

Tolleson Union High School District

Quick Guide for Citing Resources—MLA Style

MLA format does not consider publication format but instead uses these core elements in a specific order. If a publication/item is missing one of the major elements, skip it without any placeholder.

These major elements should be included in the citation:

1. Author.
2. Title of Source.
3. Title of Container,
4. Other Contributors,
5. Version,
6. Number,
7. Publisher,
8. Publication Date,
9. Location,
10. Pages.

Sometimes elements 3-9 repeat again. An example would be a journal article in a database.

Note the punctuation after each element.

Permalink: Online newspapers, magazines, and database articles sometimes include a “permalink,” which is a shortened, stable version of a URL. Look for a “share” or “cite this” button to see if a source includes a permalink. If you can find a permalink, use that instead of a URL. If there is none, use the url instead.

URL: do not include the http://

[www.foodallergymama.com/
2014/08/21/square-one/](http://www.foodallergymama.com/2014/08/21/square-one/)

DOI: If a source indicates a DOI, include it instead of a url.

[doi: 10.1002/tox.20155](https://doi.org/10.1002/tox.20155)

Book (one author)

Author’s last name, first name. *Title*. Publisher, copyright date.
Paterson, Henry. *Engineering: What We Can Learn from our Failures*.
Harcourt, 1985.

Book (two authors)

Leakey, Mary D., and Louis S.B. Leakey. *Some String Figures from North East Angola*. Museum Press, 1949.

Book (three or more authors)

Burger, Carol J., et al. *Reconfiguring the Firewall*. Peterson, 2007.

Edited Book with Different Authors for Each Chapter

Author of article. “Title of Chapter.” *Name of Book*, Edited by Editor’s Name,
Publisher, Year, Page numbers.

Irani, Sarah. “Fast Food is Unhealthy.” *Fast Food*, Edited by Lauri S. Friedman,
Greenhaven, 2010, pp. 12-18.

Encyclopedia Article

“Name of article looked up.” *Encyclopedia*, Edition. Copyright year, pages.

“Magna Carta.” *The New Encyclopedia Britannica*, 15th edition, 1998, pp. 13
-20.

Newspaper or Magazine Article

Author’s last name, first name. “Article Title.” *Magazine*, day month year,
pages.

Cook, Mariana. “Cousin Kay.” *Victoria*, Nov. 2001, pp. 27-28.

Lightbox

Lightbox Literature Series: 1984. Smartbook Media, 2017, pp. 17-18.

Articles in Data Bases

Author. “Article Title.” *Original Source of the Article*, Volume, Number,
Year, Pages. *Database Name*, Permalink.

Smith, Gary. “Onward to the Top.” *Successful Business*, vol. 24, no. 7, 2015,
pp. 204-210. *Academic Search Premier*, permalink.

Brown, Brian A. “Cloning: Where’s the Outrage?” *Human Life Review*, vol.
24, no. 2, Spring 1998, pp. 107-108. *Academic Search Premier*,
[db29.linccweb.org/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/
login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=646243&site=ehost-live](http://search.ebscohost.com/login?url=http://search.ebscohost.com/login.aspx?direct=true&db=a9h&AN=646243&site=ehost-live).

A Page on a Web Site with Author

Author. “Page Title.” *Title of Website*, date of publication, url.

Chu, Will. “Children with Food Allergies Might be More Vulnerable to Asthma, Study Finds.” *Food Navigator*, 2016, [www.foodnavigator.com/
Science/Children-with-food-allergies-might-be-vulnerable-to-asthma-
study-finds](http://www.foodnavigator.com/Science/Children-with-food-allergies-might-be-vulnerable-to-asthma-study-finds).

Rudnicki, Kelly. “Square One.” Food Allergy Mama Inc., 3 July 2016,
www.foodallergymama.com/2014/08/21/square-one/.

A Page on a Web Site without Author

“MLA Style.” *Purdue Online Writing Lab*, 2016, [owl.english.purdue.edu/
owl/section/2/11/](http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/2/11/)