

CITING WEB SITES

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Claiming other people's work as your own is dangerous; for example, the former president of Hamilton College recently resigned over a misunderstanding of crediting sources. Giving other people credit for their work, however, is not only honest and professional but also easy to do.

Here are some examples and guidelines for citing Internet sites:

MLA Citation Style

"City Profile: San Francisco."¹ CNN.com.² 2002.³ Cable News Network.⁴ 14 Feb. 2004⁵ <<http://www.cnn.com/TRAVEL/atevo/city/SanFrancisco/intro.html>>.⁶

- Take the author's name directly from the document; it normally appears at the beginning or the end of the document. ¹If no author's name is available, begin with the title of the document.
- ¹State the full title of the document enclosed in quotation marks unless you are citing an entire Internet site or an online book.
- Include ²the title of the site (underlined), ³the date of the site's latest update, and ⁴the name of any organization that sponsors the site (usually at the bottom of the site's home page).
- ⁵Provide the last date you visited the site and ⁶the URL enclosed in angle <> brackets. If a URL must be divided between two lines break it only after a slash; do not introduce a hyphen - at the break. If a URL is too long or too complicated, give the site's search page instead.

If you cannot find some of this information, cite what is available. Additional examples -- including some for Project Muse and JSTOR -- are listed on page 222 of the MLA Handbook.

APA Citation Style

Electronic reference formats recommended by the American Psychological Association.¹ (2000, October 12).² Retrieved February 14, 2004, from <http://www.apa.org/journals/webref.html>^{3,4}

- ¹For works with no author, move the title to the author position (before the date of publication).
- ¹Capitalize only the first word of the title and of the subtitle, if any, and any proper nouns.
- ²Include date of publication. Use (n.d.) when a source does not have a date.
- Provide ³the document's Internet address at the end of the retrieval statement. Direct readers as closely as possible to the information being cited. When an Internet document comprises multiple pages, i.e., different sections have different URLs, provide a URL that links to its home page.
- Do not insert a hyphen if you need to break a URL across lines. Instead, break the URL after a slash or before a period. ⁴Finish the citation with a period unless it ends with an Internet address.

Sources: Pages 207-230 of the 6th Edition of the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. Additional information is available online at http://www.mla.org/style_faq4
Pages 268-281 of the 5th Edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Assn.