

Works Cited Page: Basic Format

According to MLA style, you must have a Works Cited page at the end of your research paper.

Basic Rules

- Begin your Works Cited page on a separate page at the end of your research paper. It should have the same one-inch margins and last name, page number header as the rest of your paper.
- Label the page Works Cited (do not underline the words Works Cited or put them in quotation marks) and center the words Works Cited at the top of the page.
- Double space all citations, but do not skip spaces between entries.
- List page numbers of sources efficiently, when needed. If you refer to a journal article that appeared on pages 225 through 250, list the page numbers on your Works Cited page as 225-50.
- If you're citing an article or a publication that was originally issued in print form but that you retrieved from an online database, you should provide enough information so that the reader can locate the article either in its original print form or retrieve it from the online database (if they have access). See the sample entry on the sample sheet.
- At the end of each entry, you should indicate the type of work you are citing (Print, Web, Video, Cassette, DVD, etc.)

Capitalization and Punctuation

- Capitalize each word in the titles of articles, books, etc, but do not capitalize articles, short prepositions, or conjunctions unless one is the first word of the title or subtitle: *Gone with the Wind*, *The Art of War*, *There Is Nothing Left to Lose*
- Use italics for titles of larger works (books, magazines) and quotation marks for titles of shorter works (poems, articles).

Listing Author Names

Entries are listed by author name (or, for entire edited collections, editor names). Author names are written last name first; middle names or middle initials follow the first name:

Burke, Kenneth

Levy, David M.

Wallace, David Foster

For more than one author, only reverse the order of the first name listed:

Burke, Kenneth and Ann Smith

Do not list titles (Dr., Sir, Saint, etc.) or degrees (PhD, MA, DDS, etc.) with names. A book listing an author named "John Bigbrain, PhD" appears simply as "Bigbrain, John"; do, however, include suffixes like "Jr." or "II." Putting it all together, a work by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. would be cited as "King, Martin Luther, Jr.,"

Listing Publishers

- Omit articles (a, an, the)
- Abbreviate the names of publishers.
- Do not include any words like Company, Inc., House, Press, Publishers unless it is a university press.
- For university presses, abbreviate University as U. and Press as P.
- If the publisher includes the full name of a person, use only the last name.
- If the publisher includes the last names of more than one person, use the first last name.