Formatting Reference Guide for the periodicals of the Mathematical Association of America

General Guidelines

a. The titles and subtitles on books and journals are italicized and capitalized in headline style. Widely known journal titles are abbreviated according to MathSciNet abbreviations. We do not use MathSciNet’s reference style so please do not cut and paste from the site.
b. All sources to be included — books, articles, dissertations, papers — are alphabetically arranged in a single list by the last names of the authors or editor. However, if no author or editor is given, by the title of the work.
c. For successive entries by the same author(s), translator(s), or editor(s), a 3-em dash replaces the name(s) after the first appearance. The entries are arranged chronologically by year of publication in ascending order, not alphabetized by title with the oldest publication first. See example 27.
d. Use only initials for first and middle names; there should be a single space between initials. For example Edward Christopher would be E. C. not E.C. The initials for a hyphenated first name such as Jean-Paul should also be hyphenated as J.-P.
e. If the city of publication may be unknown to readers or may be confused with another city of the same name, the abbreviation of the state, province, or country is usually added. Washington is traditionally followed by DC, but other major cities, such as Los Angeles do not need a state abbreviation. When the publisher’s name includes the state name, the abbreviation is not needed.
f. Capitalize the first and last words in titles and subtitles and capitalize all other major words. For example, Linear Algebra: A Modern Introduction; the “a” is capitalized here because it is a major word since it is the first word of the subtitle. Prepositions should be in lowercase except when they are used as adverbs or adjectives. For example, up in Look Up, down in Turn Down. Articles, conjunctions, grammatical functions and the part of a proper name that would be lowercased in texts, such as de or von should be written as lowercase.
g. Only the first word in the title of an article from a journal is capitalized; with the exception of proper names. For example, Sturmian theory for linear Hamiltonian systems without controllability.
h. For book publishers, an initial The is omitted from a publisher’s name, as are such abbreviations as Inc., Ltd., or Co., & Co. “Press” is fine. Watch out for Macmillan (not MacMillan) and A K Peters (no periods after the “A” and “K”).
i. For University Presses, abbreviate University to “Univ.”
j. Journal volume numbers are in bold; we don’t use issue numbers except for journals such as Math. Intelligencer (see example 2).
k. We don't include page numbers for books unless the reference is referring to a chapter in a book; if you want to refer to specific page numbers, include that information in the body of the text, e.g., [1, pp. 67–71]. However, for articles that are published in the proceedings of a conference or in an edited collection of papers, you should give page numbers (see example 12, 14).
l. The Chicago Manual of Style's latest edition warns against using just a web site address and recommends more complete information on URLs, i.e., the author's name, title of the page, a brief description, and the year of “publication” to the web (see #19 below). The rationale is that a URL may become obsolete and/or inactive, so it is important to have basic information included. MathWorld (see example 17) is a different case.
m. Please spell out editions such as second edition or third edition.
n. If referencing a publication that has appeared in the American Mathematical Monthly, please do not cite it as “This Monthly”. Please use the MathSciNet reference of Amer. Math. Monthly.
o. DOI – Digital Object Identifier – a character string (a “digital identifier”) used to uniquely identify an electronic document. It is up to the author to include as many DOIs with their references as they can. To find out more about DOIs, please go to http://www.doi.org/.

BP: If you do not find an example below of how to format one of your references or if you have a question, please email us at monthly@shsu.edu.

Revised with the assistance of the Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition. The citations used for the Periodicals of the Mathematical Association of America do not follow the Chicago Manual of Style but are based on some of their guidelines. The Formatting Reference Guide for the Periodicals of the Mathematical Association of America was revised on July 15, 2014 by Bonnie Ponce, Assistant Managing Editor.
Please note that a, b, c, e, f, h, and k of the general guidelines were revised with the help of the Chicago Manual of Style, 16th edition for clarification.

**Examples**

1. **Journal Article**

2. **Journal Article with an issue number included**

3. **Electronic Journal Article**

4. **Forthcoming Journal Article**

5. **Book**

6. **Book (edited)**

7. **Book (edited with author)**

8. **Book (translated)**

9. **Book in a series and in a multivolume work**

10. **Book in a series**

11. **Book in a multivolume work**

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12. **Book (second edition)**

13. **Book (reprint)**

14. **Book (corrected reprint of an earlier edition)**

15. **Chapter in an edited book**

16. **Book Review**

17. **Electronic Book**

18. **Symposium Proceedings**

19. **Web Site**

**BP:** Please include Author, Page Title, Access Date and/or brief description, (“publication” year if applicable), URL address.

20. **Collection of Papers on a web site**

21. **Math World citation**

22. **The On-Line Encyclopedia of Integer Sequences® (OEIS®)**
   **BP:** Put the cited sequence in the body of your article and only reference the OEIS once in your list of references.

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23. **ArXive citation**
   B. Stigler, A. Veliz-Cuba, Network topology as a driver of bistability in the lac operon (2008),

24. **Wikipedia citation**

25. **On-line news source**
   CNN.com, “California ballot official, ready to print,” August 14, 2003,

26. **Newspaper with an author byline**

27. **Newspaper without an author byline**

28. **Three-em dash for repeated author’s name ({textemdash or ---------})**
   J. A. Nelder, The analysis of randomized experiments with orthogonal block structure. II. Treatment structure

   **BP:** A three-em dash may also be used for multiple authors provided that they are *exactly* the same as the first
   citation.

29. **Ph.D Dissertation or Master’s Thesis**
   N. Ng, *Limiting Distributions and Zeros of Artin L-Functions*, Ph.D. dissertation, Univ. of British Columbia,

30. **DVD**
   T. Schulman, *Dead Poets Society* (dir. Peter Weir), Walt Disney Studios Home Entertainment, Burbank, CA,
   1989.

   **BP:** References to DVDs are formatted as books:
   Writer, *Title of Movie* (dir. director's name), Production Company, Production Company's location, year of
   release. Information about where on the DVD to find a particular scene should be in the body of the paper,
   not the references. Use the “scene selection” menu on the DVD to provide the “page numbers,” e.g., [1,
   “name of scene”] or [1, Chap. (number)]. If there is no scene selection menu, use the DVD counter and
   indicate the minutes where the scene may be found, e.g., [1, 55:07–57:57].

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