

ARMOR's Writing Guide

Since 1888, *ARMOR* has provided a forum for the open exchange of ideas on mounted warfighting. The publication focuses on concepts, doctrine, and warfighting at the tactical and operational levels of war and supports the education, training, doctrine development, and integration missions of the Armor and Cavalry Forces, and the U.S. Army Armor School at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

ARMOR is printed bimonthly by the Chief of Armor and is devoted to the mounted soldier and the history of mounted warfare. *ARMOR* is distributed to thousands of readers and is widely quoted and reprinted in other publications throughout the world and is a readily available reference at most military and civilian university libraries and research agencies.

Subjects

ARMOR's goal is to stimulate thought, professional growth and development in areas important to the Armor and Cavalry forces. *ARMOR* covers a variety of subjects related to mounted warfighting, to include the tactical, operational, and strategic levels of war; organization and doctrine; logistics; weapons and equipment; foreign military forces; leadership and management; and military history.

Historical articles should draw parallels or illustrate lessons that will be useful today and tomorrow. Articles intended to coincide with an event or anniversary should be submitted at least 6 months before the publication issue. *ARMOR* makes no acceptance decisions until the completed manuscript has been reviewed. The journal seeks articles that will make our readers think, generate discussion, and foster the exchange of ideas.

Style

ARMOR prefers articles using concise and direct language and written in active voice with precision and clarity. The article's theme should flow from specific to general, and its introduction should catch the reader's interest and generally state the main idea. The body should logically develop the main points, and the ending should conclude logically. We edit all manuscripts to conform to accepted grammatical standards and *ARMOR's* unique style. However, manuscripts needing substantive changes or documentation are returned to authors for revision. Many manuscripts, especially those written to meet academic requirements, can be improved by eliminating meaningless, obscure or repetitive words and phrases. Always spell out first references and acronyms and use full names and titles. Remember, our readers do not know the subject material as well as you. Be your own editor, and improve your chances of acceptance. Concentrate on clearly communicating your ideas to the reader.

Graphics

Complex graphics such as Powerpoint slides do not translate well to publication because of shading. We seldom use full-size graphics and illustrations and when reduced, shading becomes blotchy. Keep graphics as simple as possible. It is easier for us to add desired shading during the publication process than to modify your efforts. We do accept electronic graphics and photo files in most formats, but prefer high-quality (300 dpi) scans in tagged image format (TIF).

Specifics

We assume all submitted manuscripts are original, have not been published elsewhere and are not being considered by any other periodical for publication. Under our publication agreement, *ARMOR* maintains first publication rights. With the exception of time-sensitive articles, the normal time from acceptance to publication is 6 to 8 months.

As an official Army publication, *ARMOR* is not copyrighted. Individual author copyright can be obtained, however, by special arrangement. Additionally, acceptance by *ARMOR* gives the Armor School the right to reproduce and use the article for training.

Manuscript submissions should follow these guidelines:

Send a clean, double-spaced, typewritten manuscript with your name, approximate word length and title at the top of page one. Also include a copy of your manuscript on an IBM-compatible 3.5-inch computer disk. Our standard word processing format is Microsoft Word, but conversion programs allow us to accommodate most popular formats. We also accept articles via e-mail at the address below.

- Manuscript length for feature articles is 3,000 to 3,500 words, or 15 to 18 typed, double-spaced pages. Article lengths are adjusted based on available space in a given issue. *ARMOR* reserves the right to edit submitted manuscripts.
- Authors are responsible for their manuscript's accuracy and source documentation. Enclose all quoted materials in quotation marks and use endnote citations in the following format:
 1. Robert A. Dougherty, et al., *Warfare in the Western World: Volume II*, D.C. Heath and Company, Lexington, MA, 1996, p. 913.
 2. Ibid., pp. 969-70.
 3. CPT Michael R. Evans, "Thinking Outside the Maneuver Box," *ARMOR*, September-October 2002, p. 17.
- Enclose a brief, personal biography including your significant positions or assignments and civilian and military education to establish your knowledge and credibility as a subject-matter expert.
- If you have original photographs, artwork or graphics that will enhance the quality and content of your article, please send them with your manuscript. If you do not have artwork but know where it can be obtained, please advise us.

Rewards

Budget constraints do not allow *ARMOR* to pay contributors for articles. Authors receive extra copies of the issue in which their article is published, a certificate from the Chief of Armor expressing his appreciation, and a free 1-year subscription to *ARMOR* from the U.S. Armor Association.

Submissions

Most articles are submitted as e-mail attachments. You can also mail your submission to:

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U.S. Army Armor Center
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Summing Up

If you are interested in a particular subject, chances are other mounted warriors are as well. Pick a subject, research it thoroughly, and think your ideas through. Write naturally and with enthusiasm; do not adopt a writing style foreign to your own way of thinking and speaking. To improve your writing, read good literature. Be your own best critic. Revise and rewrite, but retain wit, animation and personal touches. Good writing is hard work, but the payback is that it is noticed, and the feeling of accomplishment is as great as in any field.