

APA Citation Guide

The American Psychological Association or APA is a style that is mostly used within social sciences in citing sources. It gives general format for reference page and in-text citations.

APA Paper Formatting and Style Guidelines: [APA Manual 7th Edition](#): It is essential that you know how to format your paper using APA manual 7th edition guidelines. This page will be your help to know what you should do.

General guidelines: APA 7th Edition

- Use 8 1/2 x 11” paper
- All sides of the paper should have one inch margin
- Every first word in paragraph must be indented one half inch
- Make sure to use Times New Roman font
- Use font size 12
- Double space the whole research paper
- Include a page header at each top of the page
- In making the page or running header, insert page numbers that is justified to right hand side of your paper
- Type title of the paper and justified to left with the use of capital letters
- If the title is long, the running head must be a shortened version of your title

Components of APA: APA 7th Edition

In using the APA format, there are sections that you need to include.

- Title page
- Abstract
- Main body
- References

Title page: In here, it should contain 4 pieces: the title of your paper, running head, author's name, institutional affiliation and author's note. You can check out title [APA format examples](#) on the internet to have ideas on how to write it.

Note: You need to keep in mind that only in the title page, the running or page header should include the words "running head" before the title. The rest of pages should not include the page header. To know how it is written, you can check out APA format examples online.

- The title of your paper should get the main idea of your essay. Make sure that it does not contain words or abbreviations that do not have any purpose.
- Your paper should be centered on the page with a font of Times New Roman. Do not bold, italicize and underline the title.
- The title should be about one to two lines only. It should not be more than 12 words in length.
- The text on your title page must need to be double-spaced.
- Avoid including titles on author's name like Ms. or Dr.
- The institutional affiliation is where the author conducted his research.

Abstract:

- Begin with a running title.
- On first line of your page, center the "abstract" word. You should not also include a quotation mark.
- The next step is you need to write a summary of ideas in your research. Your abstract is your way in introducing to readers your research topic and questions that will be answered. It also includes the findings, process you did or conclusions.
- Summary must need to be indented and it should be less than 250 words.

Body:

- Start with running title
- On next line, write your title and be sure not to underline, italicize or bold the title.
- Start with introduction.
- Your introduction should presents the premise and the problem, which your research was based.
- Start a new section with Method. Center and bold the subtitle. Your method section will show how your study was conducted and run. Make sure that you describe your methods through data.

- Start a new section with Discussion. Center and bold the subtitle. The Discussion section is your opportunity to interpret and analyze results.
- Draw your conclusions and support your data.
- Discuss whether or not the hypothesis was supported or confirmed by results.
- Determine the limitations of your study.

References:

- Start with running title
- Bold and center the title “References”
- Double space and Alphabetize all entries
- Each source or article mentioned in paper and all study used must need to be referenced.

If you are having a hard time writing the references, you can check out APA format example on the web.

Formatting APA Words Cited List

Label your page References centered at top of your paper. Be sure to use double space. Each line of your citation should be indented and it must have 1/2 inch from left margin. Do not forget that you also need to alphabetize your whole bibliography list.

Note: You can check out APA format example online to know how it is being formatted.

Differences between MLA and APA

APA and MLA are formatting and writing styles that are used in reports, academic essays and papers. APA is used in social sciences while MLA is used in humanities and liberal arts. Even though, they have similarities, there are also differences between MLA and APA.

Paper Formatting: [Differences Between APA and MLA Format](#)

Both APA and MLA adhere to double spaces pages with a font size of 12 having one-inch margin in all sides. The APA formatted paper consists of 4 parts: the title page, abstract, body and references. The abstract is about 150 to 250 words. It also gives a summary of key ideas in paper, which include research topic, research questions, analysis, methods and conclusion. On the other hand, the MLA formatted paper does not have separate title page or abstract. It only has 2 major parts: the body and the works cited page. There you have the differences between APA and MLA format that you should know.

Title Page: [APA Publication Manual 7th Edition](#)

APA formatted papers are using page headers at top of each page, which include title page. It includes title, author's name as well as institutional affiliation. The MLA formatted paper includes title on first page that separates the title from essay.

In-Text Citations: APA vs. MLA Differences

APA and MLA have different methods for in-text citations. The APA paper includes last name of the author, year of publication using parenthesis. The MLA paper includes the last name of the author and the page number with parenthesis.

There you have the APA vs. MLA differences. The writing style have their own similarities as well as differences that you should know so that you will not make mistakes in writing whatever writing style you are required to use.

Finally, the time you know APA publication manual 7th edition guide, you need to make notes so that you will not forget what you need to do. The guidelines will be your help to have an easy task in writing because you know what you will do. If you have your title, you can start writing your research today!

Use this guide for APA format example today!

Here are some more interesting resources where you can find a lot of interesting and useful information about style and formats of the APA.

<https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/560/08/>

<http://libguides.dixie.edu/c.php?g=57887&p=371727>

<http://irsc.libguides.com/apa/bookwitheditorrefernceexample>