# APA In-Text Citations (APA 7)

Whenever you use information or ideas from another text in your paper, you must indicate what work you used and where in the text you found it. Parenthetical documentation (or In-text citations) must clearly point to specific sources in your reference list.

A typical APA in-text citation consists of the author's last name and the year.

> A recent study (Davis, 1997) indicates . . .

If the author's name is mentioned in the text, simply include the year in parentheses immediately after.

> Davis (1997) notes . . .

When quoting, include the page number along with the other reference information. Page numbers are only required when quoting but can be used when paraphrasing if you'd like to indicate the section you're referring to. For one page, use "p." like (Davis, 1997, p. 95). For multiple pages, use "pp." like (Davis, 1997, pp. 94-95).

> The study concluded that "no correlation between variables was observed" (Davis, 1997, p. 95).

**Important Note: Punctuation goes AFTER the in-text citations at the end of the sentence.** Do not place the punctuation at the end of the quote or both before and after.

**Incorrect:**    Studies suggest that running can be good for stress management. (Smith, 2019, p. 5).

**Correct:**    Studies suggest that running can be good for stress management (Smith, 2019, p. 5).

**Incorrect:**    Smith (2019) states that "running can be good for stress management." (p. 5).

**Correct:**    Smith (2019) states that "running can be good for stress management" (p. 5).

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**Two Authors**

*Cite both authors every time the reference occurs in text.*

> Jacobson and Waugh (1985) argue . . .

> (Jacobson & Waugh, 1985).

**Three or More Authors**

*Only list the first author followed by et al. in all citations.*

> Bell et al. (1999) suggest . . .

> (Bell et al., 1999).

**A Group of Authors**

*Refer to the full name and acronym of the group in the first reference; use only the acronym afterwards. If no acronym is given, use the name without abbreviation.*

> According to the American Psychological Association (2000), . . .

> (National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH], 1999). → (NIMH, 1999).

**No Author**

*Use a shortened version of the title beginning with the first word on the References page.*

> *New Frontiers in Therapy* (2000) outlines . . .

> ("Study Finds," 2001).

**No Publication Date**

*If no publication date is indicated, cite the author's last name, followed by a comma and n.d. (for "no date")*

> Lerner (n.d.) questions . . .

> (Lerner, n.d.)

**Citing Multiple Sources at Once**

*These should be in alphabetical order, separated by a semicolon.*

> Several studies (Edwards, 1999; Finster, 1995; Spragu, 1992) state . . .

**Two or More Authors with the Same Last Name**

*Include the authors' initials to avoid ambiguity.*

> R. A. Brown (1995) finds . . .   M. N. Brown (1998) concludes . . .
> (R. A. Brown, 1995).           (M. N. Brown, 1998).

**Works by the Same Author in the Same Year**

*Use lower-case letters (a, b, c) with the year to order the entries in the reference list and distinguish which source you're referencing in your in-text citations. They should be ordered chronologically with "a" being published first, "b" second, and so on.*

> Research by Berndt (1981a) revealed . . .
> (Berndt, 1981a).        (Berndt, 1981b).

**Citing Secondary or Indirect Sources**

*Primary sources (original sources) should be cited rather than secondary sources unless absolutely necessary. If you use a source that was cited in another source, name the original source in your signal phrase. List the secondary source in your reference list and include the secondary source in the parentheses. If you know the year of the original source, include it in the citation.*

>  Johnson argued that...  (as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102).

>  (Johnson, 1985, as cited in Smith, 2003, p. 102).

**Long Quotation**

*This format should be used for a quote that is 40 words or longer. Introduce the quote with a colon sentence. Indent entire quotation one tab (1/2"), double spaced, with no quotation marks. This will be the only time the punctuation is placed **before** the parenthetical.*

 Bell (2001) notes that readers and writers have a specific kind of relationship:

>  Writers stake out a territory to explore, provide maps designed for discovery, and invite readers to join the expedition. Readers, in turn, survey the invitation and weigh the possibilities for discovery before making a commitment to the journey. The next time you're in a bookstore or library, you can watch these negotiations in action. (p. 1)

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# APA In-Text Citations for Internet Sources (APA 7)

**1.   Is parenthetically citing online sources different from parenthetically citing print sources?**

No, because the same philosophy applies for all APA parenthetical citations.  The parenthetical citation should allow a reader to **easily** find the source in the reference list.

**2.  Are there any differences?**

When citing internet sources and a specific quotation is used, the location of that quotation in the text should be cited.  Since many online sources lack page numbers, paragraph (abbreviated as para.) numbers are often used.  If the online source does not have numbered paragraphs, but uses sections, it is acceptable to cite the section, followed by the paragraph's number within that section.

>  "You need to put ideas in to get ideas out" (Rapp Young, 2001, Feed Your Brain section, para. 1).

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For more information, please refer to:

> American Psychological Association. *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association.*
>      (2019). (7th ed.)  Washington, D.C.