

ACS Style

This handout outlines the basic and most commonly used forms of citations and references in the American Chemical Society (ACS) style of writing. For the complete online ACS Style Guide, visit this website: <http://pubs.acs.org/isbn/9780841239999>. For the chapter on referencing (Chapter 14), visit these webpages: <http://pubs.acs.org/doi/pdf/10.1021/bk-2006-STYG.ch014>.

In-text Citations

There are three ways to cite in-text:

1. Use superscript numbers that appear at the end of the sentence (before the period).
Eg. Effects of carbon monoxide on hemoglobin and myoglobin have been studied previously¹.
2. Use italic reference numbers in parentheses at the end of the sentence (before the period).
Eg. Effects of carbon monoxide on hemoglobin and myoglobin have been studied previously (*1*).
3. Use the name of the author followed by a comma and the year of publication, all enclosed in parentheses (before the period).
Eg. Effects of carbon monoxide on hemoglobin and myoglobin have been studied previously (Rossi-Fanelli and Antonini, 1958).

The Reference List

Two things to remember:

1. Arrangement

If you choose to use numerical in-text referencing styles (styles 1 and 2 above), your reference page must be arranged in numerical order. If you choose to use the name and date referencing style (style 3), your references must be in alphabetical order.

2. Hanging Indent

Most academic referencing styles require a hanging indent in the References section. This means that all lines of a reference, except the first line, must be indented 0.5". (There are very good online tutorials for setting up a proper hanging indent.)

Periodicals (Scientific Journals)

General Structure:

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Title of Article. *Journal Abbreviation* **Year**, *Volume*, Inclusive
Page numbers.

Example:

MagnaVal, J.F.; Fabre, R.; Maurieres, P.; Charlet, J.P.; de Larrard, B. Application of the Western
Blotting Procedure for the Immunodiagnosis of Human Toxocariasis. *Parasitol. Res.*
1991, *77*, 697-702.

A Note on Journal Abbreviations:

Journal abbreviations should be used for all references. The abbreviation for any given journal
can be found on the *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index* (CASSI) website:

<http://cassi.cas.org/>. One-word journals are not abbreviated, and only those journals with
abbreviated names have a period preceding the year of publication.

Online Periodicals

General Structure (Periodicals Based on Print Editions):

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Title of Article. *Journal Abbreviation* [Online] **Year**, *Volume*,
Inclusive page numbers or other identifying information. URL (accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

Wang, P.; Huang, J.; Li, Y.; Chang, R.; Wu, H.; Lin, J.; Huang, Z. Exogenous Carbon Monoxide
Decreases Sepsis-Induced Acute Kidney Injury and Inhibits NLRP3 Inflammasome
Activation in Rats. *Int. J. Mol. Sci.* [Online] **2015**, *16*, 20595-20608. [http://web.a.
ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=
ed14387d-d2b1-4328-8557-2df9967ac5ca%40sessionmgr4002&vid=0&hid=4107](http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=ed14387d-d2b1-4328-8557-2df9967ac5ca%40sessionmgr4002&vid=0&hid=4107)
(accessed January 15, 2016).

General Structure (Periodicals Only in Electronic Format):

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Title of Article. *Journal Abbreviation* [Online] **Year**, *Volume*,
Article Number or other identifying information. URL (accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

Zhang, S.; Zheng, S.; Wang, X.; Shi, Q.; Wang, X.; Yuan, S.; Wang, G.; Ji, Z. Carbon Monoxide-
Releasing Molecule-2 Reduces Intestinal Epithelial Tight-Junction Damage and Mortality
in Septic Rats. *PLoS ONE* [Online] **2015**, *10*, e0145988.
[http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=
fcd67b2-90d1-4889-924f-b6e0174f99de%40sessionmgr4004&vid=0&hid=4107](http://web.a.ebscohost.com/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?sid=fcd67b2-90d1-4889-924f-b6e0174f99de%40sessionmgr4004&vid=0&hid=4107)
(accessed January 15, 2016).

Books

General Structure (Books without Editors):

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Chapter Title. *Book Title*, Edition Number; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume Number, Pagination.

Example:

Willett, E. Neon and the Other Nobles. *Neon*, Edition 1; The Rosen Publishing Group, Inc.: New York, 2007; pp 13-15.

General Structure (Books with Editors):

Author 1; Author 2; Author 3; etc. Chapter Title. In *Book Title*, Edition Number; Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Eds.; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume Number, Pagination.

Example:

Almlof, J.; Gropen, O. Relativistic Effects in Chemistry. In *Reviews in Computational Chemistry*; Lipkowitz, K. B., Boyd, D. B., Eds.; VCH: New York, 1996; Vol. 8, pp 206–210.

A Note on Editors:

When a book has editors, it means that different authors wrote different parts of the book independently of each other. The authors you mention at the beginning of your reference are the authors who wrote the **chapter** from which you are referencing. This is indicated by placing “In” before the title of the book. The rest of the authors are mentioned in the editors section.

Web Sites

General Structure:

Author(s) (if any). Title of Site. URL (accessed Month Day, Year), other identifying information (if any).

Example:

King, T.; May, P. Green Fluorescent Protein. <http://www.chm.bris.ac.uk/motm/GFP/GFPh.htm> (accessed January 15, 2016).

Handbooks

General Structure (Print):

Book Title, Edition Number; Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Eds.; Series Information (if any); Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume Number, Pagination.

Example:

The Merck Index: An Encyclopedia of Chemicals, Drugs, and Biologicals, 12th ed.; Budavari, S.; O’Neal, M.J.; Smith, A.; Heckelman, P.E.; Kinneary, J.F., Eds.; Merck & Co.: Whitehouse Station, NJ, 1996; entry 4856.

General Structure (Electronic):

Book Title, Edition Number [Online]; Editor 1, Editor 2, etc., Eds.; Series Information (if any);
Publisher: Place of Publication, Year; Volume Number, Chapter Number, Pagination.
URL (accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

CRC Handbook of Chemistry and Physics, 96th Edition [Online]; Haynes, W.M., Ed.; CRC Press:
Boca Raton, FL, 2016; Chapter 7, pp. 3-4. <http://www.hbcnpnetbase.com> (accessed
January 20, 2016).

PubChem

General Structure:

National Center for Biotechnology Information. PubChem Compound Database; CID=compound
identification number, URL (accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

National Center for Biotechnology Information. PubChem Compound Database; CID=7843,
<https://pubchem.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/compound/7843> (accessed January 20, 2016).

Safety Data Sheets (SDSs)

Note: These were formerly called Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDSs).

General Structure (Online SDS):

Title; SDS Number [Online]; Manufacturing Company: Location of Company, Date. URL
(accessed Month Day, Year).

Example:

Acetone; SDS No. 650501 [Online]; Sigma-Aldrich Corporation: St. Louis, MO, October 30, 2014.
[http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/MSDS/MSDS/DisplayMSDSPage.do?country=CA&
language=en&productNumber=650501&brand=SIGALD&PageToGoToURL=http%3A%
2F%2Fwww.sigmaaldrich.com%2Fcatalog%2Fsearch%3Fterm%3Dacetone%
26interface%3DAI%26N%3D0%26mode%3Dmatch%2520partialmax%26lang%3Den%
26region%3DCA%26focus%3Dproduct](http://www.sigmaaldrich.com/MSDS/MSDS/DisplayMSDSPage.do?country=CA&language=en&productNumber=650501&brand=SIGALD&PageToGoToURL=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.sigmaaldrich.com%2Fcatalog%2Fsearch%3Fterm%3Dacetone%26interface%3DAI%26N%3D0%26mode%3Dmatch%2520partialmax%26lang%3Den%26region%3DCA%26focus%3Dproduct) (accessed January 22, 2016).

General Structure (Print SDS):

Title; SDS Number; Manufacturing Company: Location of Company, Date.

Example:

Acetone; SDS No. 650501; Sigma-Aldrich Corporation: St. Louis, MO, October 30, 2014.