



MLA WORKS CITED

What is a Works Cited?

For an essay, paper, report, or any other kind of writing assignment that requires outside research, a Works Cited must be included. This list includes entries for all the resources you cited within your paper (as noted in parenthetical in-text citations throughout). Any time you quote, that quotation's source must be listed in the Works Cited. Any time you paraphrase, summarize, or include information that you've read from an outside source that contributes information to the assignment, you must include that source in your Works Cited.

What information goes in a Works Cited entry?

Works Cited entries must be formatted according to [the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 7th edition](#) specifications. Each entry requires general publication information, including but not limited to: author name, title, publication or publisher, and year of publication. Because so many sources appear online and do not have publication dates or even authors, additional information may be required, including retrieval data and corporate author information. You will see the most common kinds of sources in the sample Works Cited below.

What are the key rules of creating a Works Cited?

There are unique formatting rules to follow for each entry, but generally, remember these key rules for the whole Works Cited page:

1. **Center** the words "Works Cited" at the top of the new page. Do not use boldface, italics, or quote marks. Just use these words: Works Cited. The page should have your last name and page number in the header, as on all the other essay pages.
2. **Double space** every line—no additional spacing required.
3. **Alphabetize** entries by authors' last names. This alphabetization requirement includes "corporate authors," like the U.S. Dept. of Education. In that situation, you would alphabetize the entry under "U" since there is no last name.
4. Create a **hanging indent** for every line after the first in your citation. You may do this in Microsoft Word by highlighting your citations list, clicking "Paragraph" in the toolbar, and choosing "Hanging" under the Indentation/Special section. This sequence is preferable to hitting the "tab" key because formatting can change as you edit the draft.
5. Be mindful of punctuation and italics rules.

What does a Works Cited look like?

It looks like this:

Works Cited

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Television.