

What Is Preregistration, Anyway?

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The Editors of *Psychological Science* have been encouraging research psychologists to preregister their research plans before they begin collecting data (or, at least, before they see their data).

But what does preregistration actually entail?

As *Psychological Science* Editor in Chief D. Stephen Lindsay explains, it involves researchers specifying, in as much detail as they can, their plans for a study (number and nature of subjects, stimulus materials, procedures, measures, rules for excluding data, plans for data analysis, predictions/hypotheses, etc.) and posting those plans in a time-stamped, locked file in an online repository.

[In a new statement](#) in the *Psychological Science* submissions guidelines, Lindsay provides a comprehensive explanation of preregistration, and how the journal is recognizing authors who follow this open-science practice.