



# Guide to APA Reference List



The APA (American Psychological Association) format for documenting your research includes:

- ❖ **Reference citations in text** within the body of the text that enable your reader to locate the full reference in the Reference List. Example (Cleese, 2002).
- ❖ **A Reference list** at the end of your research paper lists the sources used in preparing your paper. Include all sources that were quoted, summarized or paraphrased in your paper. This guide covers the Reference list.

For more information consult *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6th ed.* (REF 808.02 P1 2010) at the Reference Desk, ask a Reference Librarian or consult the online guides [www.pasadena.edu/library/citing.cfm](http://www.pasadena.edu/library/citing.cfm).

## Arrangement of Reference List:

- Title the section “References” and put this title at center top of the page.
- For each item you are citing, determine the type of source and follow instructions for citing that type of source.
- Arrange all works in one alphabetical list by the first author’s last name. If there is no author, list by the first word of title (skip initial A, An, or The).
- Do not list sources by type, format or by date. Double-space both within and between entries. (Not shown here).
- Type the first line of each entry at the left margin; indent additional lines five spaces or one tab. (Hanging indent).

## Basic Citation Format:

1. **Author(s):** List last name, then initial(s) only. Do not include first names. For sources with multiple authors, use & before the final name. List all authors by last name, initial(s). Begin with the title if there is no author.
2. **Date:** List date in parentheses. For books and journal articles, include only the year. For magazine and newspaper articles, follow the year by a comma then the month and day. If no date is listed, use (n.d.) for no date.
3. **Titles:** Italicize and capitalize titles of newspapers, magazines, and journals (use title case). Capitalize only the first word and proper nouns of book titles, periodical article titles and web pages (use sentence case). Do not use quotation marks or italics for article titles.
4. **Publication Information:**
  - Books:** Include city and state or city and country of publication followed by a colon and the publishing company.
  - Periodical articles:** For **magazines**, include the volume number, a comma, then page numbers (with pp.). For **scholarly journals**: follow the periodical title with the volume number (italicized) then issue number (if given) in parentheses (not italicized), a comma then page numbers (no pp.).
  - Articles from library subscription database\*:** When given, follow the article citation with the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). If no DOI is given, it is not necessary but may be helpful to add “Retrieved from” and the name of the database.
  - Articles from online periodicals\*:** Add “Retrieved from” and the URL of the periodical website. Do not add a period after the URL. See *Publications Manual of the American Psychological Association, 6<sup>th</sup> ed. pp. 187-192*).
5. **Retrieval date** is not needed for periodical citations; include only if the source could change, e.g. a Wiki.

## Books

**Author/Editor's Last Name, Initial(s). (Publication year). Title [in italics]. Place of publication: Publisher.**

Beck, C. A. J., & Sales, B. D. (2001). *Family mediation: Facts, myths, and future prospects*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

**Book Chapters and Articles from Reference Books** (print and online) [If no author, list the article title first followed by the publication date]

**Author's Last Name, Initial(s). (Publication year). Title of section. In Title of Book [in italics]. (Vol. [if multi-volume], pages). Place of publication: Publisher.**

Bergmann, P. G. (1993). Relativity. In *The new encyclopaedia Britannica*. (Vol. 26, pp. 501-508). Chicago, IL: Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Walters, M. (2003). Violence and comedy in the works of Flannery O'Connor. In J. Witalc (Ed.), *Twentieth-century literary criticism* (Vol. 132, pp. 315-318). Detroit, MI: Gale.

[If from a database add “Retrieved from” and the name of database.]

Tiger shark. (2010). In *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. Retrieved from Encyclopaedia Britannica Online.

## Journal Articles

**Author's Last Name, Initial(s). (Year). Article title. *Journal Title (in italics), volume [also italicized], and issue number* [in parentheses], **page numbers.****

[Put journal title and volume number in italics]

Bordeck, N. (1997). Going against the grain: Disruptive classroom behavior. *Behavioral & Educational Sciences, 19*, 198-207.

[If there is an issue number, put it in parentheses, but **not** in italics]

Jones, H. (2000). Free information. *History Today, 50*(8), 18-19.

[If found online, add "Retrieved from" and the name of the database or website URL]

Bindler, R. C., & Ball, J. W. (2007). The Bindler-Ball healthcare model: A new paradigm for health promotion. *Pediatric Nursing, 33*(2), 121-126. Retrieved from Proquest.

Lane, A., Thelwell, R., & Devonport, T. (2009). Emotional intelligence and mood states associated with optimal performance. *E-Journal of Applied Psychology, 5*(1). Retrieved from <http://ojs.lib.swin.edu.au>

[If a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is provided include it in the citation and omit the name of the database or URL]

Marcus, C. (2009). A 4-year, cluster-randomized, controlled childhood obesity prevention study: STOPP. *International Journal of Obesity, 33*(4), 408-17. doi: 10.1038/ijo.2009.38

## Magazine and Newspaper Articles

**Author Last Name, Initial(s). (Year, Month Day). Article title. *Magazine or Newspaper Title, [in italics], volume [also italicized], page number(s).***

[Popular Magazine Articles]

Samuels, A., Croal, N., & Gates, D. (2000, October 9). Battle for the soul of hip-hop. *Newsweek, 136*, 58-65.

Healy, B. (2008). A stem cell victory. *U.S. News & World Report, 144*, 62. Retrieved from <http://www.usnews.com>

[Newspaper Articles]

Piccalo, G. (2007, September 2). The perils of acting green. *Los Angeles Times*. p. E1.

Revkin, A. C. (2007, October 2). Arctic melt unnerves the experts. *New York Times*. Retrieved from <http://www.nytimes.com>

## Non-Periodical Web Page

(List as much of this information as you can find):

**Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. or organization acting as 'author' [if given] (Date of publication).** [if undated use (n.d.)].  
***Title of document.*** [in italics; only first word and proper nouns capitalized]. **Retrieved** [include date of access if document undated] **from <http://website address>**

Jackson, R. (n.d.) *Global climate change. Evidence: How do we know?* Retrieved Dec. 15, 2009 from <http://climate.nasa.gov/evidence>

Death Penalty Information Center. (2009). *History of the death penalty.* Retrieved from <http://www.deathpenaltyinfo.org/history-death-penalty>

West, L. (n.d.) *Are urban heat islands linked to global warming? Poor urban design is the biggest cause of the heat islands in our cities.* Retrieved from [http://environment.about.com/od/globalwarmingandweather/a/heat\\_islands.htm](http://environment.about.com/od/globalwarmingandweather/a/heat_islands.htm)