

Quick Reference for APA References for Academic Writing

The final section of any academic writing is entitled references, and it contains an alphabetical listing (by first author's last name) of the resources (books and articles) where readers can find the ideas and words used in the paper. This page summarizes the important points of the most-frequently used types of references:

Books:

Author, I. I. (date). *Title of the book: Subtitle of the book*. City: Publisher.

Notice: that author's first and middle initials are used (if both are available), and only the first word in the title and subtitle are capitalized. The city and publisher are separated by a colon, and the reference ends with a period.

Paper, S. (1994). *The children's machine*. New York: Basic Books.

Articles:

Author, I. I. (date). Title of the article. *Title of the Journal*, volume(issue), pages.

Notice: Only the first word of the title of the article is capitalized, but all of the words in the journal title are capitalized (except for conjunctions). The title of the journal and the volume number are italicized, but not the issue. There is no space between the volume number and the parentheses of the issue.

Parker-Oliver, D., & Demiris, G. (2006). Social work informatics: A new specialty. *Social Work*, 51,(2), 127-35.

Article from Electronic Database:

Most databases provide a doi (digital object identifier); if a doi is available, then list use a reference just like for a print article (see above), and after the period that ends the reference, add doi:xxxxxxx (the doi will be a long list of characters and punctuation... copy it exactly). Do not put a period at the end of the reference.

Cronbach, L. J., & Meehl, P. E. (1955). Construct validity in psychological tests. *Psychological Bulletin*, 52, 281-302. doi:10.1037/h0040957

Web Sites:

Citing web pages is difficult because the information changes frequently, the author is not usually specified, and the information can be removed from the cited location anytime. Check the APA web site

