

Quick Guide: MLA 8th Ed.

Modern Language Association



Guiding Principals

Major Changes

- Do not consider the publication format to create a citation. Instead, focus on the **9 major elements** found in chart at the bottom of the page.
- Common terms like *editor*, *translator*, and *review of* are no longer abbreviated.
- If three or more authors, use the first named author followed by *et al.*
- Page numbers are now preceded by *p.* or *pp.*
- Place of publication is now omitted. Place holders (such as n.d. or n.p.) are not used.
- Issues of scholarly journals now appear as “vol. 52, no. 2” rather than 52(2).
- URL’s are given without `http://` or brackets. DOI’s are encouraged. No Date of Access.

Elements Explained

- 1 Author.
- 2 Title of source.
- 3 Title of container,
- 4 Other contributors,
- 5 Version,
- 6 Number,
- 7 Publisher,
- 8 Publication date,
- 9 Location.

(Follow this element chart for all citations)
(Punctuation above is accurate)

- (1) **Author.**
Begin with Last name, followed a comma and the rest of the name finished with a period.
- (2) **Title of source.**
Whether a title is italics or in quotes follows as such: *Book*, *Website*, “Journal article.”
- (3) **Title of container,**
A container is a “larger whole in which a source is located.” Can be an anthology, a website, or a database. There can be **multiple containers** for a single source.
- (4) **Other contributors,**
These are contributors that are relevant to your research or are needed to ID the source.
- (5) **Version,**
Edition of the work.
- (6) **Number,**
Multi-volume work.
- (7) **Publisher,**
Name not needed for periodicals, self-published works, website that would duplicate the title, or website that just provides access.
- (8) **Publication date,**
Use date most relevant to your research or, when in doubt, use the original date.
- (9) **Location.**
Page numbers, URL, or DOI

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Citation Examples

Book

Gladwell, Malcolm. *The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference*. Little, Brown and Company, 2002.

E-Book

Burch, Sarah L. *Understanding Climate Change: Science, Policy, and Practice*. U of Toronto P, 2014. eBook Academic Collection (EBSCOhost).

Chapter in an Edited Work (or Anthology)

Kamenetz, Anya. "Generation Debt." *The Contemporary Reader*, edited by Gary Goshgarian, Pearson, 2013, pp. 147-51.

Encyclopedia Article (Online)

"Edison, Thomas." *Encyclopedia of American Studies*, edited by Simon Bronner. Johns Hopkins UP, 2016. Credo Reference.

Newspaper or Magazine Article (Online)

Witz, Billy. "M.L.B. Considers Adjusting Rules on Slides and Replays." *The New York Times*. 11 Nov. 2015. nyti.ms/1RPOa4K.

Scholarly Journal Article (Online)

Hendrickson, Kevin E., and Erica H. Johnson. "The Demand For Spatially Complementary National Parks." *Land Economics*, vol. 89, no. 2, 2013, pp. 330-45. *Business Source Elite*.

Website (Short work)

"Nutrition Basics." *Mayo Clinic*, 2016. www.mayoclinic.org/healthy-lifestyle/nutrition-and-healthy-eating/basics/nutrition-basics/hlv-20049477.

Tweet

@POTUS. "Congratulations to Maine-Endwell, Little League World Series Champs and still undefeated! Proud of you and the sportsmanship you showed." *Twitter*, 28 Aug. 2016, 5:08 p.m., twitter.com/POTUS/status/770050438578184192.

YouTube Video

"How to Tie the Perfect Bow Tie | Lessons from a Men's Shop." *YouTube*, uploaded by Pursuityourself, 27 Dec. 2013, youtu.be/5X4aBSRt_HQ.

Netflix, Hulu, other streaming content

"94 Meetings." *Parks and Recreation*, season 2, episode 21, NBC, 29 Apr. 2010. *Netflix*, www.netflix.com/watch/70152031?trackId=200256157&tctx=0%2C20%2C0974d361-27cd-44de-9c2a-2d9d868b9f64-12120962.

In-Text Citation : (AuthorLastname Page) → (Miller 150).

Online Resources:

- **Purdue Online Writing Lab**—<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/>
- **Easy Bib**—<http://www.easybib.com/guides/citation-guides/mla-8/>
- **MLA Style**—<https://www.mla.org/MLA-Style/What-s-New-in-the-Eighth-Edition>