Minnesota West Libraries
APA Citation Style

Prepared by Minnesota West Library Staff. Examples are based on the 6th edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association which is located in all Minnesota West Libraries.

BOOKS
One Author

Two Authors

Up to Seven Authors

Note: The state abbreviation is excluded because the publisher is a university and the state is included in the publisher name.

Corporate Author

Editor

Article or Chapter in an Edited Book

PRINT REFERENCE BOOKS
Encyclopedia entry

General Reference Book
ARTICLES
• In order to cite articles properly, it is important to know if the periodical begins each issue with page 1 or if issues continue pagination from the previous issue. If the periodical begins with page 1 each time, then the issue number is included in the citation, immediately following the volume number (e.g., 212(4), 37-44; 212 is the volume number, 4 is the issue number and 37-44 indicates the page numbers of the article). If each issue begins numbering pages where the last one left off, then the issue number is not included (e.g., 134, 1022-1029; with 134 as the volume number and 1022-1029 the page numbers).
• APA prefers the use of DOIs whenever they are available. DOIs are digital object identifiers that are assigned to articles (and some books) to provide a persistent link to its location on the Internet. They are unique number and letter combinations. It is best to cut and paste the DOIs into a reference page as they are quite long and complex. DOIs are most often found on the first page of an article. They may also be found in the citation information in a database search.
• Another significant change in the APA 6th edition is not to include the names of databases that articles are retrieved from. While not required by APA, consult your instructor to learn his/her preference. The examples below do not include database names.

ARTICLES WITH A DOI


*Note: in the preceding examples, each periodical has continuous pagination, so there is no need to include the issue number.*
ARTICLES WITHOUT A DOI

Magazines

Newspaper article

*Note: Newspaper articles are the only article sources that use page indicators (p. or pp.) before the page numbers. Note also that if an article appears on discontinuous pages, give all page numbers, and separate the numbers with a comma (e.g., pp. B2, B5, B8-B9).*

Journal article (no DOI)

*Note: this article was found in the EBSCO CINAHL database. APA no longer requires the use of the database name in the reference, unless it is from an obscure journal that would only be accessible through a database. You may want to check with your instructor, as he/she may prefer you include the database used. In this example, we indicate the homepage of the journal. This information is typically available in the database citation information.*

OTHER SOURCES WITHOUT DOIs

Online Magazine Article


Online Newspaper Article

Electronic Book

Video
References


Above is a sample of what a reference page would look like.

- It begins on a new page with the header References centered on the page.
- References are in alphabetical order by the last name or first entry.
- A hanging indent is used if the entry carries over to a second line.
- If you need to break a URL or a DOI – do so at a point of punctuation (excluding after http://). Do not use a hyphen to break it or end with a period (as these could be deemed part of the URL or DOI, making the link ineffective.)
- Be sure to remove the automatic hyperlink when you type or cut/paste a URL into your references. (i.e., it should not be underlined and providing an active link to the article)