Sample Citations for Citing Print & Electronic Resources

APA 6th edition (American Psychological Assn)

The APA style uses both parenthetical citations and a "References" section at the end of the paper. The first part of this guide shows the format for the parenthetical citation and the rest of the guide shows how to format citations for the References part of a paper.

What is citing in text or Parenthetical citation?

This approach has the writer reference an article or book within the text of the paper. The full bibliographic reference must also appear at the end of the paper. To cite a specific part of a source within the text of a paper or manuscript, indicate the page, chapter, figure, table, or equation at the appropriate point in the text.

Example: VandenBos (2001) measured his student’s retention rate ...
Example: In a recent study of retention rates (VandenBos, 2001) a new phenomenon was noted...
Example: (Callis & Palmer, 1991, p. 332)
Example: (McNeir, 1999, chap. 3)
Example: "Research by Tetlock, Skitka and Boettger (1989) indicates that individuals tailor their communication to guide the audience."1

Parenthetical reference when there is no author -- In the text of your paper, use a few words of the title, or the whole title if it is short, in place of an author name in the citation:

Example: One meaning of the word “capital” is accumulated wealth or property.(Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary, 1993).

How to Cite Internet & Electronic Resources for the “References” List

Aggregated databases (library subscription databases)

When referencing material obtained by searching a library subscription database, follow the format appropriate to the work retrieved and add a retrieval statement that gives the date of retrieval and the proper name of the database. An item or accession number also may be provided but is not required. If you wish to include this number, put it in parentheses at the end of the retrieval statement.”
Models for Citing Electronic Resources

E-Journal Article from a library database [198]

When there is no DOI [199]

E-Journal Article directly from an Internet-only site (not from a library database) [272]

E-Newspaper Article from a library database [200]

E-Newspaper Article directly from the newspaper website (no author) [200]

With author:

E-book (electronic version of a published book) [203]
Report from a Library database (SWOT Analysis, Market Research Report, etc) [206]


Report from a Website [206]


Report, Annual (from company’s website)


Report, Annual (from a subscription database)


Web Page from the Website of a Private Organization


Note: n.d. indicates no date given

Web page (stand alone), no author (begin with title)


Web page (stand alone) with author [206]


Blogs [215]

Podcasts [210]


PRINT RESOURCES

Journal Article from a print journal (paginated by issue, when each issue begins with page 1 include issue no.)


Journal Article from a print journal (journal with continuous pagination throughout year – use only volume number, no issue number)


Magazine Article from a print magazine


Newspaper Article (print format), no author:


Book (One Author)


Book (Two Authors)


Book, Second edition

Book, Edited


Books with No Author

Place the title in the author position. In the "References" section alphabetize books with no author or editor by the first significant word in the title.

Ex: Merriam in this case for Merriam-Webster

Book Review


Interview, Personal Communications, letters, memos, Email, Telephone Conversations


Notes about the 6th edition.

The DOI (digital object identifier) is replacing the use of the url when available. Many database citations give the DOI.

It is no longer necessary to mention the database name in the citation or the date retrieved.