

## APA Style for Citing Print Sources

In-text citation example:  
(Author(s), Year, p. #)  
(Smith & Li, 2000, p.42)

Here are selected examples from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fifth Edition, 2001), also known as the APA Style Manual.

- In all cases, when no author is given, begin with the title and move the date after the title.
- Reference lists should be double-spaced, as first example below. All other examples on this sheet are single-spaced to limit the length of this guide.

### Journal article:

Saywitz, K. J., Mannarino, A. P., Berliner, L., & Cohen, J. A. (2000). Treatment for sexually abused

children and adolescents. *American Psychologist*, 55, 1040-1049.

- If more than 6 authors, after the sixth author's name and initial, use et al. to indicate the remaining authors of the article.
- If the journal paginates each issue separately, add an issue number in parentheses:

Klimoski, R., & Palmer, S. (1993). The ADA and the hiring process in organizations. *Consulting Psychology Journal: Practice and Research*, 45 (2), 10-36.

### Magazine article:

Kandel, E. R., & Squire, L. R. (2000, November 10). Neuroscience: Breaking down scientific barriers to the study of brain and mind. *Science*, 290, 1113-1120.

### Daily newspaper article, no author:

New drug appears to sharply cut risk of death from heart failure. (1993, July 15). *The Washington Post*, p. A12.

- If an article appears on discontinuous pages, give all page numbers, and separate the numbers with a comma (e.g., pp. B1, B3, B5-B7).

### Book:

Mitchell, T. R., & Larson, J. R., Jr. (1987). *People in organizations: An introduction to organizational behavior* (3rd ed.). New York: McGraw-Hill.

### Book chapter:

Bjork, R. A. (1989). Retrieval inhibition as an adaptive mechanism in human memory. In H. L. Roediger III & F. I. M. Craik (Eds.), *Varieties of memory & consciousness* (pp. 309-330). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum.

### Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders

American Psychiatric Association. (2000). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (4th ed., text revision). Washington, DC: Author.

### Entry in an encyclopedia:

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

- If an entry has no byline, place the title in the author position.

### Report available from the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC):

Mead, J. V. (1992). *Looking at old photographs: Investigating the teacher tales that novice teachers bring with them* (Report No. NCRTL-RR-92-4). East Lansing, MI: National Center for Research on Teacher Learning. (ERIC Document Reproduction Service No. ED346082)

- Do not use a period after the document number.

For more examples, see the APA Style Manual at **Ref PE1479.P8 A4 5th.ed. 2001**, section 4.16.

## Citing Web and Database Sources in APA Style

The information below is taken from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (Fifth Edition, 2001). See also the first example for more information on citing electronic sources:

To learn about evaluating information found on the web, use this PSU Libraries guide:

<http://www.libraries.psu.edu/instruction/infolit/andyou/mod6/eval.htm>

### **Multipage document created by private organization, no date:**

American Psychological Association. (2003). *Electronic references*. Retrieved March 5, 2002, from <http://www.apastyle.org/elecref.html>

- Note that there is no period following a URL.
- Use n.d. (no date) when a publication date is not available.

### **Stand-alone document, no author identified, no date:**

GVU's 8<sup>th</sup> WWW user survey. (n.d.). Retrieved August 8, 2000, from [http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user\\_surveys/survey-1997-10/](http://www.cc.gatech.edu/gvu/user_surveys/survey-1997-10/)

- If the author of a document is not identified, begin the reference with the title of the document.
- Break a URL that goes to another line after a slash or before a period. Do not insert a hyphen.

### **U.S. government report available on government agency Web site, no publication date indicated:**

United States Sentencing Commission. (n.d.). *1997 sourcebook of federal sentencing statistics*. Retrieved December 8, 1999, from <http://www.ussc.gov/annrpt/1997/sbtoc97.htm>

### **Internet articles based on a print source**

- Note: If the article was retrieved from a database, see examples at bottom of this page.

VandenBos, G., Knapp, S., & Doe, J. (2001). Role of reference elements in the selection of resources by psychology undergraduates [Electronic version]. *Journal of Bibliographic Research*, 5, 117-123.

### **Article in an Internet-only journal**

Fredrickson, B. L. (2000, March 7). Cultivating positive emotions to optimize health and well-being. *Prevention & Treatment*, 3, Article 0001a. Retrieved November 20, 2000, from <http://journals.apa.org/prevention/volume3/pre0030001a.html>

- Note that there are no page numbers.

### **Electronic copy of a journal article retrieved from database**

Borman, W. C., Hanson, M. A., Oppler, S. H., Pulakos, E. D., & White, L. A. (1993). Role of early supervisory experience in supervisor performance. *Journal of Applied Psychology*, 78, 443-449. Retrieved October 23, 2000, from PsycARTICLES database.

Bell, L. G., Bell, D. C., & Nakata, Y. (2001, Summer). Triangulation and adolescent development in the U.S. and Japan. *Family Process* 40, 173-186. Retrieved March 13, 2002, from ProQuest Psychology Journals database.

- When referencing material obtained by searching an aggregated database, follow the format appropriate to the work retrieved and add a retrieval statement that gives the date of retrieval and the proper name of the database. No URL is needed.
- However, if the full text is from a source other than the indexing source (such as when PsycINFO records link to an outside full text provider), add the URL for that provider, as follows:\*

Kumpulainen, K. (2000, Dec). Psychiatric symptoms and deviance in early adolescence predict heavy alcohol use 3 years later. *Addiction* 95, 1847-1857. Retrieved March 13, 2002, from <http://www.catchword.com>

\*This information was obtained via email from [StyleExpert@apastyle.org](mailto:StyleExpert@apastyle.org)

## Overall APA Reference List Page Formatting

Entries go in alphabetical order by first author's last name. Don't group entries by type or year or anything else. Just put them in regular alphabetical order. (Don't rearrange authors names within a single entry if there are two or more authors. The first author is always the *primary* author; authors are listed in order of the rank. Don't change that order.)

The full reference list is double-spaced, with no extra space between entries. Don't single space unless your professor specifically instructs you to do that.

The first line of each entry uses the full line across the page, from the left margin through to the right.

The second and subsequent lines of each entry take a hanging indent of ½ inch. (Hint: Use the "hanging" indent feature under "special" in the "indentation" block of the paragraph item under "Format" in the pull-down menu on Word.)

Capitalization of titles in APA does not necessarily go the way the publication you used has it. Article titles take a cap only for the first word; the first word after a colon, which indicates a subtitle; and for proper nouns (names of places, people, companies, and things like brand names).

Continue numbering pages consecutively from the cover sheet, if you have one, or first page right through the reference list to the end of your paper. Page numbers in APA Style go in the upper margin on the right hand side, with a running head that indicates your topic and us usually a piece of your title. (Hint: Use the "Header and Footer" function from "View" in the drop-down menu in Word.)

APA Style uses plain or "regular" letters, and italics. It does not use bold type in a reference list. It does not use underlining.

APA Style calls for Times New Roman lettering in 10 or 12 points (12 point is generally preferred by your profs.) Don't use a different font or size in your reference list. Don't use any different fonts or sizes in the body text of your paper unless they've been approved by your prof.

A URL is not a reference list entry. It's not an in-text citation either. It's only an address and provides almost none of the specific identifying information required for proper credit-giving in any form, APA Style or other. Never should you have an item in your paper or on your reference list that reads like this: [www.bicycling.com](http://www.bicycling.com).

Please note that many sources accessed from the open Internet (not through a database) are of questionable reliability. Be sure to check the credibility of your sources.