APA Reference list entries have four main components which answer four specific questions—

1. **Author**: *Who* is responsible for the work?
2. **Date**: *When* was this work published?
3. **Title**: *What* is this work called?
4. **Source**: *Where* can I retrieve this work?

If a writer can answer these four questions about a source they can successfully create a reference for any type of work regardless of the medium.

### Major changes to 7th edition

- Running header no longer required for student papers.
- Use of “they” as a singular pronoun accepted.
- Extensive updates to bias-free language usage; more information can be found on the APA’s [website](http://www.apastyle.org).
- One space after a period at the end of a sentence.
- Use of quotation marks around [linguistic examples](http://www.apastyle.org) instead of italics.
- Tables and figure may be presented in the text of a document or on separate pages after reference list.
- All sources with 3 or more authors now use only first author and ‘et al’ when creating in-text citation. (Smith et al., 2020)
- Up to 20 authors included in any one reference list entry.
- DOIs and URLs presented as hyperlinks.
- “Retrieved from” only used when identifying a date in a citation, not the DOI or URL location.

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**APA 7th Edition Quick Guide**

### APA References

The APA (American Psychological Association) style is used to cite sources within the social and behavioral sciences.

**Two types of citations are included in most research papers:**

1) Citations within the text of the document and
2) A list of references citations at the end of the paper.

**In-Text Citations**

In-text citations appear in the body of your paper. They identify your use of an idea or quotation from one of your sources. The APA Handbook uses the (author, date) citation system for in-text citations.

**Reference Citations**

Information about the sources you use in your work are included as a separate list at the end of the paper. The APA Handbook suggests using the title, “References” for the list.

Any source information that you provide in an in-text citation must correspond to a source in your References.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Citation Example</th>
<th>Parenthetical In-Text Citation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**MORE RESOURCES**

http://library.lsco.edu/help/citation.asp

See more examples of and links to resources to help you with APA 7th ed.

https://apastyle.apa.org/

The official homepage for APA style where you can learn more about citations, paper formatting and style guidelines.

**Need more help?**

**Ask a librarian!**

One-on-one assistance is available in person, by phone, email or by chat!

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