

chicago style bibliography entry example

Here is a comprehensive article on Chicago style bibliography entry examples.

chicago style bibliography entry example is a crucial element of academic and professional writing, ensuring proper attribution and allowing readers to locate sources. Mastering the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) bibliography format can seem daunting, but with clear guidance and practical examples, it becomes an accessible skill. This article provides a detailed breakdown of how to construct accurate Chicago style bibliography entries for various source types, including books, journal articles, websites, and more. We will explore the fundamental components of a bibliography, discuss common formatting nuances, and offer specific examples to illustrate the principles. Understanding these guidelines is essential for maintaining academic integrity and presenting your research effectively.

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Understanding the Purpose of a Bibliography in Chicago Style

The bibliography, or works cited list, serves a fundamental purpose in scholarly communication, especially within the Chicago Manual of Style. It acts as a comprehensive record of all the sources consulted and referenced in a piece of writing. This allows readers to verify the information presented, explore the topic further by consulting the original works, and understand the author's research foundation. Adhering to a standardized format like Chicago style ensures that this information is presented clearly and consistently, facilitating research and upholding academic honesty. A well-constructed bibliography demonstrates diligence and respect for intellectual property.

Core Components of a Chicago Style Bibliography Entry

Every bibliography entry in Chicago style, regardless of the source type, generally follows a predictable structure. While specific details vary, the core elements aim to provide enough information for a reader to find the source. These essential components include the author's name, the title of the work, and publication details. Understanding these building blocks is key to constructing correct entries.

Author Names

The way author names are presented is a defining characteristic of Chicago style bibliographies. The first author's name is listed in reverse order (Last Name, First Name), followed by subsequent authors in normal order (First Name Last Name). If there are multiple authors, the guidelines for inclusion vary depending on the number of authors involved.

Titles

Titles of books and standalone works are typically italicized. For articles, essays, or chapters within larger works, the titles are enclosed in quotation marks. This distinction is critical for proper formatting and clarity in a Chicago style bibliography entry.

Publication Information

Publication information is vital for locating a source. This typically includes the city of publication, the publisher's name, and the year of publication. For different source types, such as journal articles, this section will include details like the journal title, volume, issue number, and page range.

Access Dates and DOIs

For online sources, including the date on which the source was accessed is often necessary, especially if the content is likely to change or is not permanently archived. Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) are also crucial for online journal articles and other digital publications, providing a stable link to the source.

Chicago Style Bibliography Entry Examples: Common Source Types

Navigating different source types requires specific formatting adjustments within the Chicago style framework. The following examples illustrate how to format common sources correctly, providing practical models for your own research.

Books

Book entries are foundational for many bibliographies. The key is to accurately list the author, title, and publication details.

Single Author Book

Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

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

Two or Three Authors

For two or three authors, list all names. The first author is in reverse order, and subsequent authors are in normal order.

Example:

Jones, Mary, and David Lee. *Urban Planning in the 21st Century*. New York: Routledge, 2020.

Four or More Authors

If a book has four or more authors, list only the first author followed by "et al.".

Example:

Brown, Sarah, et al. *Fundamentals of Data Science*. Boston: Academic Press, 2022.

Journal Articles

Journal articles are a common source in academic writing. The format requires specific details about the journal itself.

Article with a DOI

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page Numbers. DOI.

Example:

Davis, Emily. "The Impact of Social Media on Political Discourse." *Journal of Communication Studies* 45, no. 2 (2021): 112-135. doi:10.1177/00936502211001234.

Article Without a DOI (but accessed online)

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Title of Journal* Volume, no. Issue (Year): Page Numbers. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Green, Michael. "Renewable Energy Trends in the Midwest." *Environmental Policy Review* 15, no. 4 (2019): 201-225. Accessed October 26, 2023. www.enviropolicyreview.org/article/green2019.

Websites and Online Sources

Citing online content requires careful attention to what information is available.

Website with Author and Date

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Web Page." Name of Website. Last Modified or Copyright Date. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

Wilson, Robert. "Understanding the Chicago Style." Writing Support Center. Updated January 15, 2023. Accessed October 26, 2023. www.writingsupport.edu/chicago-style-guide.

Website Without Specific Author or Date

Name of Website. "Title of Web Page." Last Modified or Copyright Date. Accessed Month Day, Year. URL.

Example:

National Archives. "Documents of American History." Accessed October 26, 2023. www.archives.gov/historical-docs.

Book Chapters

When citing a chapter within a larger edited work, you need to include details about both the chapter and the book it belongs to.

Edited Book Chapter

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Chapter." In *Title of Book*, edited by Editor First Name Last Name, Page Numbers. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

Example:

Adams, Sarah. "The Industrial Revolution's Impact on Urbanization." In *American History: A Survey*, edited by John Baker and Mary Davis, 315-340. New York: Oxford University Press, 2017.

Dissertations and Theses

Academic research often draws from dissertations and theses, which have a specific citation format.

Dissertation or Thesis

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Dissertation/Thesis." Type of work (Ph.D. dissertation, Master's thesis, etc.), University Name, Year of Publication.

Example:

Miller, Jessica. "Analyzing Urban Growth Patterns in Midwestern Cities." Ph.D. dissertation, University of Illinois Chicago, 2020.

Newspaper and Magazine Articles

Articles from periodicals require publication information specific to the date of issue.

Newspaper Article

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Name of Newspaper*, Month Day, Year. Page Numbers.

Example:

Clark, Peter. "New Transit Development Announced for Downtown." *Chicago Tribune*, October 25, 2023. A1, A4.

Magazine Article

Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Article." *Name of Magazine*, Month Year, Page Numbers.

Example:

Evans, Lisa. "The Future of Sustainable Living." *National Geographic*, November 2022, 50-65.

Specific Formatting Considerations for Chicago Style Bibliographies

Beyond the basic structure, several finer points of formatting are crucial for accurate Chicago style bibliographies. Attention to these details distinguishes a polished and professional bibliography.

Author Names

As mentioned, the reversal of the first author's name is a hallmark of Chicago style. For subsequent authors, the order is First Name Last Name. This applies consistently across most source types.

Titles

The distinction between italicizing book titles and using quotation marks for article or chapter titles is fundamental. This visual cue helps readers immediately identify the nature of the source.

Publication Information

The specific publication details required—city, publisher, year for books; journal title, volume, issue, pages for articles—are essential for locating the source. Always ensure this information is accurate and complete as found on the source itself.

Access Dates and DOIs

For digital sources, providing the access date is a safety net for information that might change. DOIs are preferred for articles as they provide a persistent link, but URLs are acceptable when a DOI is unavailable.

The Importance of Consistency in Chicago Style Bibliographies

Consistency is paramount when creating any bibliography, and the Chicago style is no exception. Once you establish a format for a particular type of source, you must apply it uniformly to all similar sources within your document. Inconsistencies can confuse readers and detract from the professionalism of your work. Double-checking every entry against the established guidelines of the Chicago Manual of Style is a vital step in the writing process. A consistent bibliography reflects careful attention to detail and enhances the credibility of your research.

FAQ: Chicago Style Bibliography Entry Example

Q: What is the primary difference between a Chicago style bibliography and a notes-bibliography system?

A: The primary difference lies in how sources are cited within the text. In the notes-bibliography system, superscript numbers in the text refer to detailed footnotes or endnotes, which contain citation information. The bibliography at the end of the document provides a condensed, alphabetized list of all sources cited in the notes. In contrast, the author-date system uses in-text citations with the author's last name and the year of publication (e.g., Smith 2020), and the bibliography at the end is a reference list that corresponds to these in-text citations.

Q: How should I format a bibliography entry for a government document in Chicago style?

A: For a government document, you typically treat the government agency as the author. The entry would include the name of the government agency, the title of the document (italicized if it's a standalone report or publication), and publication details such as the place and year. If an individual author is clearly identified, they can be listed first, followed by the agency.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a personal communication, like an email or interview, in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: Personal communications, such as emails, interviews, or letters, are generally not included in the bibliography. Instead, they are cited in footnotes or endnotes. The note would include the type of communication, the name of the communicator, and the date of the communication. For example: "Email

from Jane Doe to author, October 26, 2023."

Q: How do I handle multiple editions of the same book in my Chicago style bibliography?

A: If you cite multiple editions of the same book, you should create a separate bibliography entry for each edition you cite. The entry will include the author, title, and then the specific edition number or year for that version, followed by the publisher and publication year. For example, you might list "Smith, John. *The History of Chicago Architecture*. 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020." for a second edition.

Q: When do I need to include an access date for a website in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: You should include an access date for a website when the content might change over time or is not permanently archived. This is common for news articles, blog posts, or dynamic web pages. If the website indicates a last modified date or a copyright date, that information should also be included. If the source is a stable, archived version (like a PDF of a journal article), an access date may not be necessary.

Q: What is the preferred method for citing a source with no author in a Chicago style bibliography?

A: If a source has no identifiable author, you begin the bibliography entry with the title of the work. For books, the title is italicized. For articles or chapters, the title is in quotation marks. The rest of the entry follows the standard format for that source type, beginning with the title.

Q: How do I cite a translation of a book in Chicago style?

A: When citing a translation, you include the original author, followed by the translated title. You then indicate that it is a translation and list the translator's name. The publication information for the translated edition follows. For example: Author Last Name, First Name. *Title of Book*. Translated by Translator First Name Last Name. Place of Publication: Publisher, Year of Publication.

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