



Citing Sources in Chemistry

ACS: *American Chemical Society*

This guide is based on *The ACS Style Guide: A Manual for Authors and Editors*, 2nd ed., published by the American Chemical Society

Parenthetical citations, or in-line citations are made in the text at the point where the material is used. Journal articles in analytical chemistry use a superscript number at the point cited.

Example:

The reaction was carried out using a standard Lever apparatus⁵ with modifications as described by Grunkemeyer et al.⁶⁻⁷

Numerical reference citations are numbered consecutively from the beginning of a paper. When, occasionally, a reference is repeated in the text, the original number is used; a new number is not given.

Use last names to identify authors in parenthetical citations. If a work has two authors, use both last names linked together with the word "and."

If a referenced work has more than two authors, use only the first author followed by the phrase "et al."

Examples:

Fike and Lance¹² determined that...

Vogt et al.²⁴ found...

Sometimes the same first author publishes different papers on similar topics with different co-authors. To reference multiple works by the same principle author use a phrase such as "and colleagues" or "and co-workers."

Example:

Brugh and co-workers^{17, 23-25} established...

A **references list** is given at the conclusion of a work. This list contains only the sources actually referenced or cited in the work. If a source is consulted but not used or cited in a work, it is not listed in the **References Cited** section.

Basic Citation Elements

Journals	Books
Author names	Author names
Article title (if used)	Editor name (if any)
Abbreviated journal title	Book title
Year of publication	Publisher
Volume number (if any)	City of publication
Pagination of cited article	Year of publication

The list of references is numbered, in order, with reference numbers corresponding to their appearance in the text. Some journals use a very brief format for the reference list where the titles of journal articles or chapters in edited volumes are omitted.

Use the following examples as a guide:

Journal Article

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3. Title of article. *Journal Abbreviation*. **Year**, *Volume*, Inclusive
Page numbers.
Pagination.

Example:

Ehara, Y.; Sakamoto, K.; Marumo, Y. A method for forensic identification of vegetable oil stains: Rapid analysis of carboxylic acids with methyl esterification using purge-and-trap gas chromatography/mass spectrometry. *J. Foren. Sci.* **2001**, *46*, 1462-1469.

Book

Author 1; Author 2; etc. *Book Title*; Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Inclusive
Page Range.

Example:

Dodd, J.S. *The ACS Style Guide, 2nd. ed.*; ACS: Washington, D.C., 1997; 173-
229.

Edited Volume

Author 1; Author 2; etc. Chapter Title. In *Book Title*; Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Eds.; Series
Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Inclusive Page Range.

Example:

Adams, M.R.; Garton, A., Eds. Far-Ultraviolet Degredation of Selected
Polymers. In *Polymer Durability: Degradation, Stabilization, and Lifetime
Prediction*; Clough, R.L., Billingham, N.C., Gillen, K.T., Rds.;
Advances in Chemistry Series 249; ACS: Washington, DC. 1996;
139-158.

Web Site

Author (if any). Title of Site. URL (Accessed date).

Example:

Peoples, D.C. Resources for Chemistry 360 Instrumental Analysis.
<http://library.owu.edu/science/c360main.html> (September 2, 2002).

Important Things to Note about Citations

- Journal titles are usually capitalized sentence-style
- Book titles are usually capitalized book-title style
- Journal names are always abbreviated
- Authors are generally identified by last name and first initials
- Pay attention to punctuation placement - periods, commas, semi-colons
- Pay attention to italics and bolding
- Reference lists usually have the second line of entry indented, though this can vary with publication
- URLs can be cumbersome; it is not necessary to indent the second line of these entries
- Article titles are often omitted from reference list entries - this varies by publication
- The rule of thumb is to be consistent in style and to give only enough information so that the reference may be easily located.

Note: Some material/examples used from <http://library.owu.edu/science/c360cite.html>

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