APA-7 References

Four Elements of a Reference:
Entries in a reference list are created and assembled in a specific order; a reference generally is composed of four elements: author, date, title, and source. Please refer to page 313 of the APA Publication Manual 7th Edition, Chapter 10: Reference Examples (APA 2020) for more reference examples.

References Page:
The References Page is placed at the end of the document on a new page. The title of the section (References) should be centered at the top of the page. Reference entries use a hanging indent with the first line of the entry flush with the left hand margin, but each subsequent line of the entry indented .5”. If a work you are citing has no author listed, place the title of the entry first, followed by the date, and then the source. All entries should be in alphabetical order by the author’s last name. If the author’s name is not listed, use the title to alphabetize; do not use articles such as (a, an, & the). If you have two or more works by the same author, arrange the works chronologically by publication date. Like the rest of your paper, the entire references page should be double spaced.

Citations by Format:
The examples below show you how to cite some basic source types. APA journal references use a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number which, unlike a URL, will not break. Most documents found in a database and journals which utilize APA Style provide their DOI either as a number or as a link. If the DOI is not provided but a URL is available, make sure to test the URL before turning in your final draft. When an article has a DOI, the number goes at the end of the entry. If an article does not have a DOI, simply leave it off the entry. If your professor requests a URL, the URL also goes at the end of the entry.

If a work has 21 or more authors, include only the first 19 names, an ellipsis (…), and the final name from the work.

If the work you are citing lists an author, place the author’s name and the individual work first, then a comma, followed by “In” and the general information for the book in which it was published. If the work you are citing does not list an author, place the title of the entry first, followed by “In” and the general information for the book in which it was published.

Remember: use sentence case for the capitalization of book, chapter, and article titles, BUT use title case for the capitalization of periodical or journal titles.
Common References at a Glance:

A Journal Article


A Newspaper Article


A Magazine Article


A Book by a Single Author

Brown, L. S. (2018). Feminist therapy (2nd ed.). American Psychological Association. https://doi.org/1 0.1 037/0000092-000

A Book by Two to Twenty Authors


A Book with an Organization or a Corporation as an Author

Sam Houston State University. (2010). *Majors and programs*. https://www.shsu.edu/academics

A Chapter or Reference Entry in an Edited Book OR A Book or Work in an Anthology


An Article with No Author


A Dictionary Entry

A Government Report


A YouTube Video


A Government Webpage or Website


An E-Book