APA Style (6th Ed.)-Basic Examples: Articles

The examples listed here are based on the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 6th ed., and other reliable sources, but you may see a number of variations on what is considered correct APA citation style, depending on where you look. Note that your instructor is the final authority on how your citations are written, so it is best to check with your instructor if you are unsure of his/her preferences.

All citations in your list of References should be double-spaced and in the “hanging indent” format as shown. Pay close attention to the correct style for author/editor names (use initials only for first and middle names), article title capitalization (capitalize only first words and proper nouns), date placement, etc.

Journal Article With DOI (Print or From Library Database or Found Through a Web Search):

Author(s) of Article. (year of publication). Complete title of article. Name of Journal, volume(issue if all issues start on p. 1), page range of article if available. https://doi.org/10.xxxxxxxx or http://dx.doi.org/10.xxxxxxxx or doi:10.xxxxxxxx


TIP: DOI numbers can look like a link (starting with https:// or http://, each of which has a slightly different format), or just a long string of numbers (sometimes including letters and slashes) that starts with 10. APA accepts all three DOI formats (see formats above), so use what appears with your article (or, if you see multiple formats in connection with the same article, use the one that starts with https:// if it’s one of the choices). Check carefully and remove anything unneeded when copying and pasting.

TIP: The above example shows the format for an article having more than seven authors. Include the names of all authors if there are seven or fewer.

Journal Article Without DOI (From Library Database or Found Through a Web Search):

Author(s) of Article. (year of publication). Complete title of article. Name of Journal, volume(issue if all issues start on p. 1), page range of article if available. Retrieved from URL for homepage of journal or direct URL if article cannot be searched on homepage


TIP: APA strongly prefers a DOI number with journal article citations, but if you are sure that no DOI is available, include the journal’s homepage URL (except for articles that are not available through the journal’s homepage, in which case you can use the direct URL). Do not include database information. Your instructor may have his/her own preferences for this however, so it is best to check when in doubt.

TIP: For a print journal article without a DOI, follow the format above but stop after the page range.

See more APA citation information at: libguides.pittcc.edu/citationhelp (click on the links under APA).

Updated 11/2018