

APA 7th: A Brief Guide to Changes in Referencing from APA 6th

Author

In-Text citations

- 3+ authors are shortened to **Surname et al.** in-text – including the first time.
- Suggested contributors for audiovisual works (director, producer, etc.) have changed to better match who is usually considered to be the ‘author’ of the work. For instance, instead of including the producers and director as the authors of a film, now only director is listed. See page 341 in the Manual for a list.
- When citing works by different authors with the same surname: If their first initials are different, include them; if not, cite the works in the standard author-date format. Only include first names in your text when it’s necessary to distinguish between authors, e.g. when comparing their work.
- Similarly, if two works with 3+ authors share a first author, only include more authors in-text if they would otherwise share the same citation (e.g. they were published in the same year).

Feature	6 th edition	7 th edition
3+ authors in-text	First use: (Bultas, Hassler, Ercole, & Rea, 2016) Subsequent use: (Bultas et al., 2016)	(Bultas et al., 2016)
Film ‘author’	Deeley, M. (Producer), York, B. (Producer), & Scott, R. (Director). (1984). <i>Bladerunner</i> [Motion picture]...	Scott, R. (Director). (1984). <i>Bladerunner</i> [Film]...
Authors with same surname	(Jane Smith, 2019; John Smith, 2019) (F. R. Smith, 2012; J. Smith, 2019)	(Smith, 2019a; Smith, 2019b) No change.

Reference list entries

- Include all authors up to 20. After that, treat it as you would 8+ authors in APA 6th.
- Only include the most specific of a series of government agencies. The parent organisations become the publisher. Example: **Group Author.** (2019). *Title.* Govt Org. <https://www.govt.org/path/fullinktoreport.pdf>
- Where authors share surnames and initials, order by year. Works by the same author might be separated.
- There have been some changes to how Wikipedia & online reference works are treated.

Feature	6 th edition	7 th edition
20+ authors	Leung, W., Shaffer, C. D., Reed, L., Smith, S. T., Barshop, W., Dirkes, W., Dothager, M., . . . Elgin, S. C. R. (2015). <i>Drosophila Muller F...</i>	Leung, W., Shaffer, C. D., Reed, L., Smith, S. T., Barshop, W., Dirkes, W., Dothager, M., Lee, P., Wong, J., Xiong, D., Yuan, H., Bedard, J. E. J., Machone, J. F., Patterson, S. D., Price, A. L., Turner, B. A., Robic, S., Luippold, E. K., McCartha, S. R., . . . Elgin, S. C. R. (2015). <i>Drosophila Muller F...</i>
Reports	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health, National Cancer Institute. (2016). <i>Taking part in cancer treatment research studies</i> (Publication No. 16-6249). Retrieved from https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/CRS.pdf	National Cancer Institute. (2016). <i>Taking part in cancer treatment research studies</i> (Publication No. 16-6249). U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Institutes of Health. https://www.cancer.gov/publications/patient-education/CRS.pdf
Authors with same surname	Smith, J. [Jane]. (2019). <i>Title of a book...</i> Smith, J. [John]. (2019). Article title...	Smith, J. (2019a). Article title... Smith, J. (2019b). <i>Title of a book...</i>

Date

- For secondary sources, include both dates in-text if known: (Smith, 1901, as cited in Lee, 2019).
- For Wikipedia articles, publication date is the date of the revision you used. (Check the permanent link.)

Feature	6 th edition	7 th edition
Wikipedia	Bird. (n.d.). Retrieved January 6, 2020, from http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bird	Bird. (2019, December 1). In <i>Wikipedia</i> . https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Bird&oldid=928751793

Title

- Title of a web page is now in italics. Its format will now look more like a book than like a chapter in a book.
- For published theses, include the university name: *Title* [Doctoral dissertation, Edith Cowan University].

Publisher

- Place of publication is no longer included.
- Include the whole publisher name, excluding company markers like LLC or Pty Ltd.
- If the publisher is the author, exclude this field instead of writing "Author". Do not duplicate.
- Website names (including online-only news sources & YouTube) are listed as publisher for web pages.
- Parent agencies are listed as publisher for government reports with individual or smaller group authors.

Feature	6 th edition	7 th edition
Place of publication	Brown, W. H. (2014). <i>Introduction to organic chemistry</i> . Hoboken, NJ: Wiley.	Brown, W. H. (2014). <i>Introduction to organic chemistry</i> . John Wiley & Sons.
Web page with site as publisher	Vrajlal, A. (2020, January 10). Thousands gather at Sydney climate rally as bushfire crisis continues. Retrieved from https://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/bushfires-nsw-sydney-climate-rally_au_5e182ff6c5b650c621dc51d9	Vrajlal, A. (2020, January 10). <i>Thousands gather at Sydney climate rally as bushfire crisis continues</i> . HuffPost. https://www.huffingtonpost.com.au/entry/bushfires-nsw-sydney-climate-rally_au_5e182ff6c5b650c621dc51d9

Web address or DOI

- If there is a DOI, always include it (use the format <https://doi.org/10.xxxx>).
- If there is **no DOI**:
 - Open-access works (no login required): use the complete, direct link for the cited work if possible.
 - Works from an academic database (login required): cite as print with no URL.
 - Works from a proprietary database like IBISWorld or Cochrane Reviews (login required, database is the publisher of original works with no other source): give database homepage URL.
- URLs no longer include the text "Retrieved from" – unless a retrieval date is required (pp. 290, 298-300).
- Use a permanent/static URL if there is one. If there is, no retrieval date is needed.
- URL shorteners (like [bitly](https://bitly.com)) are acceptable for complicated links as long as they retrieve the right source.
- If a URL is meant to be read on a computer, links should be live, and may be plain or [default link](#) format.

Feature	6 th edition	7 th edition
Link to open-access work	Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2016). <i>Land management and farming in Australia, 2014-15</i> (Cat. No. 4627.0). Retrieved from http://www.abs.gov.au	Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2016). <i>Land management and farming in Australia, 2014-15</i> (Cat. No. 4627.0). https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs@.nsf/Lookup/4627.0Main+Features102014-15
URL shortener		Australian Bureau of Statistics. (2016). <i>Land management and farming in Australia, 2014-15</i> (Cat. No. 4627.0). https://shorturl.at/CDWXY