The following examples illustrate how references to web pages, articles from library databases, and other electronic documents appear in a list of works cited. This guide is not comprehensive; researchers should also consult the *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7th edition).

Footnote or endnote examples are not included in this list. As the *MLA Handbook* points out in chapter 5, section 5.2: “In MLA documentation style, you acknowledge your sources by keying brief parenthetical citations in your text to an alphabetical list of works that appears at the end of the paper.” And as section 6.1 states, “Usually the author’s last name and a page reference are enough to identify the source and the specific location from which you borrowed material.” Using Paul Tolme’s article at the bottom of page 3 of this guide as an illustration, if your research paper included information from page 74 of his article “Wildlife Forensics,” you would document this source in your text with the citation “(Tolme 74).”

Notice that if you are citing online resources, you include the word “Web” at the end of your citation.

Entries are single-spaced to save space (and pages if students want to copy this document). Professors, however, may prefer double-spaced citations, so check with them.

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Entire Web Pages

When citing web pages, include the publisher or sponsor of the site; if one is not listed, use N.p. (no publisher). Also include the date of publication; if no date is available, use n.d. (no date). Conclude the citation with the medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, and year). See section 5.6.2 of the MLA Handbook for additional details.


Sections of Web Pages

When citing web pages, include the publisher or sponsor of the site; if one is not listed, use N.p. (no publisher). Also include the date of publication; if no date is available, use n.d. (no date). Conclude the citation with the medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, and year). See section 5.6.2 of the MLA Handbook for additional details.


Magazine Articles from Web Pages (Surface Web)

From section 5.6.2 of the MLA Handbook: For “web sites sponsored by newspapers and magazines,” include the “publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use N.p.” (no publisher). Also include the date of publication (day, month, and year); if not available, use n.d. (no date). Conclude the citation with the medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.6 of the MLA Handbook.


Magazine Articles from Limited-Access Databases

From section 5.6.4 of the MLA Handbook: “A periodical article on the Web may not include page numbers. If possible, give the inclusive page numbers or, when pagination is not continuous, the first page number and a plus sign; if pagination is not available, use n. pag.” (no pagination). Conclude the citation with the title of the database (italicized), the medium of publication (Web), and the date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.6 of the MLA Handbook.


Journal Articles from Web Pages (Surface Web)

From “A Scholarly Journal,” section 5.6.3 of the MLA Handbook: “Most scholarly journals on the Web are organized by volume number (usually on an annual basis) and include issue numbers and the dates of publication.” When citing a journal article, also include the page numbers; if no pagination, use n. pag. Conclude the citation with the medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.2 of the MLA Handbook.


Journal Articles from Limited-Access Databases

From “A Periodical Publication in an Online Database,” section 5.6.4 of the MLA Handbook: “A periodical article on the Web may not include page numbers. If possible, give the inclusive page numbers or, when pagination is not continuous, the first page number and a plus sign; if pagination is not available, use n. pag.” (no pagination). Conclude the citation with the title of the database (italicized), the medium of publication (Web), and the date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.2 of the MLA Handbook.


Newspaper Articles from Web Pages (Surface Web)

From section 5.6.2 of the MLA Handbook: For “web sites sponsored by newspapers and magazines,” include the “publisher or sponsor of the site; if not available, use N.p.” (no publisher). Also include the date of publication (day, month, and year); if not available, use n.d. (no date). Conclude the citation with the medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.5 of the MLA Handbook, which states that “if the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name.”


Newspaper Articles from Limited-Access Databases

From section 5.6.4 of the MLA Handbook: “A periodical article on the Web may not include page numbers. If possible, give the inclusive page numbers or, when pagination is not continuous, the first page number and a plus sign; if pagination is not available, use n. pag.” Conclude the citation with the title of the database (italicized), the medium of publication (Web), and the date of access (day, month, and year). See also section 5.4.5 of the MLA Handbook, which states that “if the city of publication is not included in the name of a locally published newspaper, add the city in square brackets, not italicized, after the name.”


Book Reviews

Section 5.6.4 of the MLA Handbook indicates that to cite a book review, “begin the entry by following the recommendations . . . for citing works in print periodicals, but drop the medium of original publication (Print). . . . If possible, give the inclusive page numbers or, when pagination is not continuous, the first page number and a plus sign; if pagination is not available, use n. pag.” Conclude the entry with the database title (italicized), the medium of publication (Web), and the date of access.

See also section 5.4.7 of the MLA Handbook as well as the various styles of reviews appearing on page 9 of the UMW MLA Style Guide to Print Resources.

Book Reviews from Web Pages (Surface Web)

Signed, titled review in a newspaper:


Signed, untitled review in a journal (includes volume and issue numbers):


Unsigned, untitled review in a magazine (no volume or issue numbers):


Book Reviews from Limited-Access Databases

Signed, untitled review in a journal (includes volume and issue numbers):


Unsigned, untitled review in a magazine (no volume or issue numbers):


Signed, titled review in a newspaper:

Works Reprinted in Limited-Access Databases

According to section 5.5.6 of the MLA Handbook, 7th edition, “To cite a previously published scholarly article in a collection, give the complete data for the earlier publication and then add Rpt. in (“Reprinted in”), the title of the collection, and the new publication facts.”


Non-Periodical Sections of Limited-Access Databases

Some databases do not contain magazine and journal articles, but rather essays and other material on assorted topics.


Online Reference Works (e.g., Dictionaries and Encyclopedias)


Sound Recordings

*From “A Sound Recording,” section 5.7.2 of the MLA Handbook: “In an entry for a commercially available recording, which person is cited first (e.g., the composer, conductor, ensemble, or performer) depends on the desired emphasis.” Include the title of the recording, the artist or artists, the manufacturer, and the year of issue. Use n.d. (no date) if the year is unknown.*


Video Recordings

*See “A Film or a Video Recording,” section 5.7.3 of the MLA Handbook. A citation includes the italicized title, “the director, the distributor, the year of release, and the medium consulted.” You may also include other data, such as actors’ names, “between the title and the distributor.”*


Interviews and Email Communications

Bailey, Flora G. Message to the author. 13 July 2009. E-mail.


Blogs

The seventh edition of the *MLA Handbook* does not provide rules for citing blogs (unfortunately, although blogs are listed in the book’s index, no examples are given). The following entry is a best-guess attempt at a citation, based on examinations of MLA style.


Works of Visual Art

*According to section 5.7.6 section 5.5.25 of the MLA Handbook, 7th edition,* “to cite a painting, lithograph, sculpture, or similar work, state the artist’s name first when available. In general, italicize the title and then list the date of composition (if the year is unknown, write N.d.). Indicate the medium of composition. Name the institution that houses the work (e.g., a museum), or, for a work in a private collection, give the name of the collection (Collection of . . .), and then provide the name of the city where the institution or collection is located. If the collector is unknown or wishes to be anonymous, use Private collection without a city name.*

