APA Documentation

IMPORTANT: See page 5 for APA Factoids and help in formatting the list of references. See the last page for a sample. If you need citations for items that are not listed in this guide sheet, contact the librarians.

Books

Do not use the state after the city when the state is given as part of the publisher, as shown in the first example. See page 5 for the cities that do not have a state listed as part of the location.

Single Author


Two Authors


Three to Six Authors


More Than Six Authors


Second or Later Edition


Corporate Author and the Same Corporation as Publisher


Edited Book


Chapter in Anthology or Compilation with the author of the chapter given Explanation of citation:

Author of Chapter (date of chapter or if none given, date of the book). Title of chapter. In Editor(s)’ name(s) (Ed.), or (Eds.), of the book, Title of the book in italics (pages of the entire chapter). City, State: Publisher.


Separately Titled Volume in a Multivolume Work

Magazine Articles

Signed (An author was indicated.)
In the following example, the volume number, in italics, is 26. No issue number is listed.

Unsigned (Does not have an author listed)
In the following example, the volume number, in italics, is 62. No issue number is listed.

Journal Articles

Journal Paginated by Issue (The numbering of pages starts over with each issue.)
In the following example, 181 is the volume and 3 is the issue. The volume is in italics, but the issue is not.

Journal with Continuous Pagination (The numbering of pages continues from issue to issue.)
In the following example, 90, in italics, is the volume and no issue number is listed.

Online Service (EBSCOhost)
If you print an article in PDF format, you can use one of the citation examples above.
In the following example, (2000, February 1) is the date of the article and October 1, 2000, is the date you accessed the article.
Retrieved October 1, 2000, from EBSCOhost database.

Newspapers

Signed Article (An author is listed, usually under the headline.)

Unsigned Editorial (No editor is listed. These are NOT letters to the editor.)

Signed Editorial (The editor is indicated.)

Encyclopedias

Signed Article (An author is listed, usually at the end of the article.)

Unsigned Article (No author is listed.)
Internet Sources
Divide a URL after a slash or before a period.
When you have used links from a Home Page to get to the wanted site, use the URL of the Home Page.

Without an author or date

Multipage Document (Not an Article from a Magazine or Journal)

Based on a Print Source

Brochure

Government Publications

Personal Interviews, Letters or E-Mails
From the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association:
Personal communications may be letters, memos, some electronic communications (e.g. e-mail or messages from nonarchived discussion groups or electronic bulletin boards), personal interviews, telephone conversations and the like. Because they do not provide recoverable data, personal communications are not included in the reference list. Cite personal communications in text only. Give the initials as well as the surname of the communicator, and provide as exact a date as possible:

T. K. Lutes (personal communication, April 18, 2001)

(V. G. Nguyen, personal communication, September 28, 1998)

Television Programs

Motion Pictures
Literary Criticism

Magazine Article cited

Book cited

In-Text Documentation for APA

- The quotation mark comes before the documentation.
- The punctuation at the end of the sentence comes after the documentation.
- If the documentation follows a BLOCK QUOTATION, place the punctuation before the documentation.
- All direct quotations need a specific part of the source documented.

One Work by One Author

One Work by Two Authors
(Always use both names in all references.)
First citation in text: Andrews and Curtis (1998) found
Subsequent citation in text: Andrews and Curtis (1998) studied
“It was found in 1996” (Andrews & Curtis, 1998, p. 57).
Omit year from subsequent citations after first citation within a paragraph:
Andrews and Curtis summarized the study

One Work by Three, Four, or Five Authors
First citation in text: Anderson, Maple, Bowman, and Green (1996) referred to
Subsequent first citation per paragraph: Anderson et al. (1996) found
Omit year from subsequent citations after first citation within a paragraph:
Anderson et al. showed

For six or more authors:
First citation in text: Green et al. (1956) stated
Subsequent first citation per paragraph: Green et al. (1956) found
Omit year from subsequent citations after first citation within a paragraph:
Green et al. showed

Book: Corporate Author
First citation in text: (American Association of Cereal Chemists [AACC], 1998).
Subsequent citation in text: (AACC, 1998).

Specific Parts of a Source
“There were animals everywhere” (Stivens, 1998, p. 51).
Interview

“I was stationed at Pearl Harbor” (J. Rivera, personal communication, March 24, 2000).

On-line Reference

“The people showed no emotion” (Johnson, 1999, paragraph 23).

Electronic Sources

(Smith & Wesson, 2000, p. 42)

(Heinz, 2002, chap. 3)

For those that do not provide page numbers, use the ¶ symbol or the abbreviation para. followed by the paragraph number, if available. If neither paragraph nor page numbers are visible, cite the heading and the number of the paragraph following it:

(Smith, 2000, ¶ 5)

(Jones, 2002, Conclusion section, para. 1)

If no author is given, use a shortened form of the title, including the first word listed in the list of references, in place of the author’s name. Use n.d. if no date is given.

(Super, n.d., ¶ 5)

APA Factoids

If there is no date listed, use: (n.d.). If there is no author listed, start with the article title followed by the date.

If the state is given in the publisher’s name, do not include it in the location:
   East Lansing: University of Michigan Press

Shorten publisher names. For Harcourt Brace, use: Harcourt
Keep the word: Press. Keep the word: Books.
Eliminate other words that do not identify the publisher, such as Inc. or Publishers.

SEE THE SAMPLE ON THE NEXT PAGE. The reference list should be on a separate sheet of paper with one-inch margins. The word, References, is centered. Do not bold any information. The font and its size should be the same throughout the list and the same as the text of the paper, usually size 12. The entire list is double-spaced (one line in between each line of print). Do not put extra spaces between the citations. The second and subsequent lines should be indented. Alphabetize the citations in one list, either by the title or the name of the author or editor. In the sample on the next page, the title, The little known facts about America: From the beginning, comes before the word, Mayflower, because the word, The, is ignored in alphabetizing. The words, A and An at the beginning of a title, are ignored, too.

The following locations are listed without a state abbreviation or country:

Baltimore  San Francisco  Paris
Boston    Amsterdam  Rome
Chicago  Jerusalem  Stockholm
Los Angeles  London  Tokyo
New York     Milan  Vienna
Philadelphia  Moscow

Updated November 8, 2005 by Genny Yarne
References

