

chicago style footnotes quotations

The Chicago Manual of Style is a renowned authority on scholarly and professional writing, particularly for its comprehensive guidance on citation and formatting. For writers and researchers aiming for academic rigor, understanding how to properly implement Chicago style footnotes for quotations is paramount. This article will delve deep into the intricacies of Chicago style footnotes, focusing specifically on the correct methods for citing direct quotations. We will explore the fundamental differences between notes and bibliography, the anatomy of a footnote, and the specific rules for quoting various sources, including books, articles, and online materials. Furthermore, we will discuss common pitfalls and provide practical examples to ensure your academic work adheres to the highest standards of Chicago style. Mastering Chicago style footnotes quotations is not merely about following rules; it's about presenting your research with clarity, credibility, and professionalism.

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Understanding Chicago Style Citation Systems

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) offers two primary citation systems: the Notes and Bibliography system and the Author-Date system. For academic disciplines that heavily rely on textual analysis and extensive quotation, such as history and literature, the Notes and Bibliography system is often preferred. This system uses footnotes or endnotes to cite sources and a separate bibliography at the end of the document to list all consulted works. The Author-Date system, more common in the sciences and social sciences, uses parenthetical in-text citations followed by a reference list.

The core principle behind both systems is to provide readers with enough information to locate the original source of any information presented in the text. When employing the Notes and Bibliography system, the primary mechanism for achieving this is through footnotes, which appear at the bottom of the page where the citation is needed, or endnotes, which are collected at the end of the document. Our focus here is on Chicago style footnotes quotations, detailing how these notes are constructed and what information they must contain.

The Role of Footnotes in Chicago Style

In the Chicago Manual of Style, footnotes serve a dual purpose. Firstly, they provide precise attribution for direct quotations and paraphrased material, allowing readers to verify the source and context of the information. Secondly, footnotes can also be used to offer supplementary information, commentary, or tangential discussions that might otherwise interrupt the flow of the main text. This makes them a versatile tool for academic writers.

When it comes to Chicago style footnotes quotations, their primary function is to link the exact wording taken from another source directly to its origin. Each footnote is numbered sequentially within the document, and this number corresponds to a superscript number placed immediately after the quotation in the main text. This direct correspondence is crucial for clarity and ease of reference for the reader.

Anatomy of a Chicago Style Footnote for Quotations

A Chicago style footnote for a quotation includes essential bibliographic information, presented in a specific order and format. The first time a source is cited in a footnote, it requires a full citation. Subsequent citations of the same source can be shortened. The key components of a full footnote citation for a quotation typically include the author's name, the title of the work, and publication details, along with the specific location of the quoted material.

The general format for a full note citation of a book quotation is as follows: Author First Name Last Name, *Title of Book* (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year), page number. For example: Jane Austen, *Pride and Prejudice* (New York: Penguin Classics, 2003), 45. It is crucial to pay close attention to punctuation, capitalization, and the order of elements, as these are strictly prescribed by The Chicago Manual of Style.

Essential Elements of a Full Footnote

A full Chicago style footnote for a quotation, when cited for the first time, must include:

- Author's full name (First Name Last Name).
- Title of the work, italicized.

- Publication information: place of publication, publisher name, and year of publication, enclosed in parentheses.
- The specific page number(s) from which the quotation is taken.

Shortened Footnote Citations

After the first full citation of a source, subsequent references to the same work can be significantly shortened. This prevents the footnotes from becoming excessively long and repetitive. The shortened form 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. For instance: Austen, *Pride and Prejudice*, 78. If only one work by an author is being cited, the title may even be omitted: Austen, 78.

Citing Direct Quotations from Books

Citing direct quotations from books in Chicago style footnotes requires careful attention to detail. The goal is to provide a clear path for the reader to find the exact passage being quoted. The initial citation of a book in a footnote must be comprehensive, and subsequent citations can be shortened.

When quoting from a book, the author's name should be presented with the first name followed by the last name. The title of the book must be italicized. The publication details, including the city of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication, are enclosed in parentheses. Finally, the specific page number(s) where the quotation appears is essential.

Full Citation Example for a Book Quotation

Let's consider an example of quoting a passage from a fictional book. If you are quoting a line from a book by Margaret Atwood, and it appears on page 150 of the first edition published in 2019 by Doubleday in New York, the first footnote would look like this:

Margaret Atwood, *The Testaments* (New York: Doubleday, 2019), 150.

Subsequent Citation Example for a Book Quotation

If you need to quote another passage from the same book later in your paper, the footnote would be shortened to:

Atwood, *The Testaments*, 210.

If *The Testaments* is the only work by Atwood you are referencing in your paper, you could even shorten it further after the first citation:

Atwood, 210.

Citing Direct Quotations from Journal Articles

Citing direct quotations from journal articles in Chicago style footnotes follows a similar principle of providing complete bibliographic information, with a shortened format for subsequent references. Journal articles are typically found within academic journals, which are often published periodically.

The components of a full footnote citation for a journal article include the author's name, the article title, the journal title, volume and issue numbers, the publication date, and the page number(s) of the article, followed by the specific page number of the quotation. For articles accessed online, additional information like a DOI or URL may be necessary.

Full Citation Example for a Journal Article Quotation

Suppose you are quoting from an article by David Miller titled "The Evolution of Urban Design," published in Volume 35, Issue 2 of the *Journal of Urban Studies*, in the Spring 2020 issue, and the quotation is on page 45. The first footnote would be:

David Miller, "The Evolution of Urban Design," *Journal of Urban Studies* 35, no. 2 (Spring 2020): 45.

Subsequent Citation Example for a Journal Article Quotation

A subsequent citation of this article would be shortened to:

Miller, "Evolution of Urban Design," 52.

Or, if the journal title is sufficiently distinct or only one article by Miller is cited:

Miller, 52.

Citing Direct Quotations from Websites and Online Sources

Citing online sources using Chicago style footnotes quotations requires adapting the standard format to include information relevant to digital content. The core principle remains to provide sufficient information for the reader to locate the source, even though the permanence of online content can be a challenge.

When quoting from a website, include the author (if known), the title of the specific page or article, the name of the website, and a URL. It is also crucial to include the date of publication or last update if available, and the date on which you accessed the material, as web content can change or disappear.

Full Citation Example for a Website Quotation

If you quote from a blog post by Sarah Lee on the "Eco-Living Today" website, titled "Sustainable Gardening Tips," published on October 15, 2023, and accessed on November 1, 2023, the footnote would be:

Sarah Lee, "Sustainable Gardening Tips," Eco-Living Today, October 15, 2023, <https://www.ecolivingtoday.com/gardeningtips>. (Note: Use the date accessed in place of page numbers for online sources where no page numbers exist).

Handling URLs and DOIs

For online journal articles or other scholarly materials accessed online, a Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is preferred over a URL if available, as DOIs are persistent identifiers. The format for a DOI citation is similar, but the DOI is presented as a hyperlink. For example: Author Last Name, First Name, "Article Title," Journal Title Volume, no. Issue (Year): page number, DOI.

Handling Specific Quotation Scenarios

Beyond basic book and article citations, Chicago style footnotes quotations also address more nuanced situations, such as quoting from edited collections, multi-volume works, or when specific formatting is required for longer quotations.

When quoting from a chapter in an edited collection, you must cite the chapter author, the chapter title, the editor(s), the title of the book, and

the relevant page numbers. For multi-volume works, you need to specify the volume number along with the page number.

Quoting from Edited Collections

If you are quoting from a chapter by John Smith titled "Early American Politics" in a book edited by Jane Doe, *Perspectives on American History* (New York: Academic Press, 2018), pages 50-75, the footnote would be:

John Smith, "Early American Politics," in *Perspectives on American History*, ed. Jane Doe (New York: Academic Press, 2018), 55.

Quoting Long Passages

For quotations of more than approximately 400 words (or more than four manuscript lines), Chicago style dictates that they be set off as block quotations. This means they are indented from the left margin and do not have quotation marks around them. The citation follows the quotation, usually at the end of the block, and is formatted as a regular footnote citation.

Citing Secondary Sources

If you are quoting a work that was itself cited in another work (a secondary source), you should ideally locate and consult the original source. However, if that is not possible, Chicago style allows for citing the secondary source with an indication that you accessed it indirectly. The format is typically: "Quoted in" or "as cited in" followed by the details of the secondary source and the original source information if available.

This meticulous approach to Chicago style footnotes quotations ensures that your academic integrity is upheld and that your readers can easily follow your research trail. The detailed formatting and systematic approach are hallmarks of scholarly communication, and mastering them is a crucial step for any serious writer.

Mastering Chicago style footnotes quotations is a fundamental skill for anyone engaged in academic writing. The system's emphasis on clear attribution and detailed source information not only lends credibility to your work but also facilitates reader comprehension. By understanding the nuances of full and shortened citations, and applying them correctly to various source types like books, articles, and online materials, you can ensure your research is presented with the utmost professionalism and accuracy. Remember that consistent application and adherence to the specific punctuation and formatting guidelines are key to successfully navigating the

complexities of Chicago style citation, making your scholarly contributions both authoritative and easily verifiable.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between a footnote and an endnote in Chicago style?

A: In the Chicago Manual of Style, both footnotes and endnotes serve the same purpose of providing citations. The primary difference lies in their placement: footnotes appear at the bottom of the page where the reference is made, while endnotes are compiled at the end of the document. The content of the citation itself remains consistent regardless of whether footnotes or endnotes are used.

Q: How do I cite a quotation from a book that has multiple editions?

A: When citing a quotation from a book with multiple editions, you should use the edition you consulted. Include the publication year of that specific edition in your citation. If the edition is particularly important or distinct, you may also need to note that it is a specific edition (e.g., "revised edition").

Q: What is the correct way to cite a quotation if the source has two authors?

A: For sources with two authors, list both authors' names in the footnote, separated by "and." The order of their names should match their order on the title page of the source. For example: Jane Smith and Robert Jones, *The History of Art* (London: Penguin Books, 2015), 23.

Q: How do I cite a quotation from a source with no author listed?

A: If a source has no author, the citation in the footnote begins with the title of the work. For books, the title is italicized. For articles or chapters, the title is enclosed in quotation marks. The rest of the citation follows as usual, including publication information and page number.

Q: What does the abbreviation "ibid." mean in

Chicago style footnotes?

A: "Ibid." is a Latin abbreviation meaning "in the same place." It is used in Chicago style footnotes to refer to the immediately preceding source cited. For example, if a footnote cites a source and the next footnote refers to the same source and page number, you can use "Ibid." If it refers to the same source but a different page number, you would write "Ibid., page number." However, the use of "ibid." is becoming less common in favor of shortened citations for clarity.

Q: How do I cite a quotation from a government document in Chicago style?

A: Citing government documents can vary slightly depending on the type of document. Generally, you should include the issuing agency, the title of the document, the publication information (city, publisher, year), and the page number. For example: United States, Department of Commerce, Statistical Abstract of the United States (Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 2010), 15.

Q: When should I use a shortened footnote citation versus a full one?

A: The first time you cite a source in your paper, you must use a full footnote citation. All subsequent citations of that same source should use a shortened footnote citation, which typically includes the author's last name, a shortened title of the work (if necessary to distinguish it from other works by the same author), and the page number. If you are only citing one work by a particular author, you may even be able to omit the title in subsequent shortened citations.

Q: What is the correct way to cite a quotation from a translated work?

A: When citing a translated work, you should include the original author's name and the title of the work, followed by the translator's name, and then the publication details. For example: Leo Tolstoy, War and Peace, trans. Ann Dunnigan (New York: Signet Classics, 1968), 50. If you are referring to a specific passage from the original language that has been translated, you may also include the original page number in parentheses after the translated page number.

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