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IEEE Citation Style Guidelines
NAIT Library

Citation styles are standardized systems for crediting and citing sources you’ve used for your research paper or assignment. Your program or degree will require you to use a specific citation style. The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) citation style is one of many different citation styles. Other style options include MLA (Modern Language Association), CSE (Counsel of Science Editors) and APA (American Psychological Association).

You must give credit to every source that you use in your research paper. Brief citations included in the text of your paper are called “in-text” citations; IEEE in-text citations consist of a number enclosed in square brackets (such as [1] or [29]) that corresponds to the relevant reference in the reference list at the end of the paper. Full citations are always included in the IEEE references list at the end of your paper; full citations include all the required citation elements (for example, a book citation includes the author, title, place of publication, publisher and date). Each in-text citation must appear in the References list, and each entry in the References list must come from an in-text citation.

These guidelines will help you to cite your research sources according to the IEEE style. Included are examples of both in-text citations and References list citations.

These guidelines are based on the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers’ (IEEE) website (http://www.ieee.org/index.html), particularly the IEEE “Information for Authors” PDF (http://www.ieee.org/portal/cms_docs/pubs/transactions/auinfo03.pdf).

Important: Always ask your instructor what citation style is required for your assignment.
IN-TEXT CITATIONS

IEEE in-text citations consist of a number enclosed in square brackets, which corresponds to the appropriate resource in the reference list at the end of your paper. The in-text citation numbers begin at [1], and proceed in ascending order throughout your paper – unless you are referencing a resource you have already cited in your text (in which case you use the previously-assigned number). Be aware that any edits to the references in the text of your paper may mean renumbering your reference list. There is very little variation in the formatting of IEEE in-text citations, regardless of whether you are citing a book, a web page, or a journal article.

The in-text citation is placed inside the punctuation of a sentence, i.e., “… similar to what was found by other researchers [5].” You do not need to include author names or dates in IEEE in-text citations, unless it is relevant to the text of the paper. The in-text reference may be used like a footnote, or as a noun.

**Single Reference**

… as demonstrated by Smith [10].

… according to [6], there is little evidence that …

**Multiple References**

… as Jones demonstrates in [2]–[5].

… as demonstrated earlier [10], [12]–[14], [16].

**Reference within Reference**

… as demonstrated in [2, pp.21-26].

**Three or more Authors**

Zang et al. [19] found …
PRINT SOURCES

Book

Citation elements required and general format:

Author(s) (if editor(s), include ", Ed(s)." after name), Title of Book: Subtitle of Book, edition. City, State abbreviation or Country of publication: Publisher, Year.

Reference list citation examples - Book
In IEEE style, use only the initials for the first and middle author names. Give the names of all authors unless there are seven or more, in which case you may use, for example, "A. Smith et al.", where Smith is the name of the first author. Capitalize the important words in the title.

One Author:


One Editor:


Two Authors:


Two Editors:


No Author or Editor:

Article or Book Chapter in Edited Book or Anthology

Citation elements required and general format:

Author(s) (if editor, include “, Ed(s).” after name), “Title of chapter or entry or case study,” in Title of Book, edition. City, State abbreviation or Country of publication: Publisher, Year, pp. xx-xx.

Reference list citation examples – Chapter in a Book, etc.
In IEEE style, use only the initials for the authors’ first and middle names. Place the title of the chapter or article in quotation marks, and capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns. Italicize the title of the book, and capitalize the important words.

Chapter in a Book, no Editor:


Chapter in a Book, part of a Series (where M. Abramowitz and I. A. Stegun are the editors of the book):

Journal Article

Citation elements required and general format for journal:

Author(s), "Title of journal article," Abbreviated Title of Periodical, vol. #, issue #, pp. xx-xx, Month Year.

Reference list citation examples – Journal Article
In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author’s first and middle names. For the title of the article, only capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns. Spell out the entire title of a periodical, or abbreviate it in a standardized way (see http://www.ieee.org/documents/ieecitationref.pdf for details). If the author is unknown, begin with the title. Abbreviate the month of publication in a standardized way (Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.).

One Author:


Two or more Authors:


No Author:

Handbooks and Manuals

Citation elements required and general format:


Reference list citation examples – Handbooks, and Manuals
In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author’s first and middle names. For the title of the report, handbook, or manual, capitalize all the important words. If there is no author, begin with the title.

No Author:


No Author, No Edition information:

Published Conference Proceedings

Citation elements required and general format for journal:

Author(s). "Title of paper," in Conference Name, City, State Abbreviation or Country, Year, pp. xx-xx.

Reference list citation examples – Published Conference Proceedings
In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author’s first and middle names. For the title of the paper, only capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns. If there is no author, begin with the title.

Two Authors:

**Paper Presented at Conference**

Citation elements required and general format for journal:

Author(s), "Title of paper," presented at the Name of Conference, City of Conference, Abbreviation of State or Country, year.

**Reference list citation examples – Paper Presented at Conference**

In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author's first and middle names. For the title of the paper, only capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns.

**One Author:**

ELECTRONIC SOURCES

Online Article from Library Database

Citation elements required and general format:

Author(s). (Year, Month). Title of article. Title of Journal [Online]. Volume(Issue), page numbers. Available: permanent link or DOI for article.

Reference list citation examples – Online Article from Library Database

In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author's first and middle names. For the title of the paper, only capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns. Abbreviate the month of publication in a standardized way (Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.)

One Author, doi:

Electronic Book (eBook) from Library Database

Some examples of eBooks from library databases include CRCnetBASE, AccessEngineering, Knovel, Safari, Gale Virtual Reference Library, ebrary, Oxford Reference Online, and Referex.

Citation elements required and general format:

Author(s) (if editor, include “, Ed(s).” after name). (Year). Title of eBook: Subtitle of eBook (edition, if available) [Online]. Available: permanent link to eBook

Reference list citation examples – eBook from Library Database

In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author’s first and middle names. For the title of the eBook, capitalize the important words.

One Author:

Webpage or Document from a Website

If you are not able to find all of the information identified in the general format, include all that is available from the source.

Citation elements required and general format:

Author(s). (Year, Month Day). *Title of website, webpage, or document* [Online]. Available: link to article

Reference list citation examples — Webpage or Document from a Website

In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author's first and middle names. For the title of the webpage, capitalize only the first word, subtitle, and any proper nouns. Abbreviate the month of publication in a standardized way (Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.). If the author is unknown, begin with the article title.

One Author:


No Author:


No Author and no date (use n.d.):

Company or Government Reports

If you are not able to find out all the information identified in the general format, include only what is available from the source.

Citation information required and general format:

Author, Corporate Author, or Government Department. (Year, Month of publication). Title of company or government report. Company or Government. City, State or Country. [Online]. Available: URL

Reference list citation examples – Company or Government Reports

In IEEE style, use only the initials for the author’s first and middle names. For the title of the report, only capitalize the first word of the title, subtitle, and any proper nouns. Abbreviate the month of publication in a standardized way (Jan., Feb., Mar., Apr., May, June, Jul., Aug., Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.).

Government Department Report:


Company Report: