How to Cite a Website

A website is a collection of information pages on the Internet that are written by an individual, organization, company, or institution. Websites can range in a variety of topics including news, sports, travel, and many other interests and hobbies.

To make a citation for a website, you will need the following pieces of information:

- The author’s name
- The title of the article or page
- The title of the website
- *The name of the publisher
- The date the page or site was published
- **The URL

*On the publisher: Only include the name of the publisher when it differs from the name of the website.

**On URLs: In previous versions of MLA, researchers were not required to include the URL. In MLA 8, it is strongly recommended to include the URL in the citation. Even though web pages and URLs can be taken down or changed, it is still possible to learn about the source from the information seen in the URL. When including URLs in a citation, omit http:// and https:// from the website’s address. When creating a citation that will be read on a digital device, it is helpful to make the URL clickable so that readers can directly access the source themselves.

Structure of a website citation:

Place the author’s name in reverse order, last name first, add a comma, and then the first name followed by a period. The title of the web page or article is placed in quotation marks, with a period before the end quotation. The title of the website is written in italics followed by a comma. If the name of the publisher differs from the name of the website, include it after the title. Immediately following the publisher is the date that the page or article was published, or posted. Finally, end with the URL. The URL is the website’s address.

Author’s Last name, First name. “Title of the Article or Individual Page.” Title of the website,

Name of the publisher, Date of publication, URL.
Examples of website citations:


How to cite a website with no author:

Sometimes, websites do not clearly state who wrote the information on the page. When no author is listed, omit the author information from the citation. Start the citation with the title.

Example of a citation for a website without an author:

“Giant Panda.” *Smithsonian National Zoological Park*, Smithsonian Institute,

nationalzoo.si.edu/animals/giantpandas/pandafacts/.

How to cite a website when there is no page title:

When citing a web page that does not include a formal title, it is acceptable to include a description of the page. Do not place the description in italics or in quotation marks. Follow the description with the name of the website.

Example of a website citation when there is no page title: