


# How to Cite References

## Taken from APA Publication Manual

### Sample References ([Contents](#))

The **APA Publication Manual** now instructs authors to use hanging indents for references, and to use *italics* for titles in place of underlining where called for. The hanging indent is one-half inch (1.25 cm), just like paragraph indents. All titles in references are set in sentence caps, but titles quoted in the text are set in heading caps. No quotation marks are used around titles of articles in references, but quotes are used when citing article titles in the text. The *APA Publication Manual* (2001) contains 95 examples of different reference types (pp. 240-281). The following are examples of the most common sources. More extensive style sheets are available at: [www.docstyles.com](http://www.docstyles.com).

 **Your text and the reference list must agree.** "References cited in text must appear in the reference list; conversely, each entry in the reference list must be cited in text" (APA, 2001, p. 215). See the section on [Reference citations](#) for citing references in text.

#### Anonymous or Unknown Author (common in newspapers)

Caffeine linked to mental illness. (1991, July 13). *New York Times*, pp. B13, B15.

*Merriam-Webster collegiate dictionary* (10th ed.). (1993). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.

Citations: ("Caffeine Linked," 1991), (*Merriam-Webster*, 1993). A short version of the title is used in the citation.

Use *heading caps* when citing titles in the text or in text citations, with quotation marks around article titles, italics with book titles.

#### Books-Authors ([Contents](#))

Kohut, H. (1971). *The analysis of the self: A systematic approach to the psychoanalytic treatment of narcissistic personality disorders*. New York: International Universities Press.

Citation: (Kohut, 1971). Note: APA style typically gives the full title/subtitle in references  
*Edition other than first*

Strunk, W., Jr., & White, E. B. (1979). *The elements of style* (3rd ed.). New York: Macmillan.

Citation: (Strunk & White, 1979).  
*Editor as author (Edited book)*

Friedman, H. S. (Ed.). (1990). *Personality and disease*. New York: Wiley.

Citation: (Friedman, 1990). Note: Usually a specific article in a compilation is cited.  
When the entire volume is cited add the note (Ed.) or (Eds.) after the author-editor(s).

#### *Group author*

American Psychiatric Association. (1990). *Diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders* (3rd ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

Citation: (American Psychiatric Association [APA], 1990); next citation (APA, 1990).  
Note: "Author" is used as publisher when author and publisher are identical.

#### *Multiple authors (3-5)*

Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (1995). *The craft of research*. Chicago: University of

Chicago Press.

Citation: (Booth, Colomb, & Williams, 1995); next citation (Booth et al., 1995).

Note: With 3-5 authors, list all in the first citation, the lead author et al. in subsequent citations.

*Multiple authors (6 or more)*

Montani, C., Billaud, N., Tyrrell, J., Fluchaire, I., Malterre, C., Lauvernay, N., et al. (1997). Psychological impact

of a remote psychometric consultation with hospitalized elderly people. *Journal of Telemedicine and Telecare*, 3, 140-145.

Citation: (Montani et al., 1997). Note: List up to six authors in all references, if there are more than six give the

first six plus et al. in the reference. In all text citations give just the lead author plus et al.

*Reprint (translation)*

Ebbinghaus, H. (1913). *Memory* (H. A. Rueger & C. E. Bussenius, Trans.). New York: Teachers College. (Original work published 1885)

Citation: (Ebbinghaus, 1885/1913). **Note: There is no period after (Original work published)**

**Chapter in an Edited Book** ([Contents](#))

Beers, M. H., & Berkow, R. (1999). Mood disorders. In *The Merck manual of diagnosis and therapy* (17th ed.,

sec. 15, chap. 189). Retrieved January 17, 2003, from <http://www.merck.com/pubs/mmanual/section15/chapter189/189a.htm>

Stephan, W. G. (1985). Intergroup relations. In G. Lindzey & E. Aronson (Eds.), *The handbook of social psychology* (3rd ed., Vol. 2, pp. 599–658). New York: Random House.

Citations: (Beers & Berkow, 1999, chap. 189); (Stephan, 1985). Note: Break a URL to wrap a line only after

a slash or before a period. Do not add a hyphen or any other punctuation. Usually, only the page numbers

are cited in a reference--follow the form shown if more information is relevant.

**Editors' names go in their normal order, not reversed like authors' names!**

**Encyclopedia-Dictionary Reference** ([Contents](#))

Bergman, P. G. (1998). Relativity. In *Encyclopedia Britannica* (Vol. 26, pp. 501-508). Chicago, IL: Encyclopedia Britannica.

*Merriam-Webster collegiate dictionary* (10th ed.). (1993). Springfield, MA: Merriam-Webster.

**Government Report (Works by Same Author)** ([Contents](#))

National Institute of Mental Health. (2002). *Breaking ground, breaking through: The strategic plan for mood disorders research of the National Institute of Mental Health* (Publication No. 0507-B-05). Retrieved January 19, 2003, from NIMH Web site via GPO Access: <http://purl.access.gpo.gov/GPO/LPS20906>

Citation: (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 2002); next citation (NIMH, 2002).

*Works by same author, same year*

Taylor, B. N. (1995a). *Guide for the use of the International System of Units (SI)* (NIST Special Publication 811,

1995 Edition). Retrieved June 25, 2003, from National Institute of Standards and Technology Web site:

<http://physics.nist.gov/Document/sp811.pdf>

Taylor, B. N. (1995b). *Guide for the use of the International System of Units (SI)* (NIST Special Publication 811,

1995 Edition). Gaithersburg, MD: National Institute of Standards and Technology.

Note: Reference a report as you would a book. Add a report number in parentheses after the title if it is available.

When there are two or more works by the same author list the earliest first. If two are published in the same year, add letters to the year, cite (Taylor, 1995a).

### Journal Articles ([Contents](#))

#### Annual review

Kelly, J. D., & Kaplan, M. (1990). Ritual studies. *Annual Review of Research in Anthropology*, 19, 119–150.

Citation: (Kelly & Kaplan, 1990). Annual reviews are published as books but are referenced as periodicals since the series continues from year to year.

Article (journal paged by volume)

Berry, D. S., & Pennebaker, J. W. (1993). Nonverbal and verbal emotional expression and health. *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*, 59, 11–19.

Citation: (Perry & Pennebaker, 1993). Most journals are paged by volume, that is, page numbering in

each succeeding issue begins where the last issue left off. **The volume number is also set in italics**

**with the journal name!**

#### Three to five authors

Brewer, B. W., Scherzer, C. B., Van Raalte, J. L., Petitpas, A. J., & Andersen, M. B. (2001). The elements of (APA) style: A survey of psychology journal editors. *American Psychologist*, 56, 266–267.

First citation list all authors: (Brewer, Scherzer, Van Raalte, Petitpas, & Andersen, 2001). Next citation:

(Brewer et al., 2001). When there are three to five authors to a work list all authors in the first citation;

just the lead author *et al.* in subsequent citations.

#### Six authors:

Mokdad, A. H., Bowman, B. A., Ford, E. S., Vinicor, F., Marks, J. S., & Koplan, J. P. (2001). The continuing epidemics of obesity and diabetes in the U.S. *JAMA*, 286, 1195–1200.

All citations: (Mokdad et al., 2001). List all six authors in the reference.

#### More than six authors

McGlynn, E. A., Asch, S. M., Adams, J., Keeseey, J., Hicks, J., DeCristofaro, A., et al. (2003). The quality of health care delivered to adults in the United States. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 348, 2635–2645.

Citation: (McGlynn et al., 2003). APA style lists the first six authors to a work in a reference, then adds

*et al.* (and others) if there are more. There is *no ampersand* (&) after the author, as *et al.* carries the same meaning, and no comma. The citation gives just the lead author.

#### Group author

Hypericum Depression Trial Study Group. (2002a). Effect of *Hypericum perforatum* (St John's Wort) in major

depressive disorder: A randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*, 287, 1807–1814.

Citation: (Hypericum Depression Trial Study Group, 2002). The APA *Manual* requires citing the full name

of a corporate author like this; the acronym would not be easily recognized. However, shortening the author to "Hypericum Depression Trial" in subsequent citations would probably be acceptable to editors of APA journals.

*Electronic facsimile (PDF)*

Hypericum Depression Trial Study Group. (2002b). Effect of *Hypericum perforatum* (St John's Wort) in major depressive disorder: A randomized controlled trial [Electronic version]. *JAMA*, 287, 1807–1814.

Note: Many documents are now available online as exact facsimile copies of the print original (usually in Adobe's PDF format). References to these facsimiles just add the note [Electronic version] to the reference.

If the document is not an exact copy of a print version--"(e.g., the format differs from the print version or page numbers are not indicated)"--add the date you retrieved the document and the URL to the reference

(APA, 2001, p. 271). See below.

*Journal article, changed/doubtful source*

Hypericum Depression Trial Study Group. (2002c). Effect of *Hypericum perforatum* (St John's Wort) in major depressive disorder: A randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*, 287, 1807–1814. Retrieved July 7, 2002, from <http://www.jama.org/articles.html>

*Journal article, retrieved from a database*

Hypericum Depression Trial Study Group. (2002d). Effect of *Hypericum perforatum* (St John's Wort) in major depressive disorder: A randomized controlled trial. *JAMA*, 287, 1807–1814. Retrieved July 7, 2002, from MEDSYS database.

*Online journal (paged by issue)*

Barry, J. M. (2004, January 20). The site of origin of the 1918 influenza pandemic and its public health implications [Commentary]. *Journal of Translational Medicine*, 2(3), 1-4. Retrieved November 18, 2005, from <http://www.translational-medicine.com/content/2/1/3>

Citation: (Barry, 2004). Note: There is no period after the URL in a reference.

When quoting or citing a document, a page number or other means of identifying a specific passage is required.

In the absence of page numbers, if paragraph numbers appear in an electronic document, add the paragraph symbol or the abbreviation *para.* and the paragraph number to the citation (e.g., Barry, 2004, ¶ 17). If there is no paragraph number, cite the nearest preceding section heading and count paragraphs from there (e.g., Barry, 2004, Discussion section, para. 4).

*Paged by issue*

Conway, L. G., III. (2001). Number and age of citations in social-personality psychology over the lifespan of the field: Older and wiser? *Dialogue*, 16(2), 14-15.

Note: Some research journals are paged by issue, that is, each issue begins at page one. Add the number in the volume (in parentheses in plain text) to these references immediately after the volume number.

## **Newspapers & Magazines** ([Contents](#))

### *Newspaper*

Rundle, R. (2002, May 1). Obesity's hidden costs. *Wall Street Journal*, pp. B1-B4.

Citation: (Rundle, 2002). The date of publication is cited for newspapers and magazines; no volume number is cited; the abbreviation *pp.* precedes page numbers in references to **newspapers only!**

### *Book review*

Camhi, L. (1999, June 15). Art of the city [Review of the book *New York modern: The arts and the city*]. *Village Voice*, p. 154.

### *Letter to the editor*

O'Neill, G. W. (1992, January). In support of DSM-III [Letter to the editor]. *APA Monitor*, 4-5.

### *Magazine article*

Gardner, H. (1991, December). Do babies sing a universal song? *Psychology Today*, 70-76.

### *Newsletter*

Brown, L. S. (1993, Spring). My research with oranges. *The Psychology Department Newsletter*, 3, 2.

### *Newspaper article online*

Bradsher, K. (2005, November 3). Poverty and superstition hinder drive to block bird flu at source. *New York Times*. Retrieved November 3, 2005, from <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/11/03/international/asia/03bird.html?th&emc=th>

Note: For anonymous newspaper articles see the section on "[Anonymous or unknown authors.](#)"

## **Papers & Web Pages** ([Contents](#))

### *Brochure or pamphlet*

Research and Training Center on Independent Living. (1993). *Guidelines for reporting and writing about people with disabilities* [Brochure]. (4th ed.). Lawrence, KS: Author.

A note is added in square brackets to indicate the type of document if it is not a common source.

### *Conference paper (unpublished)*

Churchland, P. S. (1998, March). *Ten unsolved problems in neuroscience*. Paper presented at the Science of Mind Distinguished Lecture Series, University of California, Davis.

Shrout, P. E. (Chair), Hunter, J. E., Harris, R. J., Wilkinson, L., Strouss, M. E., Applebaum, M. I., et al. (1996, August). *Significance tests—Should they be banned from APA journals?* Symposium conducted at the 104th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Toronto, Canada.

Citation: (Shrout et al., 1996). APA references list up to the first six authors to a work. If there are more add *et al.* (and others) to the list of names. In text citations give just the lead author, et al. A published paper is referenced as a chapter in a book.

### *Dissertation or thesis*

King, L. (1994). *Modern literary apparitions and their mind-altering effects*. Unpublished master's thesis, Department of Psychology, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL.

### Web pages

Department of Health and Human Services, Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. (n.d.). *St. John's Wort and the treatment of depression*. Retrieved January 19, 2003, from National Institutes of Health Web site:  
<http://nccam.nih.gov/health/stjohnswort/>

Dr. Abel Scribe PhD. (2006, October). *Dr. Abel Scribe's guides to research writing and style*. Retrieved October 31, 2006, from <http://www.docstyles.com/index.htm>

Homeland Security Council. (2005, November 1). *National strategy for pandemic influenza* [Monograph]. Washington, DC: The Whitehouse. Retrieved November 2, 2005, from <http://www.whitehouse.gov/homeland/pandemic-influenza.html>

Purdue University Online Writing Lab. (2003). *Using American Psychological Association (APA) format* (Updated to 5th edition). Purdue University Online Writing Lab. Retrieved February 18, 2003, from [http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r\\_apa.html](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/handouts/print/research/r_apa.html)

References to Web pages are formatted like references to books or reports: The title is set in italics.

**There is no period after the URL!**

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