MLA Documentation: Works Cited entries

In MLA documentation, the bibliography is called Works Cited. Each entry is specifically formatted based on what type of source it is and how many authors there are. This guide provides the basic format and a model entry for the most commonly used sources in college writing that uses MLA documentation.

Your formatting must match the models exactly, including commas, spaces, italics, capitals, etc. *Be sure to consult a resource to tell you how to format names if there is more than one author.*

- **For more support:** *See our MLA Documentation Writing Guides: "Authors' names," "Title formats," "Works Cited page," and "DOI numbers, permalinks, and URLs."*
- *For any other kind of source, consult style.mla.org, Purdue OWL, etc.*

►Book

Basic form:	Author (Last name, First name.) *Title of Book in Title Case and Italics.* Publisher, year.
Example:	Doerr, Anthony. *Cloud Cuckoo Land.* Scribner, 2021.
For an online book:	…add *Name of Website or Database*, DOI number **or** URL (***without*** the http:// or https://).
Example	Brontë, Charlotte. *Jane Eyre: An Autobiography*. 1897. *Project Gutenberg.* www. https://www.gutenberg.org/files/1260/1260-h/1260-h.htm.
Note:	*In MLA, a book accessed by a URL is an "online book"; an "e-book" is one without a URL that was accessed on an e-reader, e-reader app, or e-reader software. To format an e-book in MLA, see an MLA style guide.*

►Poem, short story, or essay in a collection:

Basic form (contribution to a book):	Author (Last name, First name.) "Title of Poem, Story, or Essay." *Title of Book, E*ditor(s)/compiler, Publisher, year, pages.
Example:	Franklin, B. C. "The Tulsa Race Riot and Three of Its Victims, 1921." *Jim Crow: Voices from a Century of Struggle (Part Two: 1919-1976): Tulsa to the Boston Busing Crisis,* edited by Tyina L. Steptoe, Penguin/Random House, pp. 39-49.

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Basic form (entry in a collection):	Author (Last name, First name.) "Title of Poem, Story, or Essay." *Title of Book,* Publisher, year, pages.
Example:	Hugo, Richard. "Degrees of Gray in Philipsburg." *Making Certain It Goes On: The Collected Poems of Richard Hugo,* W. W. Norton, p. 216.

► Article in a scholarly journal accessed through a database:

Basic form:	Author, F. M. (date). "Title of Article." *Title of Journal,* vol. #, no. #, year, pages. *Name of Database,* https://doi # **OR** permalink **OR** url
Example:	Osteen, Mark. "Framed: Forging Identities in Film Noir." *Journal of Film and Video*, vol. 62, no. 3, 2010, pp. 17–35. *JSTOR,* https://doi.org/10.5406/jfilmvideo.62.3.0017. Accessed 22 May 2025.
Note:	• *Include a DOI number; if no DOI, use the permalink; if no permalink, use the url.*

► Article/entry from a website (news publication, magazine, blog):

Basic form:	Author, F. M. "Title of Article/Entry." *Title of Site,* date, url.
Example:	Allen, Glenn. "21st Century N*oir* in '50s Detroit: A review of Soderbergh's *No Sudden Move." Tempest,* 3 July 2022, tempestmag.org/2022/07/21st-century-noir-in-50s-detroit/
Note:	• *You can always delete the protocol from a url (http, www, etc.) unless you want to hyperlink it.* • *If url runs more than three full lines on the page, truncate it to the host.* **from MLA: Guidelines on Truncating** URLs are composed of a few basic components: • the protocol (basically anything before //) • the double forward slash • the host (which encompasses the domain–like World Wide web, or www) • the path Protocol　　　　　　　　　Path https://www.mla.org/MLA-Style/What-s-New-in-the-Eighth-Edition Host