

chicago manual of style bibliography examples for an article

The Chicago Manual of Style bibliography examples for an article are essential for academic and professional writing to properly attribute sources and avoid plagiarism. This guide delves into the intricacies of formatting various types of sources according to Chicago style, ensuring accuracy and consistency in your scholarly work. We will explore general principles of bibliography construction, specific examples for common source types such as books, journal articles, and websites, and address nuances like citing edited volumes and chapter contributions. Understanding these examples will empower you to create a professional and compliant bibliography that enhances the credibility of your article.

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Understanding the Basics of Chicago Style Bibliographies

A bibliography, often referred to as a "Works Cited" or "References" list in other styles, is a crucial component of academic writing. In Chicago style, the bibliography appears at the end of an article or book and lists all the sources that have been consulted and cited within the text. This list serves as a roadmap for your readers, allowing them to locate the original sources and further explore the research. Properly formatted bibliographies not only demonstrate your commitment to academic integrity but also lend significant credibility to your arguments by showing the depth of your research.

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) offers two primary citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. While the author-date system is more common in the sciences, the notes-bibliography system is prevalent in the humanities and many social sciences. This article focuses primarily on bibliography examples, which are fundamental to both systems, though the specific in-text citations will differ. Regardless of the system used, the principles of clear, accurate, and complete source attribution remain paramount.

Core Principles of Chicago Style Bibliography Formatting

Several fundamental principles govern the creation of a Chicago style bibliography. Adherence to these rules ensures uniformity and professionalism across all your cited works. The bibliography should be alphabetized by the author's last name, or by the title if no author is listed, excluding articles like "A," "An," and "The." Each entry begins flush left, and subsequent lines are indented (a hanging indent).

The general order of information for most entries follows a pattern: Author's Name, Title of Work, Publication Information (including place of publication, publisher, and year for books; journal name, volume, issue, and year for articles; and URL or DOI for online sources), and page numbers where applicable. Punctuation is also key; commas, periods, and colons are used precisely to separate elements within an entry. Consistency in applying these rules is just as important as understanding them.

Common Source Types and Their Chicago Style Bibliography Examples

Navigating the diverse landscape of source materials requires understanding how to format each type correctly. Below are detailed examples for the most frequently encountered sources, adhering strictly to Chicago Manual of Style guidelines.

Books

Citing a book is a foundational skill. For a single-author book, the format typically includes the author's full name (last name first), the full title of the book in italics, and the publication information. Pay close attention to the order and punctuation.

Example for a single-author book:

- Smith, John. *The History of Chicago*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018.

For books with multiple authors, the first author's name is reversed, but subsequent authors' names are listed in normal order (first name first). If there are more than two authors, you may list only the first author followed by "et al." in the bibliography, though Chicago style generally prefers listing all authors if feasible.

Example for a book with two authors:

- Adams, Jane, and Robert Davis. *Urban Development Patterns*. New York: Routledge, 2020.

Journal Articles

Journal articles are common in academic research. The bibliography entry requires the author's name, the article title in quotation marks, the journal title in italics, followed by volume number, issue number, publication year, and page numbers. Including the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is highly recommended if available, as it provides a stable link to the article.

Example for a journal article:

- Lee, Sarah. "The Impact of Technology on Modern Communication." *Journal of Media Studies* 35, no. 2 (2019): 123–45. doi:10.1080/12345678.2019.1234567.

If an article is accessed online without a DOI, the URL and access date should be provided. However, the DOI is always preferred.

Websites

Citing online sources, especially websites, can be complex due to the ever-changing nature of web content. The key elements include the author (if known), the title of the specific page or article, the name of the website, and the URL. It is also crucial to include the date the page was last updated or published, and the date you accessed it, to account for potential changes.

Example for a webpage:

- "Understanding Citation Styles." Purdue Online Writing Lab. Accessed November 15, 2023.
https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/chicago_17th_edition/chicago_manual_of_style_17th_edition.html.

If an organization is responsible for the content rather than an individual author, the organization's name is

used as the author.

Chapters in Edited Books

When you cite a specific chapter or essay within a larger edited volume, you need to include both the author of the chapter and the editor(s) of the book, along with the title of the chapter and the details of the book itself. This type of entry highlights the contribution of a single author within a larger collection.

Example for a chapter in an edited book:

- Garcia, Maria. "The Evolution of Urban Planning." In *Contemporary Urban Issues*, edited by David Chen, 55–78. New York: Oxford University Press, 2021.

Note the use of "In" before the title of the edited book and the inclusion of the editor's name(s) and page range of the chapter.

Citing Other Types of Sources

Beyond books and journal articles, a researcher might consult a variety of other sources, each with its own specific formatting requirements in Chicago style. These can include reports, dissertations, government documents, newspapers, and even interviews.

For instance, citing a newspaper article requires the author's name (if known), the article title, the newspaper title in italics, the date of publication, and page number(s). If accessed online, the URL and access date are also necessary.

Example for a newspaper article:

- Johnson, Emily. "Local Elections See Record Turnout." *Chicago Tribune*, November 6, 2022, sec. A, 1.

Government documents, depending on their format, might be cited by the issuing agency, the title, and publication details. The key is to identify the most descriptive and accessible information for the reader. Always consult the latest edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style* for definitive guidance on less common source types.

The Importance of Accuracy and Consistency

The meticulous application of Chicago style bibliography examples is not merely an exercise in pedantry; it is fundamental to scholarly communication. Accuracy ensures that your readers can find the sources you've referenced, validating your research and enabling further study. Consistency, on the other hand, creates a professional and polished presentation, demonstrating your attention to detail and respect for established academic conventions.

Deviations from the established format, even minor ones, can distract readers, undermine your credibility, and, in some cases, lead to accusations of carelessness. By dedicating time to properly format each bibliography entry, you invest in the clarity and integrity of your written work. It's a process that, while demanding, ultimately elevates the quality and impact of your article.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system in Chicago style for bibliographies?

A: The notes-bibliography system uses footnotes or endnotes for in-text citations, with a comprehensive bibliography at the end listing all consulted sources. The author-date system uses parenthetical in-text citations (Author Year, Page) and a "References" list at the end that includes only sources cited in the text. Both systems culminate in a list of sources, but the method of in-text citation and the scope of the final list can differ.

Q: How do I format a bibliography entry for a book with more than two authors in Chicago style?

A: For a book with three or more authors, Chicago style typically lists the first author's name (reversed) followed by "et al." in the bibliography. For example: Author One, Author Two, and Author Three. *Book Title*. City: Publisher, Year. becomes: Author One et al. *Book Title*. City: Publisher, Year.

Q: Is it necessary to include the DOI for online journal articles in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: Including the DOI (Digital Object Identifier) for online journal articles is highly recommended in Chicago style. It provides a stable, persistent link to the article, ensuring readers can locate it even if the original URL changes. If a DOI is available, it should be included; if not, the URL and access date are used.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a webpage with no author listed in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: When a webpage has no individual author, the organization or entity responsible for the website is used as the author. If no author or organization is apparent, the title of the page begins the entry. For example: "Title of Webpage." *Name of Website*. Last modified Date (if available). Accessed Access Date. URL.

Q: Should I italicize the title of a journal article in the bibliography?

A: No, in Chicago style, the title of a journal article should be enclosed in quotation marks, not italicized. The title of the journal itself, however, should be italicized. For example: Author Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page range.

Q: How do I cite a source that was found in a secondary source (e.g., citing a quote from Author A that you read in a book by Author B)?

A: In Chicago style's notes-bibliography system, you cite the secondary source in your bibliography and note in your footnote or endnote that you are quoting from a secondary source. For example, your footnote might read: "Quoted in John Smith, *The History of Chicago* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2018), 45, as cited in Jane Doe, *Original Work* (New York: Publisher, 2020), 102." In the bibliography, you would list only the original source you consulted (Smith's book in this example).

Q: What does "et al." mean and when is it used in Chicago style bibliographies?

A: "Et al." is a Latin abbreviation meaning "and others." In Chicago style, it is used in the bibliography for works with three or more authors, where only the first author's name is listed, followed by "et al." This helps to keep bibliography entries concise. However, in the notes, all authors are typically listed if there are three or fewer; for more than three, "et al." might be used in notes as well, depending on the context and specific guidelines.

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