APA Citation Guide

Why Cite? Whether you’re taking information from a book, article or website, the purpose of citing the source is:

✔ to credit the author and publisher of the information you are using
✔ to show that your work has a factual basis
✔ to provide a bibliography so that others can locate the references you used
✔ to avoid plagiarizing (using someone else’s words or ideas without citing them)

Below are some examples of how to cite your sources. The page numbers after each heading refer to the pages in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (6th edition) where much of the information was obtained. For more examples, see the Publication Manual, RAP OFFICE BF76.7 .P83 2010. For in-text format, see pages 174-9.


General reference form:

Author, A. A. (year). Title of work. Location: Publisher.

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (year). Title of chapter or entry. In A. Editor, B., Editor, & C. Editor (Eds.), Title of book (pp. xx-xx). doi:xx.xxxxxxxxxx

Tips:

✔ If an eBook, replace the Location: Publisher with Retrieved from http://www.xxxxxx or doi:xxxxx
✔ Place info about editions, volume numbers in parentheses following the title, with the period after the parentheses.
✔ Use the citation links in various databases!


General reference form:


doi:xx.xxxxxxxxx

Tips:
✓ Most databases show the DOI in an article’s detailed information
✓ If no DOI is assigned to the article and you retrieved it online, include the home page URL from the journal, newsletter, or magazine in the reference. Use this format: Retrieved from http://www.xxxxx
✓ If each issue of a journal begins on page 1, give the issue number in parentheses immediately after the volume number.
✓ Use the citation links in various databases!


Webpages & Websites – see https://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/website/

General form:


Tips:
✓ Italicize the title if the page can stand on its own and is not part of a larger whole. When in doubt, choose what makes the most sense.
✓ The format description is only used when the format is out of the ordinary (blog post or lecture notes).
✓ If there is no author, the title moves to the author position.
✓ If you cannot find a date, use (n.d.) instead.