



# Library Research Tips

## What is a DOI?

A **digital object identifier** (DOI) is a unique string of numbers and letters assigned to electronic resources (e.g. online journal articles) by publishers to identify content and provide a persistent link to its location on the internet .

Source:

American Psychological Association. (2011). *What is a digital object identifier, or DOI?* Retrieved from [www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/what-is-a-doi.aspx](http://www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/what-is-a-doi.aspx)

### What does a DOI look like?

10.2224/sbp.2011.39.4.529

### Where do I find the DOI?

- The first page of the full-text (PDF) of an article (check top & bottom of page)
- In the complete record of an article in a database
- The journal's website

### How do you use a DOI in your APA-style Reference List?

Use a DOI instead of the URL:

Kreng, V. B., & May-Yao, H. (2011). Corporate social responsibility: Consumer behavior, corporate strategy, and public policy. *Social Behavior & Personality: An International Journal*, 39(4), 529-541. doi:10.2224/sbp.2011.39.4.529

For more information about DOIs, see:

- <http://www.doi.org/>
- <http://www.crossref.org/index.html>

Visit the library website: [www.nait.ca/library](http://www.nait.ca/library)