

# APA REFERENCES LIST: ARTICLES

## How to reference academic articles

- In APA style, it is preferable to cite the **online version** of academic articles to facilitate retrieval.
- Even print version of articles often have a **digital object identifier (DOI)**, which leads to the online version. Use these DOIs in your References list.
- The DOI must be formatted like a URL so it can serve as an **active link**.

### BASIC FORMAT FOR AN ARTICLE:



- **Only the first word** of an article title is capitalized, as well as the first word after a **colon** (unless there are names or other proper nouns in the title). Note that quotation marks are not used.
- The **title of the academic journal is capitalized** and put in italics, along with the volume number (but the issue number is not italicized).
- The model above cites a journal in which the page numbers begin at 1 in each issue. For that reason, **the issue number** is included immediately after the volume number. In journals where the page numbers run continuously through all issues, only the **volume number** is required.
- After the page number, write the **DOI link** (write <https://doi.org/> followed by the DOI number).

### ABOUT DIGITAL OBJECT IDENTIFIERS (DOI NUMBERS):

- **DOI numbers are used to help readers locate online versions of articles.** These numbers are often included with print versions, and—whenever available— must be included in References list entries. DOI numbers are usually found in the upper right-hand corner of an article's title page. Write DOI numbers as URLs.
- **If no DOI number is available**, include the URL of the site where you accessed the full text of the article. For example, if a database brings you to a publisher's website, where you access the full text, then the URL must lead to there, not to the database.
- **If no URL or DOI is available at all**, then the entry ends with the page numbers and a period.



# APA REFERENCES LIST: ARTICLES

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## A WORK BY SEVERAL AUTHORS:

- Write every author's name **up to and including 20 authors**. Take care with the arrangement of names and initials. Last names always come first.
- Even if you consulted the article in print, include the DOI if one exists to facilitate retrieval.

Smith, B., Diaz, J. M., & Habib, M. (2011). Treatment for physically abused children. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 45*(3), 24–28. <https://doi.org/10.1742/0661-8532.71.823>

## A WORK BY 21 AUTHORS OR MORE:

- When there are **21 authors or more**, write the first 19 names followed by an ellipsis (without an ampersand) and the final author's name.
- The article referenced below did not have a DOI. Since a URL was also not available, the article ends with the page numbers of the print version and a period.

Ling, T., Sokolov, B. J., Wilson, A. H., Stein, T., Wood, T., Horst, K. L., Habib, K., Sepeng, W., Castro, F., Abadiga, R., Purnell, G., Gustafson, L., Miller, S., DeSantis, I., Cheung, R.F., Card, J., Madden, F., Little, S., Amar, C., . . . Smith, J. (1986). Gender differences in Samoan culture. *Journal of Social Psychology, 55*(9), 113–121.

## A JOURNAL ARTICLE WITH A NON-DATABASE URL:

- If you accessed an article outside of a database (for example, on the publisher's webpage), reference that page instead.
- If you clicked on a link to the full text in the database but it took you to another website, cite the website's URL instead of the database.

Player, G. D. (2021). My color of my name: Composing critical self-celebration with girls of color through a feminist of color writing pedagogy. *Research in the Teaching of English, 55*(3), 216–240. <https://library.ncte.org/journals/rte/issues/v55-3/31182>

## AN ABSTRACT:

- **Abstracts** are paragraph-long summaries of academic articles. They often appear in the database entry **before** the full-text article is provided.
- **Read the full text of the article, not the abstract.** However, with your teacher's permission, you may nonetheless reference an abstract if necessary.

Smith, B., Diaz, J. M., & Habib, M. (2011). Treatment for physically abused children [Abstract]. *Journal of Clinical Psychology, 45*(3), 24–28. <https://doi.org/10.1742/0661-8532.71.823>

For more information, consult the APA manual or contact the Academic Skills Centre.