

APA FORMAT CITING WEB PAGES

The formats shown here are based on guidelines from the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*, 5th edition, 2001, Chapter 4, pages 215-281, and from the APA Style Web site at <http://apastyle.apa.org/>

Additional online APA format guides are available at <http://lrc.pjc.edu/citing.shtml>

Use the following as a guide for elements to include in your citation. Not all of these elements will apply to every Web site. Some Web sites will include other information such as editors or version numbers. Pick the important items for your document—those that would allow someone to search for this document via a Web search engine or directory. Refer to the *Publication Manual of the APA* or the online Web sites for additional examples.

Use **double spacing** on your **References** page. Use a **hanging indent format**, that is, set the first line flush left and indent subsequent lines. If it is necessary to divide a URL between two lines, break it only after a slash.

Citing e-mail communications and online postings:

Personal communications, including e-mail and information from newsgroups, are **not cited** on the **References** page but rather in the text of the paper, as follows:

L. A. Chafez (personal communication, January 18, 2001) stated that...

OR

...(T. K. Lutes, personal communication, September 28, 2001)...

Citing an article or document from a Web site:

Last name, initials of author(s) or agency name or corporation name [if given]. (Date the document was created or last updated, in parentheses, expressed as year or year, month or year, month date). *Title of the article, or document from the Web site*. Retrieved [Date of access, expressed as Month day, year], from [URL]

Example:

United States Food and Drug Administration. (2007, June 22). *Final rule promotes safe use of dietary supplements*.

Retrieved January 14, 2007, from <http://www.fda.gov/consumer/updates/dietarysupps062207.html>

*Note: First date is the publication date of the Web page and the second date is the date you accessed the page. Whenever possible, reference specific documents rather than home or menu pages. Be sure to give the Web address of the **specific** article or document within the Web site. Do **not** end the URL with a period because any stray punctuation will hinder retrieval.*

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If the document appears to be part of a larger site and you are not sure of the sponsor or associated institution, look for a link on the page that will get you to the home page. If there is no link on the page, note that the Web address usually contains the sponsoring institution or organization. Delete the file name sections of the URL from right to left back to the first slash (/), which will bring you to the domain name of the server that holds the document.

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