MLA 8 is a very straightforward citation style, where all the citations, regardless of their type, follow the same basic format style, as the chart on the right displays. Unlike other citation styles, there may be multiple ways to cite works using this basic format; MLA encourages whatever will make the most sense to the reader.

See our MLA FAQ handout for more information on citing in MLA.

### Books

**Basic Format**

Author A’s Last Name, First Name, and Author B’s First Name Last Name. *Title of Book*, Publisher, Year of Publication.

- **One Author**
  


- **Two Authors**
  

**Article in a Journal**

**Basic Format**

Author A’s Last Name, First Name and Author B’s First Name Last Name. “Title of the Article.” *Title of Journal*, Volume, Issue, Year of Publication, Page Numbers, Database name, DOI (or URL).

- **One Author**
  

- **Three or More Authors**
  
Article from a Website

Basic Format
Author’s Last Name, First Name. “Title of Work.” Title of Website, Date of Publication, URL.

- Examples


Citing a Website with No Author
In the case of no known author, skip the author section and simply start the citation with the title of the website.

Movie

Basic Format
Contributor’s Last Name, First Name, contributor’s role. Title of Movie. Role by Other Contributor’s First Name Last Name, Name of Production or Distribution Company, Year of Release.

- Examples


Who are the contributors?
A movie requires the work of many people with different roles, including directors, producers, writers, performers, and more. Always include the director, but only cite other contributors if they are important to your writing. The examples to the left show how to put emphasis on different contributors for the same movie.

How do I do In-Text Citations in MLA?

1 Author
“…he still knew nothing of the piracy of Love” (Longus 23). Kenneth Burke describes human beings as “symbol-using animals” (3).

2 Authors
“…these are the metaphors we live by” (Lakoff and Johnson 18).

3 or more Authors
“. . . they could bear it no more” (Wesley et al. 10).

No Author:

Do not place a comma between the author(s) and page number(s).

Information adapted from the MLA Handbook, Eighth Edition. For more information, find it on our bookshelf or in the library.

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