

APA Quick Bits



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APA formatting is a way to cite sources of information both within your text and on a separate references page at the end of the document. The following is based on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, 7th edition and shows rules for various source types and situations.

Basic APA Format for References:

Who. (when). What it's called. Where it's published.

Who. = Last name, Initial. The last name and first initial of the author. If no human author is named, use the name of the organization or company as author (ex. World Health Organization). When the author is not known, use following order: Title. (Date). Publisher.

(when). = The date of publication. The year alone is usually fine but this part can also include month, day, or season. If no date is clearly stated, use (n.d.).

What it's called. = The title of the source. This could be in two parts such as when an article or chapter in a larger publication is used; in these cases, the formatting and punctuation changes from this basic format (see below for examples). If there is no author or organization named, then the title goes before the date. When the title is the name of the periodical; note that the name of the periodical has different formatting and is usually followed by numbers for volume, issue, and pages. Sometimes both a DOI and the periodical name and volume, etc. will be used.

In all cases, pay close attention to punctuation, capitalization, spacing, and italicization.

Source Type	In-Text Citation	Reference/Notes
Newspaper, online, two authors	(Broadbent & Rake, 2014)	Broadbent, V. & Rake, A. (2014, November 19 (14-2)2.5 ()6.5 ()S3


Source Type	In-Text Citation	Reference/Notes
Two Journal articles with the same authors & same publication date	<p>(Kensinger & Schacter)</p> 	<p>Kensinger, E., & Schacter, D. (2005a). Emotional content and reality monitoring ability: fMRI evidence for the influences of encoding processes. <i>Neuropsychologia</i>, 43, 1429-1443.</p> <p>Kensinger, E. & Schacter, D. (2005b). Retrieving accurate and distort memories: Neuroimaging evidence for the effects of emotion. <i>NeuroImage</i>, 27, 167-177.</p> <p>Note: You must add the "a," "b" tag to the end of the date of publication to create a distinction between the sources and maintain alphabetical order.</p>
Journal article online, three or more authors		

Figure (chart, diagram, map, photo, etc.)	Caption below figure: Figure 1: 2016 KIN Cup tug of war5 (Sept. 27, 2016)	University of the Fraser Valley. (2016, Sept. 27). 2016 KIN Cup tug of war5 [Photograph]. https://www.flickr.com/photos/ufv/29346459694/in/album72157674382301186/ Note 1: The example given here assumes that permission to copy is not needed. See Notes 2, and 3 on page 6 of the Academic Success Centre's longer APA Style Guide "Music, Video, Software, & Images" about securing copyright. Note 2: The caption includes the Figure number in your document, a title, and explanation of symbols if relevant.
Indigenous Elders & Knowledge Keepers	(Cardinal, 2004)	Cardinal, D., Goodfish Lake Cree Nation. Treaty 6. Lives in Edmonton. (teaching personal communication). April 2004. Note 1: The "p" in "personal communication" is lower case, following APA style guidelines. Note 2: The order and type of elements differ from other sources, particularly the date.

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