

Generally, citations follow the below format:

Contributors. (Date). *Title* (Secondary Contributors). Publication Information.

Contributor Information and Titles

The main contributors of the source, normally the author, are placed before the title. If there is more than one author, arrange the authors in the same order found in the source. Use the first and middle name initials and the entire last name. Inverse all names before the title.

| | |
|---------------|---|
| One author | Smith, J. K. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| Two authors | Smith, J. K., & Sampson, T. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| Three authors | Smith, J. K., Sampson, T., & Hubbard, A. J. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| Eight or more | Smith, J. K., Sampson, T., Hubbard, A. J., Anderson, J., Thompson, T., Silva, P.,...Bhatia, N. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |

Sometimes the main contributor is not an author, but another contributor type, such as an editor for a book or conductor for a musical piece. In this instance, follow the contributor by an abbreviation of the contributor type (i.e. Ed. or Cond.). If plural, then change the abbreviation accordingly.

| | |
|---------------|--|
| One editor | Smith, J. K. (Ed.). (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| Two editors | Smith, J. K., & Sampson, T. (Eds.). (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| One conductor | Smith, J. K. (Cond). (Date). <i>Title</i> . |

Many sources have secondary contributors - individuals who added to the work outside the main contributors. This can include editors and translators for books, and producers and screenplay writers for movies. Place secondary contributors after the title in parenthesis. List them in first initial, middle initial, last name format and follow this by the contributor type abbreviation. Separate different contributor types by semicolons.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| One editor | Smith, J. (Date). <i>Title</i> (B. McCoy, Ed.). |
| Two editors | Smith, J. (Date). <i>Title</i> (B. McCoy & T. Thomas, Eds.). |
| One editor, two translators | Smith, J. (Date). <i>Title</i> (B. McCoy, Ed.; B. Smith & P. R. Silva, Trans.). |

Some sources may have corporate or group authors. Write these organizations where you would write the author. If the organization is also the publisher of the source, write "Author" instead of repeating the publisher name.

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Corporate author | American Psychological Association. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |
| Government author | Illinois Department of Industrial Relations. (Date). <i>Title</i> . |

Sometimes you will come across sources with no contributor information. In this instance, do not write the date first. Instead, write the name of the title and then the date, then followed by the remaining appropriate bibliographic data.

***Webster's dictionary*. (1995). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.**

Some sources are found within other sources, such as a chapter in a book, or an article in a periodical. These rules apply both to the contributors of the chapter and book, or to the article. Note when citing a chapter, the book contributors are preceded by “In.”

Chapter author and translator, and book editor and translator Smith, J. (Date). Chapter title (B. McCoy, Trans.). In R. Engels (Ed.) & S. Simpson (Trans.), *Title*.

Author and translator of an article Smith, J. (Date). Article title (B. McCoy, Trans.). *Periodical Title*.

Title Rules

Article titles and works within larger works, such as chapters, as well as informally published material are not italicized. Main titles, such as those for books and journals, are italicized. Generally, capitalize the first letter of the first word of the title or any subtitles, and the first letter of any proper nouns. For titles of periodicals, such as journals and newspapers, capitalize every principal word.

Publication Information

After the contributor information and title comes the publication information. Below are different publication information templates.

Book Contributor. (Date). *Title*. City of Publication: Publisher.

Journal Contributor. (Date). Article title. *Title*, *Volume*(Issue), Page Numbers.

Magazine Contributor. (Date). Article title. *Title*, *Volume*, Page Numbers.

Newspaper Contributor. (Date). Article title. *Title*, Page Numbers.

Include as much detail regarding the date as possible. See the below examples: (2002, February 12), (2002, February), (2002, February-March), (2002).

If there is no date, use “n.d” instead, which means “no date.”

For any information unavailable, exclude the data point, and adjust the punctuation accordingly. EasyBib will properly format your citation based on the information entered.

Note that page numbers for chapters of books and newspapers are preceded by “p.” or “pp.” [plural], while those of magazines and journals are only written with numbers.

Additional information

For less conventional source types, you can add descriptions about the source after the title in brackets immediately after the title. For example, you can add “[Brochure]” after the title of a brochure (separated by a space) to clarify what type of source you are citing.

When citing non-periodical sources, advanced information such as the edition, series, and page information comes before the publication information and after the title grouped in the same parenthesis. See the fictional example below:

Smith, J. (2002). *Power* (5th ed., Vol. 12, Ser. 3) (T. Riley, Ed.). New York: Random.

Web Sources See our web resources guides to learn how to properly cite sources found online.

YOU CAN ALSO AUTOMATICALLY CITE YOUR SOURCES FOR FREE AT WWW.EASYBIB.COM

Sources Published Directly Online

Website names: Sources published directly online have no in print originals, and therefore, it is important to include online publication information. With APA 6, this only means the URL. The new APA guidelines suggest that a website name is unnecessary, given that it can be deduced from the URL or by visiting the site.

URLs: Unlike APA 5, where you would often include the exact URL, APA 6 recommends to only cite the homepage URL, and only the exact URL if the page is not properly indexed or easy to find from the homepage. For blog posts, user contributed content, and discussion forums, APA 6 recommends to include the exact URL.

Date retrieved: Unlike APA 5 where the date of retrieval is included in every online citation, APA 6 recommends to include it only if the source material may change over time. Also keep in mind that you can use “Available from” instead of “Retrieved from” when the URL leads to information on how to obtain the cited material rather than to the material itself.

DOIs: If an article has a digital object identifier (DOI) number, you need only the DOI number, and no URL or retrieval date.

Citing an article from an online only resource

Freidland, L. (2008, September 22). Top 10 natural and wildlife adventure travel trips. Retrieved from <http://adventuretravel.about.com>

Citing an entire website with no identifiable electronic publication date

EasyBib.com. (n.d.). Retrieved June 22, 2009, from <http://www.easybib.com>

Citing an article from an online only news source

Chen, S. (2009, May 7). Growing up is hard with mom in prison. Retrieved <http://www.cnn.com>

Citing an article from an online newspaper

Shorto, R. (2009, April 29). Going Dutch. *The New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com>

Note that when citing online sources in APA, generally follow the same structure of its in print equivalent, and then follow this information with the date of access and the URL.

Citing an online only journal

Glotzer, R., & Federlein, A. (2007). Miles that bind: Commuter marriage and family strength. *Michigan Family Review*, 12, 7-31. Retrieved June 22, 2009, from <http://quod.lib.umich.edu/cgi/t/text/textidx?c=mfr;cc=mfr;q1=Miles%20that%20Bind;rgn=main;view=text;idno=4919087.0012.102>

**Note the above example has a poorly indexed URL and the material may change over time.*

Citing a journal article with a digital object identifier

Oakley, R. (2004). How the mind hurts and heals the body. *American Psychologist*, 12(1), 25-47. doi: 10.1037/0003-066X.59.1.29

If you are citing an online only book, the electronic information replaces the publication information

Online-only book

Eckel, B. (n.d.). *Thinking in java* (3rd ed.). Retrieved from <http://www.bruceeckel.com>

Sources Published Indirectly Online

As opposed to some sources published directly online (by a website), other sources may be originally in print, or in another medium, and found online. Cite these sources as you would in their original form, and then add the relevant web information (date accessed and URL).

Citing a book originally in print found online

Catton, B. (2005). *The Civil War*. Boston: Houghton Mifflin. Retrieved from <http://www.books.google.com>

Citing a newsletter found online with no page information

Puzzanchera, C. (2009, April). Juvenile arrests 2007. *Juvenile Justice Bulletin*. Retrieved from <http://www.ncjrs.gov>

Citing a video found online

West, K. (2009). *Amazing* [Online Video]. Roc-A-Fella Records. Retrieved from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=at40QvNlxSw>

*Note that because this from a website with user generated content, the exact URL is included, instead of the homepage.

Citing a painting viewed online

Picasso, P. (1921). *Three musicians* [Painting found in Modern Art Museum, New York]. Retrieved from <http://www.artquotes.net>

Citing a blog post

Schonfeld, E. (2009, September 13). Shutterfly buys Tiny Pictures for a tiny price. Retrieved from <http://www.techcrunch.com>

*Note that because blog posts are informally published, do not italicize the article titles.

Sources found in online databases typically have been published elsewhere. Include as much as the original publication information as possible, and the database name.

Citing an originally in print journal article found in a database

Ahn, H., & Kim, K. (2008). Using genetic algorithms to optimize nearest neighbors for data mining. *Annals of Operations Research*, 263(1), 5-18. Retrieved from Academic Search Premier

YOU CAN ALSO AUTOMATICALLY CITE YOUR SOURCES FOR FREE AT WWW.EASYBIB.COM

Book

APA Last, F. M. (Year Published). *Book*. City Published: Publisher.

Ex: Carley, M. J. (1999). *1939: The alliance that never was and the coming of World War II*. Chicago: Ivan R. Dee.

Chapter/Anthology

APA Last, F. M. (Year Published). Section Title. In ^{Editor} F. M. Last (Ed.), *Book/Anthology* ^{Ex: 3rd ed.} (Edition). City Published: Publisher

Ex: Melville, H. (1989). Hawthorne and his mosses. In N. Baym (Ed.), *The Norton anthology of American literature* (3rd ed.). New York: W.W. Norton & Company.

Magazine

APA Last, F. M. (Year, Month Day). Article. *Magazine*, ^{Ex: 1-5 or 15.} Page(s).

Ex: Pressman, A. (2008, September 29). Bottom fishing in rough waters. *BusinessWeek*, 27.

Newspaper

APA Last, F. M. (Year, Month Day). Article. *Newspaper*, ^{Ex: p. 12 or pp. 1-5} Pages(s).

Ex: Campoy, A. (2008, September 23). Gasoline surges in southeast after Ike. *The Wall Street Journal*, p. A14.

Journal

APA ^{Two Authors} Last, F. M., & Last, F. M. (Year). Article. *Journal Name*, ^{Ex: 13} Volume, ^{Ex: 12 or 5-9} Pages(s).

Ex: Bharadwaj, P., & Ward, K. T. (2008). Ethical considerations of patients with pacemakers. *American Family Physician*, 78, 398-399.

Website

APA Last, F. M. (^{Date electronically published} Year, Month Day). Article. Retrieved ^{Date Accessed} Month Day, Year, from URL

Ex: Friedland, L. (2008, September 22). Top 10 natural and wildlife adventure travel trips. Retrieved from <http://adventuretravel.about.com>

**Include exact URL when not properly indexed or easy to find. Include retrieval date if source information may change over time.*

Online Database (Journal)

APA Last, F. M. (Year). Article. *Journal*, ^{Ex: 12.3} Volume(Issue), ^{Ex: 12 or 5-9} Pages. Retrieved Month Day, Year, from Database.

Ex: Ahn, H., & Kim, K. (2008). Using genetic algorithms to optimize nearest neighbors for data mining. *Annals of Operations Research*, 263(1), 5-18. Retrieved from the Academic Search Premier database.

**Include retrieval date if source information may change over time.*

Why we use parenthetical / in-text citations

APA requires the use of in-text or parenthetical citations. We use this to help the reader identify which ideas and facts in the paper come from the particular sources in the reference list.

Author date system

APA uses the author-date system, or the last name of the author and the year published, to help identify sources in the reference list. Place these citations after the information, whether in the middle or at the end of a sentence. If the author or the date is already included in the sentence, then exclude it from the parenthetical citation.

Basic Examples

When no author or date is mentioned in the sentence:

In a recent study in molecular biology (Smith, 2000)

When the author is mentioned in the sentence:

In Smith's (2000) study in molecular biology

When both the date and the author are mentioned in the sentence, do not use parenthetical citations:

In Smith's 2000 study molecular biology

Multiple Authors

If there are three or less authors in a source, always cite all these authors when referencing their work:

Craine and Poole (2002) show that...

The scores are indeed correlated with education (Craine & Poole, 2002)

It can be demonstrated (Jarvis, Jenkins, & James, 1994)

If there are more than three, four, or five authors, first cite all the authors in the parenthetical citation, then for following references, cite the first author followed by “et al.” Include the year if its the first reference to the citation in the paragraph.

Prince, Smith, Wilson, and Cooper (1999) found ...

Prince et al. (1999)

If there are six or more authors, cite the first author followed by “et al.” and the year for all citations.

Looking at temperature fluctuations (Grossman et al., 2005)

In the instance where two references with more than six authors reduce to the same form (same first authors), cite enough authors as necessary, then followed by “et al.” to distinguish the two references.

Jesrani, Nangia, Patel, Dhand, Averin, and Ruprarelia (2004)

Jesrani, Nangia, Relan, Bhatia, Basu, and Somashekar (2005)

Jesrani, Nangia, Patel, et al. (2004)

Jesrani, Nangia, Relan, et al. (2005)

Group Authors

Cite a group author (corporations, associations, government agencies, and universities) like you would an author in an in-text citation. If you cite the same group author numerous times, you may add an abbreviation in brackets in the first citation, and later reference that group by the abbreviation.

As demonstrated by studies (American Medical Association [AMA], 1999)

Its proven true in tests (AMA, 1999)

No Author

When there is no author, cite the first few words of what appears in the reference list entry (enough to allow the user to identify the source). If citing the title of an article, chapter, or web page place it in double quotes. If citing a periodical, brochure, book, or report, italicize the title.

It was first discovered in the 19th century (*Historical Presence*, 1985)

It demonstrates (“Upgraded Protons,” 2002)

Authors with the same last name

If two references in your paper have different authors with the same last name, include their initials along with their surname in the body of your paper or in the in-text citation.

P. J. Johnson and Smith’s study (2000) and J. N. Johnson (2001) found

It can produce mild disruption (J. N. Johnson, 2001)

Multiple works in the same parenthetical citation

When citing numerous works by the same author in the same sentence, arrange by the years of publication.

Previous studies (Jesper, 1995, 1998, 2000)

Works by the same author with the same publication date should be distinguished by suffixes.

Numerous studies (Smith, 2000a, 2000b)

When citing two authors in the same in-text citation, order them alphabetically by their last name, and separate them by a semicolon.

Various studies (Ryder, 2000; Sanders, 2006)

Old and classic works

Write “n.d.” for sources with no date information where the year would normally be cited. Oftentimes old and classic works will not have date information - when the date information is inapplicable, cite the year the source was translated preceded by “trans.” or the year of the version followed by “Version.”

(Plato, n.d.)

(Sophocles, trans. 1984)

Specific parts or sections

Use a page, chapter, or whatever identifier necessary to help the reader locate the specific part of the source. When quoting a source, always provide page numbers.

(Rathers, 1992, p. 12)

(Cooper, 1999, pp. 5-8)

(Smith & Wollensky, 1994, Chapter 4)

When citing an electronic source there may not be page numbers, in which case cite by paragraph number. If there are no labeled page or paragraph numbers, cite the section and the number of the paragraph following it.

(Relan, 2000, para. 43)

(Kalawadia, 2002, Introduction section, para. 2)

Personal communications

Emails, letters, interviews, memos and the like are personal communications which do not have recoverable data. For this reason, we only cite such items as in-text citations, and not in the reference list. Cite the initials and the last name, the description of the communication, and the date of the interaction.

(M. T. Horton, personal communication, May 17, 2004)

As discussed by J.P Smith (telephone interview, December 13, 2008)

Basic examples

In a recent study in molecular biology (Smith, 2000)

In Smith's (2000) study in molecular biology

Multiple authors

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Prince et al. (1999)

Group authors

As demonstrated by studies (American Medical Association [AMA], 1999)

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