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APA Referencing Style Guide

This guide introduces the APA referencing style with examples of citation styles for different types of resources.

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Articles

Reference List

A **reference list** lists only the sources you refer to in your writing.

The purpose of the reference list is to allow your sources to be found by your reader. It also gives credit to authors you have consulted for their ideas. All references cited in the text must appear in the reference list, except for personal communications (such as conversations or emails) which cannot be retrieved.

A **bibliography** is different from a reference list as it lists all the sources used during your research and background reading, not just the ones you refer to in your writing.



Books

Websites

TV, film & video

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(images)

Reports

Conferences

Theses

Personal
communications

Lecture notes

Social media

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software &
mobile
applicationsLegislation &
casesStandards &
patentsSpecific health
examplesExhibition
catalogue

Reference formatting guide

Title	Include the title 'References' (one word, beginning with a capital letter, centred, and not in italics)
Indent	Hanging indent your references (space bar in 5 - 7 spaces for the second and subsequent lines of each reference)
Space between references	In general double-space between references
Ampersand	Use for 2 - 6 authors, use "&" before the final author
One author, two publications	Order by year of publication, the earlier one first. Same year of publication for both - add 'a' and 'b' after the year, inside the brackets. Include this in the in text citation. example: Baheti, J. R. (2001a).
URLs	Remove the underlines from URLs so that any underscores (_) can be seen
Same first author, different second author	Order alphabetically by second or subsequent authors
Upper case letters (capital letters)	Journal title - use headline style; i.e. capitalise all the words, except articles and prepositions Book title or article title (in a journal, magazine or newspaper) - use sentence style; i.e. capitalise the first word of the title, and subtitle (after the colon), and any proper names
Place of publication	USA publishers give the city in full and the abbreviation for the state. New York, NY Springfield, MA Publishers outside the USA: Give the city in full and the country in full London, England Auckland, New Zealand
Page range	Use an en dash, NOT a hyphen, for page ranges: e.g. 21–27. No gaps between the page numbers and the en dash. How to add an en dash in Microsoft Word, if using a full PC keyboard: Hold the Control key and type the minus sign on the small numeric keypad.



Reference examples

One author (a book chapter)

Easton, B. (2008). Does poverty affect health? In K. Dew & A. Matheson (Eds.), *Understanding health inequalities in Aotearoa New Zealand* (pp. 97–106). Dunedin, New Zealand: Otago University Press.

One author, multiple works published in the same year

Rush, E., McLennan, S., Obolonkin, V., Cooper, R., & Hamlin, M. (2015a). Beyond the randomised controlled trial and BMI--evaluation of effectiveness of through-school nutrition and physical activity programmes. *Public Health Nutrition*, *18*(9), 1578–1581. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S1368980014003322>

Rush, E. C., Obolonkin, V., Battin, M., Wouldes, T., & Rowan, J. (2015b). Body composition in offspring of New Zealand women: Ethnic and gender differences at age 1–3 years in 2005–2009. *Annals Of Human Biology*, *42*(5), 492–497.

Two authors (a journal article with doi)

Li, S., & Seale, C. (2007). Learning to do qualitative data analysis: An observational study of doctoral work. *Qualitative Health Research*, *17*(10), 1442–1452. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732307306924>



Three authors

Barnard, R., de Luca, R., & Li, J. (2015). First-year undergraduate students' perceptions of lecturer and peer feedback: A New Zealand action research project. *Studies In Higher Education*, *40*(5), 933–944. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03075079.2014.881343>

- Use "&" before the final author.

Four to seven authors

Szcz ę Sna, A., Nowak, A., Grabiec, P., Paszkuta, M., Tajstra, M., & Wojciechowska, M. (2017). Survey of wearable multi-modal vital parameters measurement systems. *Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing*, *526*. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-47154-9_37

- List all authors in the reference entry

Reference List example

References

- Alred, G. J., Brusaw, C. T., & Oliu, W. E. (2009). *The business writer's handbook*. New York, NY: St Martin's Press.
- Best, A. (2004). *International history of the twentieth century*. Retrieved from <http://www.netlibrary.com>
- Easton, B. (2008). Does poverty affect health? In K. Dew & A. Matheson (Eds.), *Understanding health inequalities in Aotearoa New Zealand* (pp. 97-106). Dunedin, New Zealand: Otago University Press.
- Flesch, R. (n.d.). *How to write plain English*. Retrieved April 12, 2009, from http://www.mang.canterbury.ac.nz/writing_guide/writing/flesch.shtml
- Global warming*. (2009, June 1). Retrieved June 4, 2009, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Global_warming
- Li, S., & Seale, C. (2007). Learning to do qualitative data analysis: An observational study of doctoral work. *Qualitative Health Research*, 17, 1442-1452. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1049732307306924>
- Radio New Zealand. (2008). *Annual report 2007-2008*. Retrieved from http://static.radionz.net.nz/assets/pdf_file/0010/179676/Radio_NZ_Annual_Report_2008.pdf
- Read, E. (2007, November 1). Myth-busting gen Y. *New Zealand Management*. Retrieved from <http://www.management.co.nz>



Secondary citations

A secondary citation is where you are citing information or quotes the author of your reference has taken from source that you have not read.

In-text citation:

Seidenberg and McClelland's study, conducted in 1990 (as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993), shows that ...

... as some studies show (Seidenberg & McClelland, as cited in Coltheart, Curtis, Atkins, & Haller, 1993).

- Name the author of the original work in your text, cite the secondary source in in-text citation: (as cited in ..., 1993)

Reference list entry:

Coltheart, M., Curtis, B. Atkins, P., & Haller, M. (1993). Models of reading aloud: Dual-route and parallel-distributed-processing approaches. *Psychological Review*, 100, 589–608.

- Give the secondary source in the reference list.



DOI and URL

DOI

DOI = digital object identifier

- A DOI commonly identifies a journal article but it can also be found on other publication types including books.
- All DOIs start with 10. and includes numbers and letters. Example:
doi:10.1016/j.addbeh.2009.08.001
- The DOI provides a permanent internet address for the item making it easy to locate.
- You may search by DOI numbers in Library Search to locate articles.

Doi in your reference list entry:

- **Always** use the DOI if available (for print or online articles and books).
- **No** full stop at the end of a DOI.

New!

A new citing format for DOI was introduced by APA in March 2017. The new format includes *https* and the prefix *doi.org*: **https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asw.2016.11.001**

Example:

Oppenheimer, D., Zaromb, F., Pomerantz, J. R., Williams, J. C., & Park, Y. S. (2017). Improvement of writing skills during college: A multi-year cross-sectional and longitudinal study of undergraduate writing performance. *Assessing Writing*, 32, 12–27. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asw.2016.11.001>

NOTES:

Articles retrieved from library databases may include **ezproxy.aut.ac.nz** in the DOIs. This ezproxy information should be removed.

For example:

<https://doi-org.ezproxy.aut.ac.nz/10.1093/pubmed/fdv045>

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<https://doi.org/10.1093/pubmed/fdv045>

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