

This handout is based on the 6th edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA), but is not a comprehensive guide.

See also:

APA Handbook. 6th ed., American Psychological Association, 2010,
Ready Reference 808.06615 p976m

There are two important rules to keep in mind when utilizing APA style:

1. Each entry on the References page should correspond to at least one parenthetical, or in-text, citation.
2. Parenthetical citations should be included for clarity and accuracy.

Parenthetical (In-text) Citations

APA uses the author-date method of citation. The last name of the author and the date of publication are inserted in the text. When referencing or summarizing a source, provide the author and year. When quoting or summarizing a particular passage, include the specific page or paragraph number as well.

Work by one author

In one developmental study (Smith, 1990), children learned...

OR

In the study by Smith (1990), school children...

OR

In 1990, Smith's study of primary school children...

Works by multiple authors

When a work has two authors cite both names every time.

When a work has three to five authors cite all the author names the first time the reference occurs and then subsequently include only the first author followed by et al.

Masserton, Slonowski, and Slowinski (1989) state that... <-----first time

Masserton et al. (1989) state that... <-----every subsequent time

For six or more authors, cite only the name of the first author followed by et al. the first and every subsequent time.

Works by no identified author

("key words of article title," date)

The site seemed to indicate support for homeopathic drugs ("Medical Miracles," 2009).

Use quotation marks around the title of an article, chapter, or web page. Italicize the title of a periodical, book, brochure or report.

Multiple works in same parenthetical citation

Several studies (Jones & Powell, 1993; Peterson, 1995; Smith 1990) state that...

Put authors in order they appear in reference list (alphabetically) with semicolons in between.

Specific parts of a source

(last name, pub date, page number)

The painting was assumed to be by Fo, but analysis showed it to be a forgery (Murphy, 1999, p. 85)

If a source has no page numbers, cite a paragraph number.

References

Book

last name, first initial., & last name, first initial. (pub date). title. pub location:
Strunk, W., & White, E. B. (1979). *The guide to everything and then some more stuff*. New York, NY:
publisher.
Macmillan.

eBook

last name, first initial. (pub date). title.
Erfurt-Cooper, P. (2009) *Health and wellness tourism: Spas and hot springs*.
permanent url.
Retrieved from <https://muhlenberg.on.worldcat.org/oclc/593239903>

Chapter of a book

last name, first initial. (pub date). chapter title. editor first initial last name, book title
Bergquist, J. M. (1992). German Americans. In J.D. Buenker (ed.), *Multiculturalism in the United States: A comparative guide to acculturation and ethnicity* (pp. 53-76). New York, NY:
(chapter pages). pub location:
publisher.
Greenwood.

Standalone titles are italicized. Only the first word of title, first word of subtitle, and proper nouns are capitalized.

Entry in a reference work with no author

entry title. (pub date). book editors book title.
Constructivism. (2007). In D. Haylock, & F. Thangata, *Key concepts in teaching primary mathematics*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
pub location: publisher.

Entry in a reference work with author

last name, first initial. (pub date). entry title. book editors book title.
Hohn, R. L. (2007). Constructivism. In D. Haylock, & F. Thangata, *Key concepts in teaching primary mathematics*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
pub location: publisher.

Volume number is *italicized*.

Journal/Magazine article

last name, first initial. (pub date). article title. journal title, volume number (issue number),
Paivia, A. (1975). Perceptual comparisons through the mind's eye. *Memory & Cognition*, 3(2),
page numbers. doi or URL
635-647. doi: 10.1037/0278-6133.27.2.125

A digital object identification number (doi) reveals to your reader that the article was retrieved electronically. If there is no doi include a permanent link (see Webpage for formatting).

Newspaper article

Include all date granularity that is provided. If no date information is provided, put "n.d." in place of date.

last name, first initial. (pub date). article title. newspaper title.
Schwartz, J. (1993, September 30). Obesity affects economic, social status. *The Washington Post*,
pages.
1-3.

Book review

last name, first initial. (pub date). article title. book title,
Dent-Read, C. (2001). Is modeling knowing? [Review of the book *Models of cognitive development*, by K. Richardson]. *American Journal of Psychology*, 114(1), 126-33.
book author first initial last name. journal title where review was published, volume number (issue number), pages.

Data set

author. (pub date). title. pub location:
Simmons Market Research Bureau. (2000). Simmons national consumer survey [Data file]. New
York, NY: Simmons.
publisher

Organizations and companies can be authors.

Television episode

writer last name, first initial & director last name, first initial. (pub date). episode title.
Egan, D. (Writer), & Alexander, J. (Director). (2005). Failure to communicate [Television series
producer first initial last name, series title. pub location: publisher.
episode]. In D. Shore (Executive producer), *House*. New York, NY: Fox Broadcasting.

Webpage

author. (pub date). title. URL
Harvard. (1993). *Allentown*. Retrieved from <http://www.harvard.com/allentown/1993>

The title of the website or webpage should be italicized if the work stands alone but not italicized if it is part of a greater whole.