

HOW TO CITE ELECTRONIC SOURCES
MLA Style
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GENERAL RULES FOR ELECTRONIC INFORMATION

In the MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers, 6th edition, electronic sources are dealt with in chapter 5.9. It is recommended that you look at the examples given for the varying types of databases or materials. There are some differences depending on if the source came from an item which has a printed version, or if it exists only in electronic form.

The Basic Entry: A Document from an Internet Site

Here is a brief summary of the general rules to cite an article, a poem, a short story, or a similar short work or document within a project or database:

- \$ author=s name
- \$ the title of the document, in quotations
- \$ information about any previous print publication
- \$ relevant information about the electronic publication - such as databases, aggregator, library, online journals, and so on.
- \$ access information - date, URL

Example of an article from a journal:

Sohmer, Steve. A12 June 1599: Opening Day at Shakespeare=s@ Globe.@ Early Modern Literary Studies 3.1 (1997): 46 pars. 26 June 2002 <<http://www.shu.ac.uk/emls/03-1/sohmjuli.html>>

An Entire Internet Site:

- \$ Title of the site, underlined
- \$ Name of the editor of the site, if given.
- \$ Electronic publication information as available - version, date or update info, sponsor, etc.
- \$ Date of access and URL.

Example from a database:

Thomas: Legislative Information on the Internet. 19 June 2001. Lib. Of Congress, Washington. 18 May 2002 <<http://thomas.loc/gov/>>

Adapted from:

AChapter 5.9 Citing Electronic Publications@. MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers. Ed. Joseph Gibaldi. 6th ed. New York: Modern Language Association of America, 2003.

and: < http://www.mla.org/style/style_faq/style_faq4>