How to Format APA Reference List

APA style is a set of guidelines established by the American Psychological Association. Examples below are based on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). For help, visit the SMCL service desk on the 2nd floor or call 602.243.8194.

How to Format Your References

- **Page Set Up** - The reference list should be a separated, double spaced page. Entries should have a hanging indent. Preferred font is Times Roman. (12-pt.). Use Arial for figure labels.

- **Organizing Sources** - Alphabetize sources by the last name of the first author. If there is no author, alphabetize by the first significant word in the title.

- **Titles** - Capitalize the titles of journals, magazines, and newspapers. Capitalize only the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns for books and encyclopedias.

- **Online Sources** - If the URL is longer than a line, make a break after a slash or before a period. If a database article is identical to the print, do not include database information. A Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is a number assigned to electronic journal articles. If available, include the DOI.

- **Authors** - List up to 7 authors. For more than 7 authors, list the first 6 authors, use an ellipsis (...) and the last author. Author may be an organization or government agency.

- **Missing Information** - If there is no author, start your citation with the title of the source. If there is no date of publication, use (n.d.).

Books

*(Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.02)*

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Example</th>
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Articles

*Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.01*

A new element to journal article citations with the 6th edition of the Publication Manual is the addition of the DOI (digital object identifier), which provides a persistent way of accessing digital information. See [APA Style Blog](#) for detailed explanation of DOIs. To resolve a DOI name use [DOI System](#). If the DOI is not provided in the online database, online journal, or article, try [CrossRef's free DOI look-up](#). Note: not all articles have DOIs. Do not include a period at the end of the citation as it may be interpreted as part of the DOI.


When authors number eight or more, include the first six names, then three ellipses, and then the last author's name. (Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.01.2)

### Article in a journal (advanced Publication)

### Online-only supplemental material for articles

If no author is given, move the title and bracketed description to the author position. (Publication Manual of American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.01.15)

### Article in a popular magazine

### Article in a newspaper

If the article was found through the newspaper's website, include "Retrieved from" and the URL of the home page. (Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., 7.01.11)

### Media

#### Music Score
No example given in *APA Publication Manual* for music score. See APA Style Blog: [How to Cite a Musical Score](https://apsychblog.apa.org/2011/08/01/how-to-cite-a-musical-score/).

#### Sound Recording

Use the original copyright date after the author/composer's name. If the date of the recording is different from the copyright date, place it after the name of the recording label, as above. (Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., 7.07)
### Video Recording
LaVoo, G., & Brown, E. T. (Producers), & Cardozo, P. (Director).


### Television


### Web/Online

**Note:** Different web browsers break the text in different places of a URL. In a printed work, if the URL needs to be broken at the end of a line, the break should be made after a colon or a double slash; before a single slash, a tilde, a period, a comma, a hyphen, an underline, a question mark, a number sign, or a percent symbol; or before or after an equals sign or an ampersand.

### Web page

### Blog Post

In blog posts, authors may adopt a screen name. Use that screen name as the author if that is the name under which that person posts messages.

### Online Video
BirdTricks. (2008, April 27). Tips for training a parrot to talk [Video file].

Retrieved from http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=89dZNPPYOdk

A screen name is used for the author name in this example.

### Data Sets
Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research. (2007).

Government Information

*(Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.03, p. 205 and Appendix 7.1 References to Legal Materials)*


Unpublished

*(Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., Chapter 7.09)*

| Interview | In-text example: (H.C. Payne, personal communication, May 22, 1998) In APA Style, personal communications are not considered verifiable or recoverable; they should be cited in the text only and not included in the reference list. *(Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th Ed., chapter 6.20)* See also APA Style Blog for [Citing Interviews](#). |