

# Citing Sources in APA

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This handout provides quick guidance for APA citations.

## APA basic structure

### Who? (When?) What? Where?

These are the main pieces we need to include when forming APA citations. The amount of information you need for each piece will vary depending on the TYPE of source it is and what's available. Book chapters, journal articles, and websites will all be slightly different.

## Journal Articles

### To cite a journal article in APA, make sure you have:

- Author name(s)
- Year of publication
- Article title
- Journal title
- Volume # (and Issue # if one is available)
- Page range of the article
- The DOI or the URL of the journal homepage (if the article is electronic)

### Structure

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal*, volume number(issue number), page range. Retrieved from <http://www.journalhomepage.com/full/url/>

OR

Author, A. A., & Author, B. B. (Date of publication). Title of article. *Title of Journal*, volume number(issue number), page range. doi:0000000/000000000000 or <http://dx.doi.org/10.0000/0000>

### Journal Article Examples

Wooldridge, M.B., & Shapka, J. (2012). Playing with technology: Mother-toddler interaction scores lower during play with electronic toys. *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*, 33(5), 211-218. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.appdev.2012.05.005>

Brownlie, D. (2007). Toward effective poster presentations: An annotated bibliography. *European Journal of Marketing*, 41, 1245-1283. doi:10.1108/0309050710821161

Kenneth, I. A. (2000). A Buddhist response to the nature of human rights. *Journal of Buddhist Ethics*, 8(1), 20-41. Retrieved from <http://www.cac.psu.edu/two.html>

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## Websites

### To cite information from a website in APA, make sure you have:

- Author name(s) – this could be a person or an organization
- Year, month, and day of “publication” on the web – this could also be a last updated date at the bottom of a webpage
- Title of document (or “page”)
- **Format – only if item a blog post, comment, message, or social media update**
- The source URL

**\*\*Note:** Do not italicize titles if they are part of a greater whole: for example, a webpage, blog post, online forum message, comment, status update, etc. Only italicize titles of sources that stand alone, such as a report or single document. If the distinction is unclear, err on the side of not italicizing.

### Structure

Author, A. A. (Date). Title of document [Format]. Retrieved from  
<http://www.website.com>

*No date?*

Author, A. A. (n.d.). Title of document [Format]. Retrieved from  
<http://www.website.com>

*No author?*

Title of document [Format]. (Date). Retrieved from <http://www.website.com>

### Website Examples

American Heart Association. (2015, August). Understand your risk for diabetes.  
Retrieved from  
[http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/Diabetes/UnderstandYourRiskforDiabetes/Understand-Your-Risk-for-Diabetes\\_UCM\\_002034\\_Article.jsp#.V3badxQrKu4](http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/Diabetes/UnderstandYourRiskforDiabetes/Understand-Your-Risk-for-Diabetes_UCM_002034_Article.jsp#.V3badxQrKu4)

Medline Plus. (2016, June 30). Diabetes. Retrieved from  
<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/diabetes.html>

Phillips, Q. (2012, May 9). Naturopathic Remedies [Blog Post]. Retrieved from  
<http://www.diabetesselfmanagement.com/blog/naturopathic-remedies/>

Diabetes: Overview, symptoms, causes, natural treatments, and medicine. (n.d.).  
Retrieved from <http://naturopathconnect.com/articles/diabetes/>

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This handout is a BRIEF overview of APA citations for **journal articles and websites**. For more detailed information, go to the APA citation style guide.

<https://biblio.csusm.edu> → Research Help → Citation Style Guides → APA