Quick Guide to APA Referencing

This is an introductory guide to citing and referencing using the APA system of referencing. For more detailed examples go to the i-cite guide—
intranet.birmingham.ac.uk/icite or Cite Them Right Online.

CITING IN TEXT

A citation is an abbreviated indication of the source(s) you have used in text, use the author(s) or editor, date of publication, and page numbers if required. Example, (Smith, 2010).

Examples of citing in text

One Author/Editor: Marks (2011) states that OR ...(Marks, 2011)

Two Authors/Editors: Bee and Boyd (2010) state that OR ...(Bee & Boyd, 2010)

Three, four or five Authors/Editors: (Rolfe, Jasper, & Freshwater, 2010) first cite, (Rolfe et al., 2010) subsequent cites

Six or more Authors/Editors: Cite the first name listed in the source followed by et al. For example, ....Yamada et al. (2003) OR ...(Yamada et al., 2003)

No Author/Editor: Use the title in italics; do NOT use ‘anonymous’ or anything similar, for example. It is maintained that medicine has greatly improved (Medicine in old age, 1985, p. 74)...

No Author and No Date: Use the title and ‘no date’. For example, Thunderstorms have become increasingly common (Trends in atmospheric pressure, no date)...

JOURNALS

Journal (Print)
Author, Year of publication (in round brackets), Title of article, Title of journal (in italics), Volume number (in italics), Issue (in round brackets), page numbers.


Journal (Electronic)
Same information as above, but if doi available include at the end of the reference.


WEB PAGES

Web page with an author


Web page—author as an organisation


Web page—No dates


Where To Get More Help

Your Subject Advisor will be able to assist you with any help, advice, or support you need. Go to http://libguides.bham.ac.uk/subjectsupport/index and locate your subject for contact details.
Ciτng mula multiple sources

If you cite two or more works within the same parentheses they should be in alphabetical order of author.

....(Phillips, Ajrouch, & Hillcoat-Nalletamby, 2010; Rolfe, Jasper, & Freshwater, 2010).

Arrange two or more works by the same authors (in the same order) by year of publication. Place in-press citations last. Give the authors’ last name once; for each subsequent work, give only the date.


Ciτng sources published in the same year by the same author

Use lower case letters (a, b etc.) to distinguish between works published in the same year by the same author(s).

....Hewiτt (2010a) states that... this was supported by Hewiτt (2010b) ...

The suffixes are assigned in the reference list, where these kind of references are ordered alphabetically by title (of the article, chapter, or complete work).

REFERENCES

A reference gives the full details of the brief citation you have referred to in text and is shown at the end of your essay. A reference will include authors, titles, editions, publisher details or journal details.

Examples of References

Authors/Editors: All authors'/editors’ names should be listed in your reference list (no matter how many there are).

BOOKS

Author/editor, Year of publication (in round brackets), Title (in italics), Edition (only include the edition number if it is not the first edition, Place of publication: publisher, Series and volume number (where relevant).

One Author


Two Authors


Three to Seven Authors

List all the authors and always separate the final two authors with & as shown below.


Eight or More Authors

List the first six authors then an ellipsis (i.e. three dots) then the last author in the reference.


Edited Book


Chapter in a Book


E-Book