American Chemical Society References

This is an overview of the style used by chemistry. To view the entire manual, see the A-Z resources list on the library web page (westlibrary.txwes.edu). Detailed information about ACS style references are in Chapter 14 of the ACS Style Guide.

In-Text Reference: Each time you refer to information gathered from another source, whether this information is directly quoted, paraphrased, or summarized, you must provide a reference for that information. This allows your reader to find your source material by using your Reference page at the end of your paper. The main way to cite is using the author-date method. However, check with your professor for his or her preference. Examples of each type are listed.

Author—date Method

Example: Though HPLC techniques are the standard for assessing 25OH-D in laboratories, commercially-available automated immunoassays also offer reliable measures (Lippi et al., 2015).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One Author</th>
<th>(Name, Year)</th>
<th>(Smith, 2014)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two Authors</td>
<td>(Name and Name, Year)</td>
<td>(Smith and Jones, 2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three or more authors</td>
<td>(Name et al., Year)</td>
<td>(Smith et al., 2014)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organization as author</td>
<td>(Organization Name, Year)</td>
<td>(IOM 2014)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Numerical Reference Citations (2 Methods)

For each of these methods, you will number each citation in the order they appear in your paper. Start with the first citation (1) and number consecutively through the paper. If a reference is repeated later in the paper, use the original reference number.

Superscript Numbers

Include a superscript number of the citation outside of the punctuation. The keyboard shortcut for inserting a superscript is CTRL SHIFT +.

Example: Though HPLC techniques are the standard for assessing 25OH-D in laboratories, commercially-available automated immunoassays also offer reliable measures. ¹

Italic Numbers

Include the number in italics in parentheses in line with the text.

Example: Though HPLC techniques are the standard for assessing 25OH-D in laboratories, commercially-available automated immunoassays also offer reliable measures (1).
End References and Reference Lists

- **What to include in your reference list**: Any materials you have seen and used to write your paper. This includes published articles, books, conference proceedings, dissertations, and websites. Alphabetize your list by the first listed author’s last name.

- **Organizing the References List (p. 325)**: If you used either of the numerical references styles to do your internal citations, you include each reference in the order you cited them. If you used the Author-date format, list each reference in alphabetic order, using the first listed author’s surname to alphabetize the list.

**Journal Reference (p. 291)**

Author(s). Title of Article. *Journal Title Abbreviation* Year. *Volume*:pages.

Note: In ACS, journal titles are abbreviated based on the Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index (these are listed in full in Appendix 14-2 of the ACS guide). The abbreviations are fairly standard and are often included on the journal article’s first page. Do not abbreviate one word titles (i.e. *Biochemistry*).


**Book Reference (p. 300)**

Author(s). *Book Title*, edition number; Publisher: Place of Publication, Year.


**Web Page Citation (CSE, 29.3.7.13)**

Author (if given). Title of Site. URL (accessed Month Day, Year).


**Material Safety Data Sheet Citation (p. 315)**

*Title*; MSDS Number; Manufacturing Company: Location of Company, Date.

*Title*; MSDS Number [Online]; Manufacturing Company: Location of Company. Date. URL (accessed Month Day, Year).