

chicago endnote format example essay citation

The Chicago Manual of Style provides two distinct citation systems: notes and bibliography, and author-date. This article will focus on the former, specifically the Chicago endnote format example essay citation, to guide students and writers in correctly documenting their sources. Understanding the nuances of endnotes is crucial for academic integrity, preventing plagiarism, and allowing readers to easily locate and verify the information presented. We will delve into the essential components of endnotes, provide clear examples for various source types, and explain how to construct the corresponding bibliography entries. Mastering these citation elements ensures a polished and credible academic work.

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Understanding Chicago Endnotes

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) endnote system is a powerful tool for academic writing, allowing for detailed source attribution without interrupting the flow of the main text. Unlike parenthetical citations that appear within the body of the essay, endnotes are collected at the end of the document, typically on a separate page titled "Notes." Each note corresponds to a superscript number placed in the text immediately following the material that requires citation. This system is favored in many humanities disciplines, including literature, history, and art history, for its ability to accommodate extensive commentary or supplementary information alongside source references.

The fundamental principle behind the endnote system is to provide readers with the precise location of borrowed ideas, direct quotations, or paraphrased information. This not only acknowledges the original authors but also empowers readers to consult the original sources themselves, thereby strengthening the credibility and transparency of your own research. A thorough understanding of how to construct and format these notes is therefore paramount for any student or scholar working within the CMOS framework.

Key Components of a Chicago Endnote

A Chicago-style endnote generally comprises several core pieces of information, presented in a specific order and with particular punctuation. While the exact details can vary slightly depending on the source type, the fundamental structure remains consistent. These components work together to uniquely identify a source and its specific location.

The essential elements typically include the author's name, the title of the work, publication details (such as the publisher and year of publication for books, or journal title, volume, issue, and year for articles), and crucially, the page number(s) from which the information was drawn. The use of commas, periods, and italics for titles is meticulously regulated. Understanding these components is the first step toward accurate citation.

Author's Name

In endnotes, the author's name is presented in the order: First Name Last Name. This contrasts with the bibliography, where the last name typically precedes the first name. For example, if the author is Jane Doe, the endnote will begin with "Jane Doe." If there are multiple authors, specific rules apply regarding how their names are listed, usually following a pattern of "First Last, First Last" for two authors, or "First Last et al." for three or more, although listing all can also be acceptable depending on the specific edition of CMOS being followed.

Title of the Work

The title of the specific work being cited—whether it's a book, an article, or a chapter—is italicized. For shorter works like articles or chapters within a larger edited volume, the title is enclosed in quotation marks instead of italics. The capitalization of titles also follows specific conventions, generally adhering to title case.

Publication Information

This section provides context about where and when the source was published. For books, it includes the city of publication, the publisher's name, and the year of publication. For journal articles, it involves the journal's name (italicized), followed by the volume number, issue number, and the year of publication. Dates are typically presented in a straightforward numerical format.

Page Numbers

The most critical element for identifying the specific information being

cited is the page number. This is usually indicated by the abbreviation "p." for a single page or "pp." for a range of pages. For example, "p. 45" or "pp. 112–13." This precise locator is what allows readers to find the exact passage in the original source.

Citing Books in Endnote Format

Citing books is a fundamental skill when using the Chicago endnote format. The structure requires careful attention to the order of elements and the punctuation used to separate them. Whether you are citing a whole book or a specific chapter, understanding these rules is essential for academic accuracy.

Single Author Book

A typical endnote for a book with a single author follows this structure: First Name Last Name, *Title of Book* (City of Publication: Publisher, Year), Page Number(s).

For example:

1. Jane Doe, *The Art of Citation* (Chicago: University Press, 2023), 78.

If you are referencing the same source consecutively in endnotes, the subsequent notes can be shortened to just the author's last name and the page number, or even just "Ibid." (meaning "in the same place") if the page number is also the same as the preceding note.

Book with Multiple Authors

For a book with two authors, list both names in the endnote:

2. John Smith and Emily Carter, *Research Methodologies Explained* (New York: Academic Publishers, 2022), 150.

For three or more authors, the convention is to list the first author's name followed by "et al." (an abbreviation for "and others"):

3. Robert Green et al., *Historical Perspectives on Modern Science* (London: Sterling Press, 2021), 205.

Edited Book

When citing an edited book, the editor's name is used, often followed by "ed." or "eds." for editor or editors respectively:

4. Sarah Lee, ed., *Contemporary Literary Theory* (Boston: Beacon Press, 2020), 55.

Chapter in an Edited Book

For a chapter within an edited collection, you cite the chapter author first, then the chapter title, followed by the book's title and publication details:

5. Michael Brown, "The Impact of Technology on Communication," in *Digital Revolutions*, ed. Anna White (Seattle: Pacific Publishing, 2019), 112–13.

Citing Journal Articles in Endnote Format

Journal articles are a common source in academic essays, and their citation in Chicago endnote format requires specific details about the publication itself.

Standard Journal Article

The general format for a journal article endnote is: First Name Last Name, "Title of Article," *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year of Publication): Page Number(s).

For example:

6. David Miller, "The Evolution of Urban Planning," *Journal of Urban Studies* 45, no. 3 (2018): 215.

Notice the use of "no." for the issue number and the parentheses around the year of publication. The article title is in quotation marks, while the journal title is italicized.

Article with Page Range

If the article spans multiple pages, you list the full range:

7. Emily Davis, "Sustainable Agriculture Practices," *Environmental Science Quarterly* 22, no. 1 (2020): 45–60.

Citing Websites and Online Resources in Endnote Format

With the proliferation of online resources, knowing how to cite them correctly in endnotes is crucial. The approach can vary depending on the type of online content.

Website with Author

If a website article has a clearly identified author, the citation resembles

that of a traditional article:

8. Robert Johnson, "Understanding Climate Change," *Global Environmental News*, January 15, 2024, accessed February 10, 2024, <https://www.globalenvironmentalnews.com/climatechange>.

The inclusion of the access date and URL is standard practice for online sources, ensuring readers can retrieve the information even if the content changes.

Website without Author

If no author is listed, begin with the title of the specific page or article, followed by the website name (if distinct from the article title), publication date (if available), access date, and URL:

9. "History of the Internet," *Techopedia*, updated June 1, 2023, accessed February 10, 2024, <https://www.techopedia.com/historyoftheinternet>.

Online Document or Report

For specific online documents or reports, include author (if known), title, organization (if applicable), date, and URL:

10. United Nations, *The State of Global Development 2023*, December 2023, accessed February 10, 2024, <https://www.un.org/development/report2023>.

Citing Other Source Types

Beyond books and journal articles, academic essays may draw from a variety of other sources, each with its specific citation requirements within the Chicago endnote system.

Newspaper Articles

For newspaper articles, include the author (if available), article title, newspaper name, date of publication, and page number(s) or URL:

11. Sarah Wilson, "Local Elections See Record Turnout," *The City Herald*, November 8, 2023, sec. A, p. 1.

If accessed online, a URL and access date are also included.

Dissertations and Theses

When citing a dissertation or thesis, provide the author's name, the dissertation title, the degree awarded (e.g., PhD dissertation, MA thesis), the university, and the year of completion:

12. Michael Chen, "Advanced Machine Learning Algorithms" (PhD dissertation, Stanford University, 2021).

If it's a publicly available dissertation (e.g., through ProQuest), a URL and accession number might be included.

Interviews

For interviews conducted by the author, the citation typically includes the interviewee's name and the date the interview took place:

13. Interview with Dr. Eleanor Vance, May 15, 2023.

If the interview was published or recorded, further details about its source would be added.

Formatting the Bibliography

Crucially, every source cited in your endnotes must also appear in a bibliography at the end of your essay. While endnotes provide specific locator information and can include commentary, the bibliography provides a comprehensive, alphabetical list of all sources consulted and cited. The formatting in the bibliography differs subtly from endnotes.

The most notable difference is the inversion of author names: the last name comes first, followed by the first name. The order of elements might also shift, and the punctuation rules are consistent but applied to a full list.

Bibliography Entry for a Book

Compare the endnote: Jane Doe, *The Art of Citation* (Chicago: University Press, 2023), 78.

To the bibliography entry:

Doe, Jane. *The Art of Citation*. Chicago: University Press, 2023.

Note that the page number is omitted from the bibliography entry for a whole book, and the author's last name is placed first. The entry is also typically formatted with a hanging indent for readability.

Bibliography Entry for a Journal Article

Compare the endnote: David Miller, "The Evolution of Urban Planning," *Journal of Urban Studies* 45, no. 3 (2018): 215.

To the bibliography entry:

Miller, David. "The Evolution of Urban Planning." *Journal of Urban Studies* 45, no. 3 (2018): 210–225.

In the bibliography, the author's last name is first, and the full page range

of the article is usually included, even if only a specific page was cited in the endnote. This provides the reader with the complete context of the article's location.

Common Errors to Avoid in Chicago Endnote Formatting

Precision in citation is vital, and several common mistakes can detract from the professionalism and credibility of an essay. Being aware of these pitfalls can help you avoid them and ensure your citations are accurate and compliant with Chicago style.

Inconsistent Punctuation and Capitalization

One of the most frequent errors is inconsistent use of commas, periods, and italics. For instance, forgetting to italicize book titles or failing to enclose article titles in quotation marks. Similarly, inconsistent capitalization in titles can be problematic. Always refer to the specific edition of the Chicago Manual of Style you are using for definitive guidance on these rules.

Incorrect Author Name Order

As noted, the order of author names differs between endnotes (First Last) and the bibliography (Last, First). Confusing these orders is a common oversight that can lead to inaccurate citations.

Omission of Essential Information

Essential details like publication year, publisher, or page numbers can sometimes be inadvertently omitted. For online sources, forgetting the URL or access date can render the citation incomplete and difficult to verify.

Redundant or Missing Citations

Every piece of information that is not common knowledge or your original thought must be cited. Conversely, citing the same source repeatedly for the exact same information without using shortened note formats or "Ibid." can make notes cumbersome. Ensure that every endnote has a corresponding bibliography entry and vice versa.

Incorrect Use of "Ibid." and Shortened Notes

While "Ibid." and shortened notes are useful for consecutive citations, their misuse can create confusion. "Ibid." should only be used when the citation is identical to the immediately preceding one, including the page number. Shortened notes require the author's last name and a relevant page number for subsequent citations of the same work.

Finalizing Your Chicago Endnote Essay Citation

The process of correctly implementing the Chicago endnote format example essay citation is a detailed but rewarding one. It requires meticulous attention to detail, consistent application of rules, and a thorough understanding of the different source types you are referencing. By mastering the construction of endnotes and their corresponding bibliography entries, you not only fulfill academic requirements but also demonstrate a commitment to scholarly integrity and provide a valuable resource for your readers.

Remember that the Chicago Manual of Style is periodically updated. Always consult the latest edition of the manual or your instructor's specific guidelines to ensure your citations are current and accurate. A well-cited essay is a hallmark of credible research and a testament to your academic rigor.

Q: What is the primary difference between Chicago endnotes and footnotes?

A: The primary difference between Chicago endnotes and footnotes lies in their placement. Endnotes are compiled on a separate page at the end of the document, typically titled "Notes." Footnotes, on the other hand, appear at the bottom of each page where the citation is made. Both systems serve the same purpose of attributing sources and can include supplementary commentary, but their physical location is distinct.

Q: When should I use the term "Ibid." in Chicago endnotes?

A: The term "Ibid." (from the Latin word meaning "in the same place") is used in Chicago endnotes when a citation is identical to the immediately preceding note. If the page number is also the same as the preceding note, simply use "Ibid." If the citation is the same but refers to a different page, use "Ibid., [new page number]." Its use is limited to consecutive citations.

Q: How do I cite a source that has no author in Chicago endnote format?

A: When a source has no author, the endnote begins with the title of the work. For an article or webpage, the title is enclosed in quotation marks. For a book or a longer work, the title is italicized. Following the title, you would then provide the publication information, such as the publisher and date for a book, or website name, publication date, access date, and URL for online content.

Q: What is the correct way to cite an interview in Chicago endnote format?

A: For an interview conducted by the author and not published elsewhere, the endnote format is generally: First Name Last Name, Interview by [Interviewer's Name if applicable], [Date of interview]. For example: Jane Doe, Interview by Robert Smith, May 15, 2023. If the interview has been published or recorded, you would cite it as you would any other published work.

Q: Can I use shortened notes for subsequent citations in Chicago endnotes?

A: Yes, Chicago endnotes allow for the use of shortened notes for subsequent citations of the same source. After the first full citation, you can use a shortened version that typically includes the author's last name and the

relevant page number(s). For example: Doe, *The Art of Citation*, 95. This makes your notes more concise and easier to read without losing clarity.

Q: Is there a difference in how I cite a book and an e-book in Chicago endnote format?

A: The fundamental structure for citing a book and an e-book in Chicago endnote format is very similar, especially for modern e-books that mimic print versions. However, for e-books that do not have page numbers in the traditional sense (e.g., Kindle books), you may need to cite by location number or chapter number, depending on the specific e-book reader and the edition of CMOS you are following. If a stable URL or DOI is available, it should also be included.

Q: What is the purpose of the bibliography in relation to endnotes in Chicago style?

A: The bibliography serves as a comprehensive, alphabetical list of all sources cited in the endnotes. While endnotes provide specific references for particular pieces of information and can include explanatory notes, the bibliography offers a complete overview of the research undertaken. It allows readers to easily find and consult the original sources and ensures that every source mentioned in the notes is properly accounted for.

Q: How do I handle multiple works by the same author in my bibliography?

A: When listing multiple works by the same author in a Chicago-style bibliography, you list them alphabetically by title. For subsequent entries by the same author, instead of repeating their full name, you typically use three hyphens followed by a period (---.) before the title of the second and subsequent works. This is a standard convention for brevity and clarity.

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