

Guidelines for Citing References on Science Project

“Intellectual Property” may be described as a unique *idea, action* or *device* an individual produces and is made available for others to observe or experience. Often we, as observers/consumers, use the intellectual property of others to build our knowledge or products. Because this borrowed intellectual property does not belong to us we have a requirement to respect the ownership rights of that property and must recognize the owner when we use their “intellectual property”. In other words the ethical code demands that we not to take credit for an idea that comes from another.

In science, the manner by which we recognize another’s “intellectual property” is by calling out (citing) their work, where we use it, in the body of our text. The referencing procedure varies from forum-to-forum (journals differ in style) wherein you publish your knowledge for the general population. That said, there are certain conventions (standard ways) to reference a particular type or source where you found the intellectual property you wish to acknowledge. This guidance will highlight a few of the “typical” ways to record the sources found in your work. The Bibliographic Services Division of the United States National Library of Medicine (USNLM/BSL), in cooperation with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), produced a nearly exhaustible list of source citation formats (1). It is recommended that you go online to the following Uniform Resource Locator (URL) website [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html] to locate a unique type of reference you are attempting to cite should yours not be listed below.

In general, the author is responsible for providing complete and accurate references so that a reader may, if they wish, locate the original referenced material. And, cited references should only include those directly supporting the argument of the project. The complete listing of references should immediately follow the body of the text and should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned. References located in the text, tables, and legends should be annotated at the point of use by Arabic numerals contained within parentheses—multiple cited references should be separated by a comma , for example (17, 19, 23). Finally, they should be single spaced.

Here are a few examples taken from the NLM URL. Find the one resembling most the source you have to cite and use the example’s format to get your reference into the proper form.

Books:

Individual author(s)

Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

Editor(s) as author(s)

Gilstrap LC 3rd, Cunningham FG, VanDorsten JP, editors. Operative obstetrics. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002.

Organization(s) as author

Royal Adelaide Hospital; University of Adelaide, Department of Clinical Nursing. Compendium of nursing research and practice development, 1999-2000. Adelaide (Australia): Adelaide University; 2001.

Chapter in a book

Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, editors. The genetic basis of human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002. p. 93-113.

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1. Patrias K. National Library of Medicine recommended formats for bibliographic citation. Bethesda (MD): The Library; 1991.

Journals/Magazines:

Standard article

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. *N Engl J Med*. 2002 Jul 25;347:284-7.

No author given

21st century heart solution may have a sting in the tail. *BMJ*. 2002;325:184.

Organization as author

Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. Hypertension, insulin, and proinsulin in participants with impaired glucose tolerance. *Hypertension*. 2002;40:679-86.

Article in a Journal supplement

Glauser TA. Integrating clinical trial data into clinical practice. *Neurology*. 2002;58(12 Suppl 7):S6-12.

Scientific or technical report

Yen GG (Oklahoma State University, School of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Stillwater, OK). Health monitoring on vibration signatures. Final report. Arlington (VA): Air Force Office of Scientific Research (US), Air Force Research Laboratory; 2002 Feb. Report No.: AFRLSRBLTR020123. Contract No.: F496209810049.

Other Published Material:

Newspaper article

Tynan T. Medical improvements lower homicide rate: study sees drop in assault rate. *The Washington Post*. 2002 Aug 12;Sect. A:2 (col. 4).

Dictionary and similar references

Dorland's illustrated medical dictionary. 29th ed. Philadelphia: W.B. Saunders; 2000. Filamin; p. 675.

Computer file

Renal system [computer program]. MS-DOS version. Edwardsville, KS: Medi-Sim; 1988.

Classical material

The Winter's Tale: act 5 scene 1, lines 13-16. *The complete works of William Shakespeare*. London: Rex, 1973.

Electronic Material:

CD-ROM

Anderson SC, Poulsen KB. Anderson's electronic atlas of hematology [CD-ROM]. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 2002.

Journal article on the Internet

Jacobsen JW, Mulick JA, Schwartz AA. A history of facilitate communications: Science, pseudoscience, and antiscience: Science working group on facilitated communication. *Am Psychol* 1995;. 50: 750-65. Retrieved January 25, 1996, from the World Wide Web: <http://www.apa.org/journals/jacobson.html>

Homepage/Web site

Cancer-Pain.org [homepage on the Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc.; c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: <http://www.cancer-pain.org/>.

Database on the Internet

MeSH Browser [database on the Internet]. Bethesda (MD): National Library of Medicine (US); 2002 - [cited 2003 Jun 10]. Meta-analysis; unique ID: D015201; [about 3 p.]. Available from: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html> Files updated weekly