

Citing Electronic Resources (MLA)

"Intellectual property" is like other property; it belongs to someone. Any direct quotations or ideas from a source other than yourself must be properly attributed. If essential information such as author or date is missing, it likely isn't reliable.

Note: Each entry with two or more lines has to have the first line flush with the margin and the subsequent lines "tabbed" or indented.

Web Sites – Basic format

Author's last name, first name (if there is one). Name of Site. Date of Posting/Revision.
Name of institution/organization affiliated with the site (sometimes found in copyright statements).
Date you accessed the site <URL>. For example:

Felluga, Dino. Guide to Literary and Critical Theory. 28 Nov. 2003. Purdue University. 10 April 2008 <<http://www.cla.purdue.edu/english/theory>>.

Long URLs

Some Web Sites have unusually long URLs that are nearly impossible to retype; others use frames, so the URL appears the same for each page. To address this problem, either refer to a site's search URL, or provide the path to the resource from an entry page with an easier URL. Write the word "path" followed by a colon, followed by the name of each link separated by a semicolon. For example, the Amazon.com URL for customer privacy and security information is:

<<http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/browse/-/551434/104-0801289-6225502>>, so to simplify the citation:

Amazon.com. "Privacy and Security." 22 May 2006 <<http://www.amazon.com/>>. Path: Help; Privacy & Security.

A Page on a Web Site

For an individual page on a Web site, list the author or alias if known, followed by the information covered above for entire Web Sites. Make sure the URL points to the exact page you are referring to. For example:

"Caret." Wikipedia: The Free Encyclopedia. 28 April 2006. 10 May 2006
<<http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Caret&oldid=157510440>>.

Note: If using Wikipedia, use the "cite this article" link located in the "toolbox" area on the right side of the navigation. The link will provide a stable URL that Wikipedia recommends.

An Article from a Database

When citing material accessed via an electronic subscription service (e.g., a database) cite the relevant publication information **as you would for a periodical** (author, article title, periodical title, and volume, date, and page number information) **followed by the name of the database or subscription collection, the name of the library through which you accessed the content, including the library's city and state, plus date of access**. If a URL is available for the home page of the service, include it. **Do not** include a URL to the article itself, because it is not openly accessible. For example:

Grabe, Mark. "Voluntary Use of Online Lecture Notes: Correlates of Note Use and Note Use as an Alternative to Class Attendance." Computers and Education 44 (2005): 409-21. JSTOR. Manlius Pebble Hill School, Dewitt, NY. 28 May 2008 <<http://www.JSTOR.org/>>.

Citing Print Resources (MLA)

The following MLA citation guidelines are taken from Diane Hacker's *A Writer's Reference* 3rd Edition, pages 277 to 284.

For most **books**, arrange the information into three units, each followed by a period and one space: The author's name, last name first; the title and subtitle underlined; and the place of publication, the publisher, and the date. The information is taken from the title page and the copyright page. If several copyright dates are given, use the most recent one. If your work is an edition other than the first, include the number of the edition after the title.

Book Example

Light, Richard J. Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Minds. Cambridge: Harvard UP, 2001.

To cite books with two or three authors, name the authors in the order in which they are presented on the title page; reverse the name of only the first author. For example:

Moore, John Allphin, and Jerry Pubantz. Encyclopedia of The United Nations. New York: Facts on File, 2002.

To cite books edited, after the name or names, use the abbreviation "ed." for "editor" or "eds." for "editors." For example:

Hall, Kermit, ed. The Oxford Companion to the Supreme Court of the United States. Oxford: Oxford UP, 1992.

For **encyclopedia** articles list the author of the entry (if any), the entry heading or title in quotes, the title of the encyclopedia, the edition (if any), and the date of the edition. Volume and page numbers are not necessary because the entries are arranged alphabetically and therefore are easy to locate. If a reference work is not well known, provide full publishing information as well.

Encyclopedia Article Example

"Tokyo." The World Book Encyclopedia. 2008.

To cite **articles in periodicals**, in addition to the author, the title of the article in quotes, and the title of the magazine, list the month and year and the page numbers on which the article appears. Abbreviate the months except May, June and July. If it is a weekly publication, give the exact date of the issue, not just the month and year.

Article in a Periodical Example

Lukacs, John. "The End of the Twentieth Century." Harper's Jan. 1993: 39-58.

If it is a **daily newspaper**, begin with the author, if there is one, followed by the title of the article, the name of the newspaper, the date, the section letter or number, and the page number.

Daily Newspaper Example

Sun, Lena H. "Chinese Feel the Strain of a New Society." Washington Post 13 June 1993: A1.