Chicago Style, 15th edition: Citing Information from Electronic Sources (Bibliographies)

The following citations are examples of how to cite typical electronic sources according to Chicago Manual of Style (15th edition). These examples reflect the style utilized for bibliographies related to literature, history, and the arts.

For more detailed information, please consult the Chicago Manual of Style (15th edition), which is the final authority for questions regarding Chicago style. The manual is available in the Reference Collection and from the Reserve Desk (call # Z253 .C57).

EXAMPLES

**Informally Published Electronic Material.** 17.234 – 17.235 (p. 714 of manual): Information posted on the Internet often lacks "a clear indication of authorship, title, publisher, or date. If no facts of publication, or very few, can be determined, it is still necessary to include information beyond the URL. If only a URL is cited and that URL changes or becomes obsolete, the citation will have become just a more or less unintelligible string of characters. The URL tells where a source is or at least was located; a complete citation must also indicate what a source is".

**WEB PAGE.** "Include as much of the following information as can be determined: author of the content, title of the page, title or owner of the site, URL. Chicago prefers that citations of site content are relegated to notes; in works with no notes, they may be included in the reference list bibliography (see p. 714-15 of manual)".


**WEB PAGE, NO AUTHOR.** "If there is no author per se, the owner of the site may stand in for the author (see p. 715 of manual)". If material is time sensitive, the access date may be included after the URL and in parentheses (accessed July 10, 2003). See p. 699 of manual for more information regarding date of access.


**ELECTRONIC COPY OF A JOURNAL ARTICLE** (retrieved from a library database). Articles available for download from the library "should include the URL of the main entrance of the service (see p. 754 of manual)". Please ask a librarian if you have any questions about the main entrance URL of a particular library database.


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ELECTRONIC COPY OF AN ARTICLE (retrieved from a publicly available journal or magazine on the WWW -- not from a library database). See p. 696-7. If material is time-sensitive, include access date in parentheses at the end of the URL. Always include the page numbers, if they are available, after the date, e.g. (2004): 33-47.


ELECTRONIC COPY OF A NEWSPAPER ARTICLE (retrieved from a publicly available newspaper on the WWW – not from a library database). Citations to online newspapers are identical to their print counterparts, with the addition of a URL. If the news article is time-sensitive, the access date can be included in parentheses at the end of the URL (see p. 702 of manual).


EMAIL. References to telephone conversations, letters, or emails are usually incorporated in the text of the document or put into a note. They are not usually listed in a bibliography (see p. 706 of manual). If you are required to cite a personal email or one that has been archived online, use the following form in a note:
