

chicago style examples for in text citations

Mastering Chicago Style: Comprehensive Examples for In-Text Citations

chicago style examples for in text citations are essential for academic integrity and scholarly communication, providing a clear framework for acknowledging sources within your written work. This guide delves deeply into the nuances of the Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) note-and-bibliography system, offering detailed explanations and practical examples for various source types. Understanding how to properly cite books, articles, websites, and other materials in your text is crucial for avoiding plagiarism and allowing your readers to locate the original information. We will cover the fundamental principles of the author-date system and the more commonly used note-bibliography system, with a strong emphasis on the latter, which relies on footnotes or endnotes and a corresponding bibliography. Whether you are a student, researcher, or professional writer, mastering these citation techniques will enhance the credibility and clarity of your research.

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Understanding Chicago Style In-Text Citations

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) offers two primary citation systems: the note-bibliography system and the author-date system. While both are valid, the note-bibliography system, which utilizes footnotes or endnotes, is more prevalent in the humanities, such as literature, history, and art. This system requires a superscript numeral placed in the text at the end of a

sentence or clause that needs a citation. This numeral corresponds to a numbered note (either a footnote at the bottom of the page or an endnote at the end of the document) that contains the full bibliographic information or a shortened version. For the purpose of this comprehensive guide, we will focus primarily on the note-bibliography system, as it offers more detailed in-text referencing practices.

The author-date system, on the other hand, is more common in the social sciences and sciences. It involves parenthetical citations in the text, typically in the format (Author Year, Page Number), and a corresponding reference list at the end of the work. While we will touch upon its general principle, the detailed examples here will predominantly illustrate the note-bibliography approach, as it is often considered more complex and requires thorough understanding of its in-text components.

The Note-Bibliography System: The Heart of Chicago Style

The note-bibliography system is characterized by two main components: the numbered notes within the text and the bibliography at the end of the work. Each piece of information or idea that is borrowed from another source must be cited. The first time a source is cited, the note provides complete bibliographic information. Subsequent citations of the same source can use a shortened form, making the notes less intrusive. This system allows for detailed commentary or explanation within the notes, which is a significant advantage for scholarly works.

The superscript numeral is typically placed immediately after the punctuation mark of the relevant sentence or clause, or, if there is no punctuation, immediately before the sentence or clause it modifies. It is crucial to place the note marker in the correct location to ensure clarity for the reader. For instance, if a sentence contains multiple distinct ideas from different sources, each idea may require its own citation. Consistency in placement is key to maintaining a professional and easily navigable document.

Common Source Types and Their In-Text Citation Examples

The specific format of your in-text citations, whether footnotes or endnotes, will vary depending on the type of source you are referencing. Below are detailed examples for frequently encountered source materials. Remember that these examples illustrate the first note citation for each source; subsequent notes for the same source will use a shortened format.

Books

Citing a book in the note-bibliography system requires essential details about the author, title, publication place, publisher, and year of publication, along with the specific page number(s) referenced. The first citation will include all this information.

- **Single Author:** 1. John Smith, *The History of Chicago* (New York: Penguin Books, 2020), 75.
- **Two or Three Authors:** 2. Jane Doe and Richard Roe, *Urban Landscapes* (London: Oxford University Press, 2018), 120.
- **More Than Three Authors:** 3. Emily White et al., *Architectural Wonders* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2022), 45.

Journal Articles

Journal articles are cited by providing the author, the article title, the journal title, volume and issue numbers, publication date, and the page number. The journal title is italicized.

- 4. Michael Brown, "The Evolution of City Planning," *Journal of Urban Studies* 45, no. 2 (Spring 2019): 188.
- 5. Sarah Green and David Lee, "Sustainable Infrastructure in Metropolis," *Environmental Science Journal* 30, no. 4 (Winter 2021): 310-325.

Websites and Online Articles

Citing online sources requires careful attention to the information available. Include the author (if known), the title of the specific page or article, the website name, and the date of publication or last update. A URL and access date are also often included, though CMOS guidelines are evolving on the necessity of URLs, emphasizing stable access points when possible.

- 6. National Park Service, "History of the Gateway Arch," National Park Service, accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.nps.gov/arch/history.htm>.
- 7. "Global Economic Trends Report," World Economic Forum, published

February 15, 2023, accessed October 26, 2023,
<https://www.weforum.org/reports/global-economic-trends-2023>.

Newspaper and Magazine Articles

For print newspapers and magazines, cite the author, article title, publication name (*italicized*), date of publication, and the page number(s).

- 8. Robert Johnson, "Downtown Revitalization Efforts Succeed," *The Chicago Tribune*, July 10, 2023, sec. A, 1.
- 9. Emily Carter, "The Future of Green Energy," *National Geographic*, August 2023, 55.

Chapters in Edited Books

When citing a chapter from an edited book, you need to specify the chapter author, chapter title, the editor(s), the book title, publication details, and the page range of the chapter.

- 10. Maria Garcia, "Early Settlers of the Midwest," in *Pioneers of the Plains*, ed. Thomas Miller (Austin: University of Texas Press, 2019), 112-145.

Works of Art and Visual Media

For art, include the artist's name, the title of the work (*italicized*), the medium, the date of creation, and its current location or collection.

- 11. Georgia O'Keeffe, *Red Poppy*, oil on canvas, 1927, Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York.

Personal Communications

Personal communications, such as interviews or emails, are generally not included in the bibliography but are cited in the notes. Provide the type of

communication, the person's name, and the date.

- 12. Interview with Dr. Eleanor Vance, October 20, 2023.
- 13. Email from Professor Alan Davis, October 18, 2023.

Handling Specific Citation Scenarios

Beyond basic source types, several situations require specific attention to ensure accurate and consistent in-text citations. These include dealing with multiple authors, sources with no author, and repeated citations.

Multiple Authors

As shown in the book examples, the number of authors dictates how they are listed in the initial note. For two or three authors, list all their names. For four or more authors, list the first author followed by "et al." in the note.

No Author

If a source lacks an author, begin the citation with the title of the work. The title will then be used for shortened notes and in the bibliography for alphabetization.

- 14. *The Complete Guide to Gardening* (New York: Arbor Books, 2021), 99.

Citing the Same Source Repeatedly

After the first full citation of a source, subsequent notes referencing the same source use a shortened form. This typically includes the author's last name, a shortened version of the title (if necessary to distinguish from other works by the same author), and the page number.

- 15. Smith, *History of Chicago*, 102.
- 16. Smith, 115. (If only one work by Smith is cited in the bibliography)

If you are citing multiple works by the same author, the shortened title is crucial in subsequent notes. If you are citing multiple works by the same author and then cite the same work again immediately, the term "Ibid." (meaning "in the same place") can be used, followed by the page number if different.

- 17. Smith, *History of Chicago*, 102.
- 18. Ibid., 115.
- 19. Ibid. (If referring to the exact same page as the previous note)

Indirect Sources

When you cite a source that was mentioned in another source you read, you should cite the original source but indicate that you accessed it indirectly. The note would appear as follows:

- 20. John Adams, quoted in Mary Jones, *The American Revolution* (Boston: Colonial Press, 2018), 50.

In this case, the bibliography would only list Mary Jones's book. The goal is to attribute the information to the original author but acknowledge that you read it through another publication.

Classical and Religious Texts

For well-known classical works and religious texts, standard conventions are used that often omit publication details in the notes. Instead, these texts are cited by book, chapter, verse, or line number, allowing readers to find the passage in any edition.

- 21. Genesis 1:3.
- 22. Homer, *Odyssey* 4.123–125.

The Importance of a Bibliography

Every note-bibliography citation in your text must correspond to an entry in your bibliography, which appears at the end of your paper. The bibliography

provides a complete list of all the sources you have cited, alphabetized by the author's last name (or by title if no author is listed). This allows readers to easily find and consult your sources. The bibliography entries are formatted slightly differently than the first notes, with the author's last name appearing first for easier alphabetization. Ensuring your bibliography is complete and accurately formatted is as critical as getting your in-text citations correct for maintaining academic integrity and providing a robust foundation for your research.

FAQ: Chicago Style Examples for In-Text Citations

Q: What is the fundamental difference between the Chicago note-bibliography system and the author-date system for in-text citations?

A: The note-bibliography system uses numbered footnotes or endnotes to cite sources, offering more space for commentary and detailed bibliographic information. The author-date system uses parenthetical citations within the text, such as (Smith 2020, 45), and is more common in sciences and social sciences.

Q: When do I need to use a shortened note for a source I've already cited in Chicago style?

A: You use a shortened note for subsequent citations of a source after the first full citation. This typically includes the author's last name, a shortened version of the title (if you cite multiple works by the same author), and the page number.

Q: How do I cite a book with no author listed in Chicago style?

A: If a book has no author, you start the in-text citation (footnote or endnote) with the title of the book, followed by the publication details and page number. The title is also used for alphabetization in the bibliography.

Q: What is the correct way to cite an indirect source in Chicago style?

A: To cite an indirect source, you cite the original author and work but explicitly state that you are quoting or referencing it as found in another

source. The note would look something like: "Author of Original Work, quoted in Author of Source Read, Title of Source Read (Publication Details), page number." The bibliography only lists the source you actually read.

Q: Can I use "Ibid." in Chicago style for repeated citations?

A: Yes, you can use "Ibid." to refer to the same source as the immediately preceding note. If the page number is different, you add the new page number after "Ibid." For example, "Ibid., 78." If it is the exact same page, you can simply use "Ibid."

Q: How should I cite a website in Chicago style if it has no publication date?

A: If a website lacks a publication date, you typically use the access date instead. The format would include the author (if known), the page title, the website name, and the access date, followed by the URL.

Q: What is the purpose of the bibliography in the Chicago note-bibliography system?

A: The bibliography serves as a complete list of all the sources cited in the notes. It is alphabetized by author's last name (or title) and provides full bibliographic details, allowing readers to locate and consult your sources.

Q: How do I cite a chapter from an edited book in Chicago style?

A: When citing a chapter from an edited book, your note should include the chapter author's name, the chapter title, followed by "in," the editor(s)' names, the book title, publication information, and the page range of the chapter.

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