

American Medical Association (AMA) Style Guide Cheat Sheet

Book

AuthorLastName FirstMiddle initials. *Book Title: Subtitle*. Edition number (if it is the second edition or above). Publisher's name; copyright year.

Book Chapter

Chapter author's LastName FirstMiddle initials. Chapter title. **In:** Editor's Last Name First InitialMiddle initial, ed/trans. *Title of book: Subtitle of book*. Publisher; Year of Publication:Page number(s).

E-Book

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. *Title of Book: Subtitle of book*. Edition Number (do not indicate first edition). Book medium. Publisher; Year of Publication. URL. Accessed Month day, year.

Journal/Periodical/Magazine/Newspaper Articles

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. Title of article. *Abbreviated Journal Title*. Year; Volume(Issue):Page-Page. URL. Published or Last updated date. Accessed date.

Newspaper Article

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. Title of article. *Title of Magazine or Newspaper*. Month Day, Year:Page-Page. URL. Published date or Last updated date. Accessed date.

Thesis and Dissertation

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. *Title of Paper*. Thesis/Dissertation. University; Year. Accessed Month Date, Year.URL

Conference and Presentation

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. *Title of paper*. Paper presented at: Name of conference; Date conference held; Location.

Website

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. Page title. Website Name. Published Month Day, Year. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Patent

Inventor names, inventor; assignee company, assignee. Title of patent. Patent issued agency and number. Date patent was granted.

Technical Report

Author'sLastName FirstInitialMiddleInitial. *Title*. City: Publisher; Year Published.

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Reference List Basics

- The **authors** follow the pattern of Surname Initials (e.g. Brown JA) and are separated by a comma.
- If there are **six authors/editors or less**, include the names of all authors/editors.
- If there are **more than six authors/editors**, only list the first three names, then shorten with **et al.** (e.g. Smith AA, Jones BA, Bloggs JC, et al.).
- The major parts of a reference are **Authors. Title of part. Title of Whole. Publication details (including copyright/publication year). Online details.** Each section is separated by a full stop.
- The **title of the part** (journal article, book chapter or web object) is always in sentence case and not in italics.
- The **title of the whole** (book or journal) is usually in Title Case and in italics - except for websites and unpublished material.
- The **publication details** change for the type of source you are citing (journal article, book chapter, etc.). See the full details in the guide for more information.
- **Online details:** with electronic sources, you always use the DOI if you have one. If not, use a URL if it is relevant.
- If you use a URL, you must include an Accessed date.

In-text Citation

- References are numbered in consecutive order in the text, tables, or figures.
- Use superscript Arabic numerals to cite material, e.g., ¹. The first reference used in a written document is listed as 1 in the reference list.
- The numbers in text are in superscript¹ and occur at the end of the clause in which you used the information. They occur outside “quotation marks,”² commas,³ (parentheses)⁴ and full stops.⁵ However, they occur inside semicolons⁶; and colons⁷:
- Do not leave a space between the last letter or punctuation mark and the number.
- The superscript numbers are used in the following ways:
- immediately next to the fact, idea or quotation being cited. *Ex. This drug is used to treat hepatitis.¹*
 - Outside periods and commas. *Ex. Storing latex at high heat may cause degradation,^{2,3-5,7} but it is difficult to keep materials cool in a desert environment.*
 - Inside colons and semi-colons. *Ex. Some physicians choose to store prescription pads in locked cabinets⁸; others keep them in their coats at all times.⁹*
 - When more than 2 references are cited at a given place in the manuscript, use hyphens to join the first and last numbers of a closed series; use commas without space to separate other parts of a multiple citation. *Ex. As reported previously,^{1,4-7,19,24}*
- If a reference is used multiple times in one paper, use the same number throughout.
- At the end of the document, include a **reference list** with full citations to each item. Name it References. Order citations as they appear in your paper.
- **Use the author’s last name** in your text, as long as these mentions are accompanied by numbered citations. Use last names only. For items with one or two authors, include both names. For items with 3 or more authors, include the first author's surname and then 'et al' or 'and colleagues'.