora.ox.ac.uk
Symplectic Elements: researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk/reporting/symplectic
ORCID: libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/orcid
Publisher Agreements: http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/publisher-deals
Symplectic deposit guidance: PDF/Video: openaccess.ox.ac.uk/home-2/act-on-acceptance

Funder Requirements

Wellcome: openaccess.ox.ac.uk/wellcome
UKRI/UKRC: http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/ukri
Other Funders: http://openaccess.ox.ac.uk/funders-overview

Tools

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Journal Checker Tool: journalcheckertool.org
Lists of pre-print repositories: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_preprint_repositories oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Disciplinary_repositories