

Citing in American Medical Association (AMA) Style

(adapted from the AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors, 11th edition)

Formatting your paper:

The AMA Manual of Style does not provide specific direction on all style elements. The following are general formatting practices. Check with your instructor for specific formatting rules.

- Paper components: title page, abstract, text (body of paper), and references list
- Left alignment, 1" margins, ½" indents, page # in top right corner of header (beginning with title page)
- Double space within the text of the paper.
- Single space within the abstract, notes, titles and headings, block quotes, tables and figures, and references. Single space each reference. Double space between references

General style rules:

Body of paper

AMA style uses a superscript number to cite sources referred to in the body of a paper. A superscript number is a number smaller than the normal line of font and set slightly above it.

- Place the superscript numerals outside of periods and commas and inside colons and semicolons
- When multiple sources are consulted to present a fact or prepare an idea, cite each source, and use hyphens to join the first and last numbers of a closed series, or commas without space to separate numbers

Reference List

AMA style requires the inclusion of a reference list at the end of a paper (on its own page). Title the page "References" [no quotation marks] and place it in the top, center of the page.

- References should be listed in numerical order, in order of appearance within the paper, not alphabetically
- List the author's last name followed by initials without periods. If there are between 1 and 6 authors, list all authors separated by commas. If there are more than 6 authors, list the first 3 followed by "et al." [no quotation marks]
- Abbreviate journal titles according to the [National Library of Medicine's \(NLM\) Catalog](#). *Please note: make sure you are using the journal name, not the name of the database or publisher*
- Do not enter spaces between the year, volume, issue, and page numbers (and any intervening punctuation) when creating a reference
- AMA recommends providing a DOI (Digital Object Identifier, when it is available. DOIs provide stable, long-lasting links for online articles. If available, the doi should be the final element and is not followed by a period.
- Provide the most direct URL (the journal publisher's Website) to an electronic article and the date it was accessed if it does not have a doi (e.g., Accessed October 5, 2015. www.elsevier.com/locate/fbio.)

The basic format for an electronic journal article:

Author(s). Title. *Abbreviated Journal Name*. Year;volume(issue No.):inclusive pages. doi:

If you have a source type that you don't see listed in the table of examples, check out the AMA Manual of Style at MSL for guidelines. It can be found in print and online using the [MSL Catalog](#) search.

Examples:

Source Type	Example
Journal Article, print, 1 author	Franklin RE. X-ray diffraction studies of cucumber virus 4 and three strains of tobacco mosaic virus. <i>Biochim Biophys Acta</i> . 1956;19(2):203-211.
Journal article, print, 6+ authors	Teixeira RBC, Rendahl AK, Anderson SM, et al. Coat color genotypes and risk and severity of melanoma in gray quarter horses. <i>J Vet Intern Med</i> . 2013;27(5):1201-1208.
Journal article, electronic (follow above examples for # of authors)	Strehle E-M, Straub V. Recent advances in the management of Duchenne muscular dystrophy. <i>Arch Dis Child</i> . 2015;100(12):1173-1177. doi:10.1136/archdischild-2014-307962
Government report	Thorne RM. <i>Protecting Archeological Sites on Eroding Shorelines: A Hay Bales Approach</i> . Washington, DC: National Park Service; 2004. Archeology Program Technical Brief 18.
Newspaper article	Brody JE. Distracted walkers pose threat to self and others. <i>New York Times</i> . December 7, 2015. Accessed December 7, 2015. http://well.blogs.nytimes.com/2015/12/07/its-not-just-drivers-being-driven-to-distraction .
Websites (Including blogs)	Traveler's health. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website. Accessed December 7, 2015. http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/ .
Entire book, print	Gawande A. <i>The Checklist Manifesto: How to Get Things Right</i> . New York, NY: Metropolis Books; 2010.
Entire book, online	Klaassen CD, Watkins JB III, eds. <i>Casarett & Doull's Essentials of Toxicology</i> . 3rd ed. New York, NY: McGraw-Hill; 2015. Accessed December 3, 2015. http://accesspharmacy.mhmedical.com/book.aspx?bookid=1540 .
Book chapter, print	Sacks O. Face-blind. In: Roach M, Folger T, eds. <i>The Best American Science and Nature Writing 2011</i> . Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt; 2011: 291-305.
Book chapter, online	Wandeler AI, Bingham J. Dogs and rabies. In: MacPherson CNL, Meslin FX, Wandeler AI, eds. <i>Dogs, Zoonoses and Public Health</i> . New York, NY: CABI Publishing; 2000: 63-90. Accessed December 9, 2015. http://www.cabi.org/cabebooks/ebook/20003033827 .
Thesis or Dissertation	Sweet LE. <i>Antidepressant Effects in Hybrid Striped Bass: Moving from External Exposures to Internal Doses</i> [dissertation]. Clemson, SC: Clemson University; 2015.