

INFORMATION AND LIBRARY SERVICES

APA Citation Changes: 6th Edition of APA Manual

DOI

The biggest change to APA citation style has to do with the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). A DOI is a unique identifying number for a published article. Some databases, such as PsycINFO, list DOIs for articles. If an article has a DOI, it will be shown in the article's database record, for example:

Digital Object Identifier:	<code>http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.compedu.2008.09.009</code>
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When an article has a DOI, omit the traditional "Retrieved from" element of the citation and give the DOI instead, formatting it like this:

Barbour, M., & Reeves, T. (2009). The reality of virtual schools: A review of the literature. *Computers & Education*, 52(2), 402-416. doi:10.1016/j.compedu.2008.09.009

Note that "doi" is written in lowercase letters. There is no space between the colon and the first digit of the DOI. Also, even though the database gave the DOI as an actual Web address (see the above example), in an APA citation include only the portion of the DOI after "http://dx.doi.org/". Do not end the citation with a period.

Articles with No DOI

Many articles in library databases will NOT contain a DOI. When that is the case, you will need to do a quick Web search, using Google for example, to find the homepage of the journal that published the article you are citing. For example, if you are citing an article that appeared in *The Journal for Quality and Participation*, and the article does not have a DOI, follow these steps:

"Journal for Quality and Participation"

Google Search

I'm Feeling Lucky

Search the Web for the journal title. It helps to put the journal title inside quotation marks, so you are searching for that exact sequence of words.

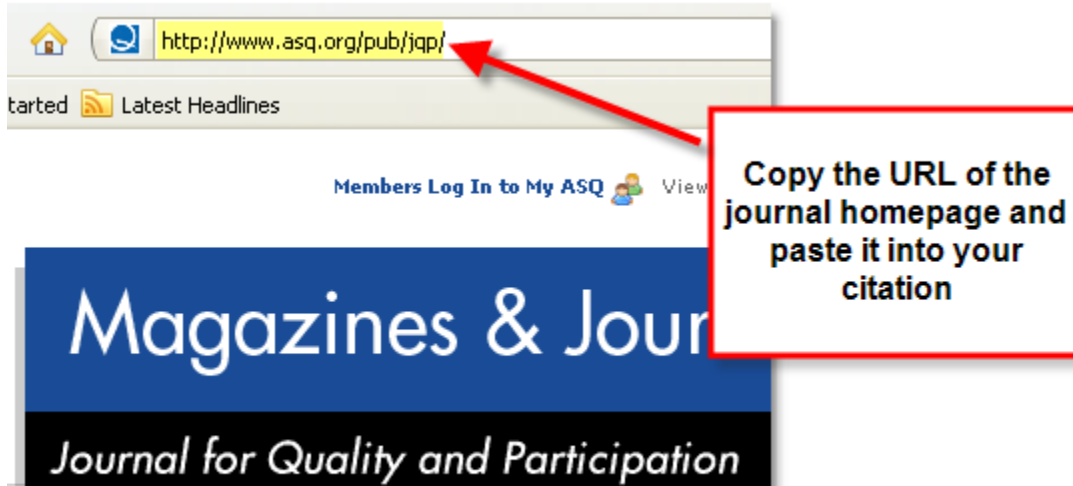
[Journal for Quality and Participation - ASQ](#)

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Locate the journal homepage



When you have obtained the URL for the journal homepage, you add it to the citation as part of a “Retrieved from” statement, like this:

Robinson, C. (2009). Lessons on learning. *The Journal for Quality and Participation*, 32(1), 25-27. Retrieved from <http://www.asq.org/pub/jqp/>

Do not end the citation with a period. Please note that the full-text of the article may or may not be available from the journal homepage.

If you cannot find the journal homepage (which might happen, for instance, if you are citing an old article and the journal no longer exists), then do the same type of Web search for the *database* homepage. Use the URL for the database homepage in your Retrieved statement. For example: Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/>

Summary of DOI Formatting

Article, with DOI, from a library database	Barbour, M., & Reeves, T. (2009). The reality of virtual schools: A review of the literature. <i>Computers & Education</i> , 52(2), 402-416. doi:10.1016/j.compedu.2008.09.009
Article, without DOI, from a library database	Robinson, C. (2009). Lessons on learning. <i>The Journal for Quality and Participation</i> , 32(1), 25-27. Retrieved from http://www.asq.org/pub/jqp/

Other Changes

Beside the major change involving DOIs, there are several minor changes in APA citations:

In a Reference citation, list all author names for articles written by less than eight people.

When an article has eight or more authors, give the first six, an ellipsis, and the final author:

Pazos-Arias, J., López-Nores, M., García-Duque, J., Díaz-Redondo, R., Blanco-Fernández, Y., Ramos-Cabrer, M., . . . Fernández-Vilas, A. (2008). Provision of

distance learning services over Interactive Digital TV with MHP. *Computers & Education*, 50(3), 927-949. doi:10.1016/j.compedu.2006.09.008

When citing a book, give the state postal abbreviation for all US cities, even major ones:

Palloff, R., & Pratt, K. (2009). *Assessing the online learner: Resources and strategies for faculty*. San Francisco, CA: Jossey-Bass.

Citations for master's theses and doctoral dissertations have been streamlined. Here is an example for a dissertation found on the free Web:

Caprette, C. L. (2005). *Conquering the cold shudder: The origin and evolution of snake eyes* (Doctoral dissertation). Retrieved from http://www.ohiolink.edu/etd/send-pdf.cgi?acc_num=osu1111184984

Here is a citation for a dissertation found in our library database:

Pecore, J. T. (2004). *Sounding the spirit of Cambodia: The living tradition of Khmer music and dance-drama in a Washington, DC community* (Doctoral dissertation). Available from ProQuest Dissertations and Theses database. (UMI No. 3114720)

Note that an "Available from" statement is used, giving the database name followed by the word "database." Also, APA calls for the citation to end with a unique identifying number for the dissertation, labeling it "UMI No." That number can be found in Dissertations and Theses database, listed in the item record as "Publication Number."

Journal Issue Number

After a brief time of not doing so, APA again requires that a journal's issue number be omitted when the journal uses continuous pagination. The library is including language to that effect in our APA citation guide, but we feel that this rule is a minor detail that need not be emphasized when correcting students' citations. Our reasoning is that students, working with online articles, will have difficulty determining if a journal uses continuous pagination.

See the library's page of APA Citation Examples for more examples and explanations:
<http://umuc.edu/library/guides/apa.shtml>