APA Style Citations
(American Psychological Association)

This guide provides basic guidelines and examples for citing sources using the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed.

APA style requires that sources receive attribution in the text by the use of parenthetical in-text references. General guidelines for in-text references are included on page 5 of this guide.

## Books

### Book: One Author

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year of Publication). *Title*. Publisher Location: Publisher.

**Sample Citation:**

### Book: Two or More Authors

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial, & Author Last, First Initial. (Year of Pub). *Title*. Location of Publisher: Publisher.

[Note: If the text has seven or fewer authors, all names should be included in the reference list. If there are more than seven authors, list the first six in this format and complete the author section of the citation with “et al.”]

**Sample Citation:**


### Electronic Book

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year). *Title*. Available from doi: or URL

[Note: The doi (digital object identifier) number should be used in all cases if available.]

**Sample Citation:**
| **Chapter in a Book** | Format:  
Author Last, First Initial. (Year of Pub). Title of Chapter/Article. In Editor's  
First Initial Last (Ed.), Title (pp. inclusive page numbers). Location of  
Publisher: Publisher.  
Sample Citation:  
*With pen and voice: A critical anthology of nineteenth-century African-American women* (pp. 80-90). Carbondale: Southern  
Illinois University Press.  
|  
| **Encyclopedias, Dictionaries, & Other Reference Works** | Format:  
total # of volumes). Location of Publisher: Publisher.  
Sample Citation:  
|  
| **An Entry in an Encyclopedia, Dictionary, or Other Reference Works** | Format:  
Entry Author Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Pub.) Title of Entry.  
In First Initial Last Name of editor (Ed.), Title of Work (# of edition ed., Vol. #  
of volume, pp. inclusive page numbers). Location of Publisher: Publisher.  
[Note: If the entry has no author listed, place the title in the author position.]  
Sample Citation:  
Stout, J.J. (2004). Hydroelectric power. In M. Shally-Jensen, et al. (Eds.),  
Scholastic Library Publishing.  
|  
| **An Entry in an Electronic Encyclopedia, Dictionary, or Other Reference Work** | Format:  
Entry Author Last Name, First Initial. (Year of Pub.) Title of Entry. In First Initial  
Last Name of editor (Ed.), Title of Work. Retrieved from URL  
[Note: Use the doi number instead of the URL when available.]  
Sample Citation:  
|  
| **Journals** |  
| **Journal Article: Print** | Format:  
Author Last, First Initial. (Year). Title. *Journal Title, volume number*(issue number)  
inclusive page numbers.  
[Note: If a journal is paginated by issue instead of volume, the issue number should  
be included in parentheses immediately after the volume number. Example:  42(3).  
The sample below does not require the inclusion of the issue number.]  
Sample Citation:  
Haraway, D.J. (1994). A game of cat's cradle: Science studies,  
<p>|</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Format</th>
<th>Sample Citation</th>
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**Magazines**

<table>
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</table>
### Magazine Article: from a Full-Text Database

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year, Month Day of Pub). Title. *Magazine Name, volume number*(issue number). Retrieved from URL

**Sample Citation:**

### Magazine Article: Multiple Authors

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial, & Author Last, First Initial. (Year, Month Day of Pub). Title. *Magazine Name, volume number*(issue number), inclusive page numbers.

**Sample Citation:**


### Newspapers

### Newspaper Article: Print

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year, Month Day). Title of Article. *Newspaper Name, p. page number.*

**Sample Citation:**

### Newspaper Article: Online

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year, Date of Publication). Article Title. *Newspaper Name*. Retrieved from URL

**Sample Citation:**

### Newspaper Article: from a Full-Text Database

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initial. (Year, Date of Publication). Title of Article. *Newspaper Name*. Retrieved from URL

**Sample Citation:**
## Electronic Sources

### Multi-Page Internet Site: Entire Site

**Format:**
Corporate Author Name or Last Name, First Initials of Author. (Year, Month Day of Pub). *Title of Site*. Retrieved from URL

[Note: Retrieval dates are only necessary when it is likely that the information will change, as in a Wikipedia entry.]

**Sample Citation:**

### Multi-Page Internet Site: Single Page on Site

**Format:**
Author Last, First Initials or Corporate Author Name. (Year, Month Day of Pub). Title of Page. In *Title of multi-page site*. Retrieved from URL

**Sample Citation:**

### Personal Home Page

**Format:**
Author Last, First. (Year, Month Day of Pub). *Title of home page*. Retrieved from URL

[Note: The APA does not encourage the use of personal home pages as scholarly sources of information. Consult your instructor or course syllabi before including citations for personal home pages in your References list.]

**Sample Citation:**

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## In-Text Parenthetical References in APA Style

To cite the use of a source in the text of an essay, APA advocates two methods: parenthetical citation and attribution within the essay's content. Parenthetical references should be included *immediately after* the quotation marks used in direct quotations or immediately after the use of the source, even if this means including the parenthetical reference in the middle of the sentence. The following is the general form for parenthetical citations in APA style:

**Parenthetical Citation:** (Author Last Name, Year of Publication)

**Example:** (Smith, 1988)
To make the citation of the source less distracting, the APA also suggests mentioning the author in the essay’s content so that only the year of publication and page number may be required in the parenthetical reference.

Attribution in text: Author Last Name (Year of Publication) has argued this point.
Example: Smith (1988) has argued this point.

Page numbers are not required in APA in-text citation; however, it is expected that page numbers will be offered for direct quotations. To include references to a specific part of the text, add the page number or chapter number after the year.

Examples: Smith (1988, p. 244) has written that... or Smith (1988, chap. 5) has written that...

When a work has two authors, both names should be cited in every parenthetical reference. Use an ampersand (&) to separate the names of authors. If a work has three or four authors, all authors should be included in the first parenthetical reference. After the first parenthetical reference, only the last name of the first author and the phrase “et al.” may be used.

First mention of the reference: Johnson, Smith, and Brown (1999) agree that...
Subsequent mention: Johnson et al. (1999) also argue...

If a text has been authored by more than five individuals, the full listing of authors is not required in the first reference or any subsequent in-text references.

If a group or corporation is the author, the full name of the group or corporation should be included in place of an author’s name. If an organization has a recognizable abbreviation, this may be used in subsequent references.

First mention of the reference: (American Medical Association, 2002)
Subsequent mention: (AMA, 2002)

If no author is given for a specific text, use the first few words of the title in place of the author’s last name. Title fragments should be formatted using the same punctuation as titles on the References page.

Examples of attribution in the text:

The recent publication *Plagiarism and You* (2002) offers some explanation...

In "Five Ways to Protect Yourself" (2000) one can find...

Examples of parenthetical attribution: (*Plagiarism and You*, 2002) or (*"Five Ways to Protect Yourself,"* 2000)

When no date is given for the publication of a text, include the abbreviation "n.d." in place of the year of publication. For websites without a proper publication date, determine if there is a "last updated" date. This would be appropriate as a date of publication.

For other considerations related to in-text referencing using the APA format, see the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed. (pages 174-179).