APA Citations
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When you read something and then use the ideas from it in your paper, you must give information to
your readers to help them find your source, in case they also want to read it, in the form of a citation.
The following are examples of typical "References" page citations for print and electronic resources
using American Psychological Association (APA) style. All citations should be DOUBLE SPACED, with
every line after the first indented ½ inch. Check with your instructor or the Publication Manual of the
American Psychological Association (Sixth Edition) for explanations of the format for more examples.

Basic APA Format – All APA citations are a variation on the central theme. When citing any source,
the idea is to include as much information as available so that a reader can track down the source. In
APA format, only published information is included on the Reference page; personal communications
(such as non-published personal interviews, email conversations, and lectures) are not included on the
Reference page, only in the in-text citation of the paper. Additionally, when citing electronic source
information, APA style requires you to provide the root URL address.

Name of Author(s) – The name(s) of whoever wrote what you are citing. Last name, First initial.
Year of Publication – The year of publication will ALWAYS appear as the second element of your
Reference page citation. If no date of publication can be found, put n.d. for “no date.”
Title of Source – The name of the book, article, movie, etc you are citing. Italicize book titles,
document (from website/government) titles, report titles, and movie/TV titles. For all other titles, simply
write out the title. DO NOT underline or place these other titles in quotation marks.
Publication Information – Information on where and when the source was made. For sources printed
in the United States, you will need to include both the state and city of publication. For sources printed
outside of the United States, you will need to include the city and country of publication. Additional
publication information may include (but is not limited to): the publishing company, issue number and
volume number for magazine and journal articles, edition numbers, and page numbers.
URL Address (for electronic sources) – APA requires you to include the root URL address for all
electronic sources, regardless of if the actual information was retrieved from a database or website.

If you cannot locate a piece of information, skip it and move on to the next one. However, the
date of publication WILL ALWAYS APPEAR as the SECOND element of the citation, even when you
have to skip the author portion of the citation.

Book

Author(s). (Year). Title. City, State OR Country of publication: Publisher.


E-book – to be used if the book is ONLY available in electronic form or difficult to find in print

Author(s). (Year). Title. Retrieved from URL of database/website

Article from a magazine

Author(s). (Year, Month Day). Article title. Magazine Title, Volume Number, Page Numbers.


Rolling Stone, 106, 8-9.

Article from a scholarly journal

Author(s). (Year). Article title. Journal Title. Volume Number(Issue Number), Page Numbers.


Article from a Reference Book

Author(s). (Year). Title of article. In title of reference book (Volume, Page Numbers). City of publication: Publisher


Journal article from a database


Document from website

Author(s). (Year). Name of document. Retrieved from URL address of website