

MLA Citation Guide

MLA's new edition has an updated version on how to document sources in academic writing across all format types. The new version considers the ways in which digital publication has changed how writers and researchers record sources.

Works Cited

Author. Title. Title of the container, Other contributors, Version, Number, Publisher's name, Date of publication, Location.

The MLA core elements (facts common to most works) are assembled in the order below:



- ✓ Author.
- ✓ Title of the source.
- ✓ Title of the container,
- ✓ Other contributors,
- ✓ Version,
- ✓ Number,
- ✓ Publisher's name,
- ✓ Date of publication,
- ✓ Location.



✓ Author.

The name of the author (Last name, first name). If the source has more than three authors, include only the first author's name followed by et al.



✓ Title of the source.

Journal, magazine, newspaper article title, book chapter, entry from a website or piece of music on an album.



✓ Title of the container,

Containers are the elements that "hold" the source such as the name of the journal, book, or website. An item may have multiple containers, if an academic journal from a database is cited, the database is the container as well as the journal.



✓ Other contributors,

If there are other contributors and their work played a role in the research, they are included in the citation by stating their role, adding the word "by" and then their name. For example: Edited by, Translated by or Narrated by...



✓ Version,

Edition or version of a work.



✓ Number,

When a source is part of a set, they have a volume number. An article in a journal is often given a volume number and an issue number. Those numbers must be listed in your citation.



✓ Publisher's name,

The publishing company which produces and releases the source. If the source has more than one publisher, they are listed in your citation and separated by (/).



✓ Date of publication,

Date when the source is published. If the source has been published on more than one date, it is necessary to use the date that is most relevant to your use of the source.



✓ Location.

A chapter or essay in a book or a journal article should include page numbers, and an online source include the URL. If it is a physical object, identify the place of publication.