Citing Works in Mechanical Engineering: A Guide

Below are examples of ways you might want to create citations. There are three things to consider when creating a citation:

1) Cite appropriately (don’t forget anyone)
2) Be accurate with the author’s names, dates, and titles
3) Present the citations in a consistent style

There is no one way to cite your research. It is therefore a good idea to **check with the people to whom you are submitting your work** (i.e.; your professor or the editors of a journal) to ensure you are using the appropriate citation style. The examples below are based on the publication standards of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME); their standards are available online at http://journaltool.asme.org/Content/AuthorResources.cfm

**Note:** References are always listed numerically by the order of appearance in your written document.

Citations within text

“As discussed by Serig [1] . . .”

Within the text, references should be cited in numerical order according to their order of appearance. The numbered reference citation within text should be enclosed in brackets. In the case of two citations, the numbers should be separated by a comma [1,2]. In the case of more than two references, the numbers should be separated by a dash [5-7].

Print Sources

A Book

An Article from a Journal (volume has continuous page numbering)**

Conference Proceedings

** It is not necessary to include the issue number when page numbering is continuous for the entire volume (i.e.; issue 1 has pp. 1-237, issue 2 contains pp. 238-403). In cases where each issue begins with page 1, indicate the most precise date available or, when date is unknown, use the volume and issue number.
Electronic Sources

The following elements may or may not be necessary when citing an electronic source of information:

- Primary responsibility (author’s name)
- Title of contribution (article’s title)
- Title (of serial, list-serv, etc.)
- Type of medium (CD-ROM, Internet, ftp)
- Edition (if applicable)
- Date of update/revision (if known)
- Date of citation (required for online documents, optional for others)
- Location within host document (i.e.; URL)
- Availability and access (required for online documents, optional for others)

Electronic Books (Internet)


An Article from an Electronic Journal (Internet)


Conference Proceedings (CD-ROM)


Website


Note: When citing an electronic resource, use the most stable and accessible URL available.

Need more help creating your reference list?

Contact: Saran Croos, Librarian
Engineering Library
Head Hall, Room C-15

Developed by: Lindsay-Erin Beatty Copyright 2002
Revised by: Lisa Auld 2005, Saran Croos 2013