

APA Internal Citation Guidelines:

The way you attribute sources changes depending on how you construct your sentence, but one thing never changes:

You must always cite your source.

In general your internal citations should look like this, using a signal phrase that identifies the author of the source and the year in which it was written while the page number should be identified at the end of the sentence in which the quote exists:

Smith (2017) states “the best way to use a source is by integrating it into a sentence,” thereby ensuring that your own words are used to make an argument rather than relying on those belonging to someone else (p.42).

However there is some variation in how you might use a source in APA style:

Proper signal phrase and quote – Using quotes in APA generally requires a signal phrase where one identifies the source by naming the author and including the year.

Smith (2017) states “the best way to use a source is by integrating it into a sentence,” thereby ensuring that your own words are used to make an argument rather than relying on those belonging to someone else (42).

No signal phrase – Though signal phrases are more common in APA style, you can omit them.

“the best way to use a source is by integrating it into a sentence,” thereby ensuring that your own words are used to make an argument rather than relying on those belonging to someone else (Smith 2017; 42).

For sources with the same author – Occasionally you will have sources by the same author in one piece. In your works cited page they will be labeled by year and, if in the same year, they will be labeled by a letter-this is how they are differentiated in internal citations.

Smith (2007a, 2007b, 2012) has often written about the necessity of teaching citation paradigms in workshop settings.



Block Quotes

When taking longer passages to use as a direct quote, you must change the formatting if the quote is over forty words long. Introduce with a signal phrase followed by a colon. It should remain double spaced.

Example:

----- Ole Crumlin-Pedersen (2004) state:
Boats built from planks with overlapping edges in the bottom and sides of the hull—constructed in the lapstrake technique—have been widely used in northern Europe and North America in recent centuries. Within Scandinavia this technique has been practiced for more than a millennium, as documented by a large number of archaeological finds of Iron Age and medieval ships and boats, in combination with historic records and information from boatbuilders of the nineteenth centuries, illustrating a striking continuity in this tradition for boat building. (p. 37)

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Making References

Making references is useful with longer research papers because it removes much of the tedious introductions necessary when we introduce a text or groups of texts as in a literature review section of a paper. That said, references can also occur in the normal flow of a paper.

To make a reference, include parenthetical source material directly after the reference even if it is made in the middle of the sentence.

Research has been conducted at length by theorists suggesting that stories are evolutionarily useful due to their ability to influence others (Sugiyama 1996), to attract mates, and explore virtual representations of the real world (Boyd 2009, Dunbar 2005).

