Using APA Format

Creating a reference page using the American Psychological Association guidelines

At the end of a research paper, you need to provide a list of the works you’ve consulted. This should be done on a separate page with References centered at the top, and the citations listed below in alphabetical order and with a hanging indent. The *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.) provides citation examples covering a wide variety of potential sources. Below are examples for some of the most commonly cited sources. If your particular source is not listed below, or for information on other aspects of writing papers, visit the library and check the *Publication Manual*, consult the APA Style website ([http://www.apastyle.org](http://www.apastyle.org)), the APA Style blog ([http://blog.apastyle.org/](http://blog.apastyle.org/)), or Purdue’s OWL website ([https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/](https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/10/)). You can also contact the Writing Center at (651) 793-1460 or centerfolk@metrostate.edu.

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**Journal article, any format, one author, with DOI**


**Note:** DOI stands for Digital Object Identifier, a unique number for a document that is usually available on the document’s first page or in the database record. It can also sometimes be found via [http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/](http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/)

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**Journal article from a website**


**Note:** No retrieval date is necessary for content that is unlikely to be changed or updated, like a journal article. When in doubt, use a retrieval date.

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**Magazine article from website**


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**Journal article, print format, two authors, no DOI**


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**NOTE:** For more than seven authors, list the first six, followed by three ellipsis dots and the last author’s name. **NOTE:** Even when you retrieve an article from a database, APA 6th ed. asks you to use the journal website URL.

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**More information on citing articles without DOIs**

The *APA manual 6th edition* calls for the citing of the journal’s official website even if you have retrieved the article from a database. Because it can be difficult to find the journal’s website, here are several alternate ways of citing an article, without DOI, from a database. These examples are not strictly APA style, but are modeled on APA style.

**Using the name of the database**


**Using the URL for the database**


**If the article is in PDF form, omitting online retrieval information altogether**


**Book, organization as author and publisher**


**An electronic book**

A book or article with no author or editor named


Or


**NOTE:** For parenthetical citations of sources with no author named, use a shortened version of the title instead of an author's name. Use quotation marks and italics as appropriate. For example, parenthetical citations of the two sources above would appear as follows: (*Merriam-Webster's*, 1993) and ("New Drug," 1993).

An article or chapter in a book


A translated and/or a republished work


**NOTE:** When you cite this work in text, it should appear with both dates: Laplace (1814/1951).

Work discussed in a secondary source


**NOTE:** Give the secondary source in the references list; in the text, name the original work, and give a citation for the secondary source. For example, if Seidenberg and McClelland's work is cited in Coltheart et al. and you did not read the original work, list the Coltheart et al. reference in the References. In the text, use the following citation: In Seidenberg and McClelland's study (as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993) . . .

A review of a book, film, television program, etc.

An entry in an encyclopedia


An entry in an online encyclopedia


An online dictionary


A brochure


A government publication


An online government publication


A company SWOT analysis

A company profile


Plain ol’ website


http://www.fbi.gov/hq/cid/civilrights/slavery.htm

Wiki

Psychometrics. (n.d.). Retrieved April 21, 2009, from The Psychology Wiki:

http://www.psychology.wikia.com/wiki/Psychometrics/

A motion picture, DVD, or video tape


United States: Twentieth-century Fox.

NOTE: Change the format designation as appropriate, for example, [DVD].

A television broadcast


A single episode of a television series, available online

Whedon, J. (Writer & Director). (1997, September 15). When she was bad [Television series episode].


Audio podcast


Podcast retrieved from http://www.shrinkrapradio.com/
Video weblog post


Blog post


*NOTE: If only the screen name is available for the author, then use the screen name; however, if the author provides a real name, use their real name instead.*

A music recording


Can’t find your document type here?

Models for creating a citation


Title if no author. (date). Retrieved February 29, 2008, from http://irgoodwebsite.net/

Author. (date). Title of document that does not seem part of something larger [Format-if-useful]. Retrieved from URL or Database Name.

Author. (date). *Title of standalone major work*. Retrieved from http://www.greatu.edu/booksplace/

**Note: These models are not provided by the APA Manual 6th edition, but have been created by Metro State librarians to help you format citations for documents and files that the manual does not explicitly address.**