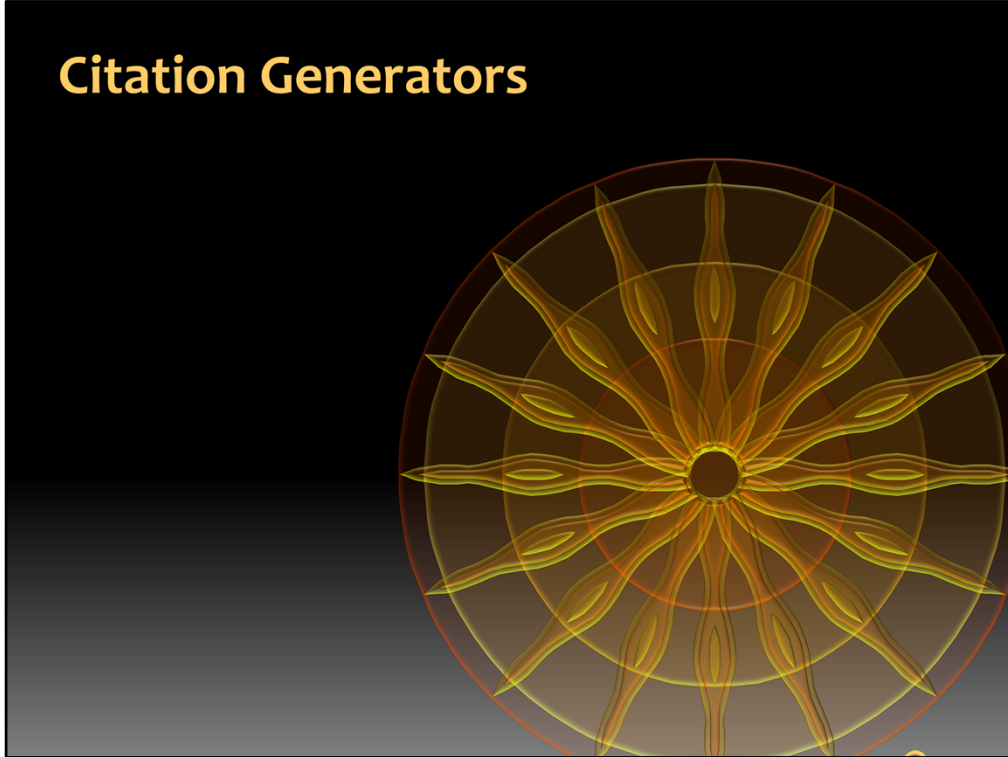


Citation Generators



NOTE: You may not have access to some of the example sites shown in this presentation. Just ignore the ones that do not apply to you; use the ones that can help.

In this lecture...



- ⌘ About citation generators
- ⌘ Types of citation generators
- ⌘ Common errors by citation generators
- ⌘ Resources

It's just possible creating a list of works cited (MLA) or a list of references (APA) is one of the things students dread most when writing academic essays. But there's help. If a task like citing sources must be done in the same way over and over and over, a computer can be used to do much of the drudgery. Citation generators are one of the ways in which computers lighten the burden, but they do NOT relieve students of knowing how to make corrections.

About CGs



- ⌘ Save time
- ⌘ Improve accuracy



Citation generators use algorithms to construct a citation according to the style guide required. If the correct type of source is selected and the correct information entered, a CG will draft a citation for you. It will put the elements in the correct order and punctuate them correctly. It will even put them in the correct order if multiple sources are cited at one time. That not only saves time, it improves the quality of the citations.

Types of CGs



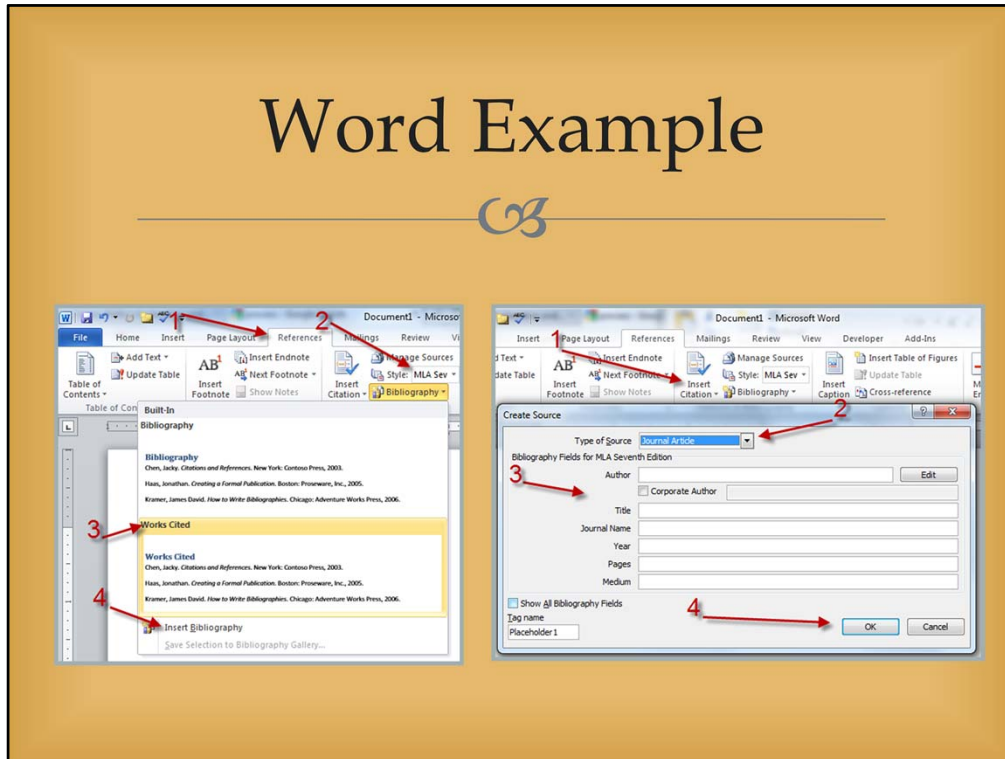
- ☞ Application based
- ☞ Web based
- ☞ Subscription based



It's getting so that citations are creatable in a variety of ways. If you're using Microsoft Word, you can use its embedded CG. There are web based CGs like bibme, EasyBib, and Son of Citation Machine. And many of the subscription services provided by colleges ... such as EBSCOhost, ProQuest, CQ Researcher, and Gale... have built in citation generators.

CAUTION: No citation generator is 100% perfect. The writer is responsible for making any corrections needed to conform to the required style.

Word Example



Some word-processing applications are including citation generators now. These tend to be the least sophisticated and most prone to errors, so if you use one be sure you understand the elements of citation and make the necessary corrections.

Here's how to use Microsoft Word's citation generator.

Click on **References** tab.

Select MLA Seventh Edition from drop-down Style list.

Click on Bibliography and select Works Cited.

Click on Insert Bibliography.

To add sources to the list of works cited, while in the References section:

Click on Insert Citation and choose new.

Select the Type of Source from the drop down list (options are limited)

Fill in the blanks. You must enter data correctly. Word will not make corrections.

Click OK.

Once you have created the list of works cited it's essential you review it for accuracy and conformance to MLA standards.

Bibme Example



Auto-fill mode | Manual entry mode
0679745408 Find Book

- All styles FREE
- Tries to auto-fill
- Default: MLA
- Also offers
 - APA
 - Chicago
 - Turabian

Untitled: 09/02/11, 04:14PM
Postman, Neil. Technopoly: the surrender of culture to technology. New York: Vintage Books, 1993. Print.
Format: MLA
Start New Bibliography Download Save to Account

Auto-fill mode | Manual entry mode
Return to your search results

Book Info

- *What are you citing? Entire book
- *Book Title: Technopoly: the surrender of cultu
- *Publisher: Vintage Books
- *City of Publication: New York
- *Year Published: 1993
- *Are you citing an edition? No

Author Name(s)

Title	First Name	Last Name
Author	Neil	Postman

Add another author

Annotation

Add Annotation =

Add to My Bibliography

<http://bibme.org>

Bibme is very easy to use. One selects a source from the tabs at the top of the screen. Then, enter a book's ISBN or title or a web site's URL, and bibme will attempt to fill in the information for you. If it's unable to do so, it offers to let you manually enter information. Even the auto-fill option may need additional information manually entered. When you click **Add to My Bibliography**, a citation is drafted, and you'll have a chance to select the style you want the citation to be. The default is MLA, but other styles can be selected from the drop-down format list.

EasyBib Example



Cite as: **Website** Book Newspaper Journal Database All 58 options

Autocite Manual entry Help **MLA** APA Chicago/Turabian

Enter website address or keywords to cite: Cite this

- MLA FREE
- Tries to auto-fill
- Default: MLA
- Pay to get
 - APA
 - Chicago
 - Turabian

Search for your book: 0679749708 Autocite

New Search by book title, keywords, or ISBN

Please confirm or modify the information below!
We get our data from outside sources, so please double-check.

Medium: **In print** Website Online database Other (select)

Citing: The whole book

Contributors: Author: (Hathorn) McCall First MI Last / corp [Add another contributor](#)

In print publication info:
Source title: *Makes me wanna holler: a young Black man*

Advanced info:
Vol: Edition: Series:

Publication info:
Publisher: Vintage Books New York 1984 Year

[Add Annotation](#) [Create Citation](#)

Enter Web address: http://blog.mpp.org/prohibition/pres/ Autocite [View URL](#)

Enter URL, or keywords to search for your site.

Source not evaluated. Evaluate

Please confirm or modify the information below!
We get our data from outside sources, so please double-check.

Medium: **Online**

Source type: Content published originally on a Website
Change the source type if necessary

Article title: President Jimmy Carter Calls for End to

Contributors: Author: First MI Last / corp [Add another contributor](#)

Online publication info:
Website title: Marijuana Policy Project — MPP Blog

Publisher / sponsor:

URL: http://blog.mpp.org/prohibition/president.p/
Note: MLA 7 says to leave out the URL, unless the source cannot be located without it, or if your instructor requires it

Electronically published: Day: Month: Year:

Date accessed: 02 September 2011 Today
Day: Month: Year:

[Add Annotation](#) [Create Citation](#)

<http://easybib.com>

EasyBib works just about like bibme. Notice it offers “All 58 options”. That gives you a chance to select just the right type of source, and that may give you a more accurate citation. One big difference with EasyBib is that MLA is free but you’ll have to pay if you want any other style.

Son of Citation Machine



The screenshot displays the Son of Citation Machine website. The left sidebar contains navigation links for 'Recently Cited', 'MLA', 'APA', 'Turabian', and 'Chicago', along with a 'Sources by type' menu listing categories like Books, Documents, News, Journalism, Multimedia, and Social Media. The main content area shows the 'Citation Machine' logo and a 'Sources by type' menu. The right side features a citation form for 'MLA' style, 'A Web Document', 'Nontraditionally Published', and 'One Author'. The form includes fields for Author Name(s), Title of Web Page, Title of the Web Site, Date Published or Last Revised, Publishing Organization, Date Retrieved, and Web URL, with a 'Submit' button at the bottom.

<http://citationmachine.net>

Son of Citation Machine is a bit different. You would select the style, then the type of source. Once that's done, the CG offers a page with fill-in-the-blank spots to help you create a citation. Notice that it gives you hints about how to format the information you put in each box. When using this CG, you are more responsible for entering data.

CQ Researcher Example



One of the best ways to get citations done is to use the features now part of most subscription services. This example is for CQ Researcher.

Once a report has been opened, there is a CiteNow! Button at the top of the page. Click on that, then on MLA Style, and voila! a citation is created for you. Notice in the example above how the default APA style is changed when MLA is selected. Not only are the elements put in the correct order, but the differences in style requirements for author names and capitalization and punctuation are accommodated. Just copy/paste the correct citation right into your document.

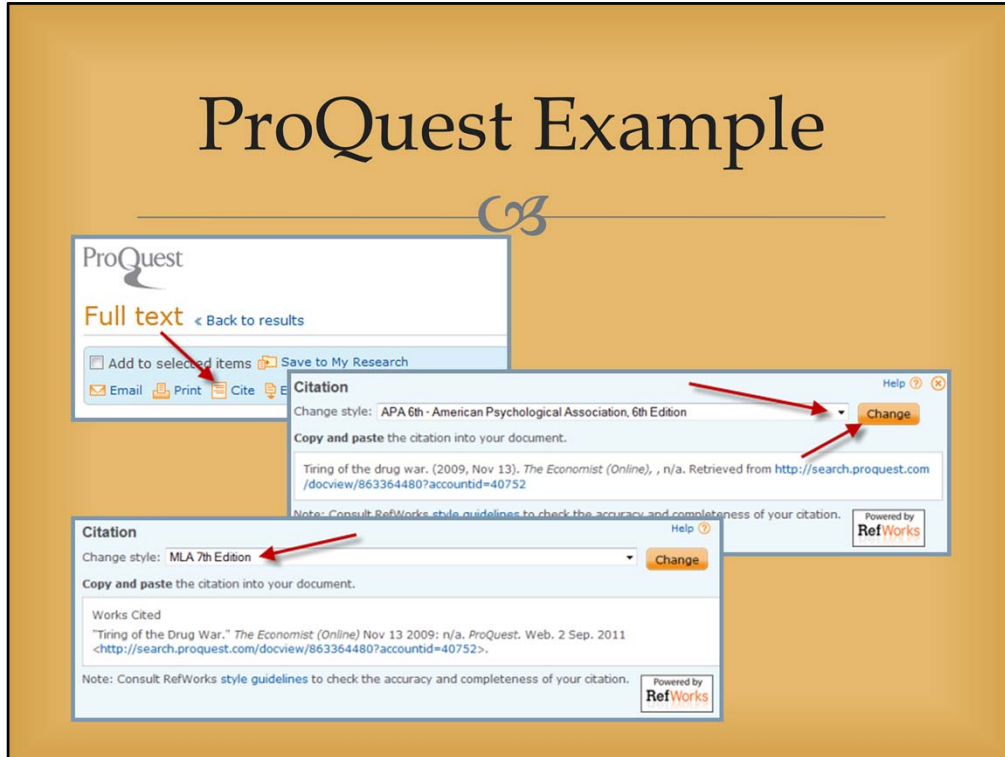
EBSCOhost Example



The screenshot displays the EBSCOhost interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Result List', 'Refine Search', and '3 of 70'. Below this is a 'Citation Format' window. The window contains a note: 'NOTE: Review the instructions at EBSCO Support Site and make any necessary corrections before using. Pay special attention to personal names, capitalization, and dates. Always consult your library resources for the exact formatting and punctuation guidelines.' Below the note are three citation format options: 'Harvard' (References), 'MLA' (Works Cited), and 'Vancouver/ICMJE' (References). The 'MLA' option is highlighted with a red arrow. To the right of the citation format window is a 'Tools' sidebar with various options: 'Add to folder', 'Print', 'E-mail', 'Save', 'Cite', 'Export', 'Create Note', 'Permalink', 'Bookmark', 'Listen', and 'Translate'. The 'Cite' button is highlighted with a red arrow.

If you're using EBSCOhost, the Cite button will be on the right margin of the window when you're viewing a document. Click on it, scroll down to the correct citation type and copy/paste it into your document.

ProQuest Example



If you're using ProQuest, the Cite button will be at the top of the page on the left. When you click on it, you need to select the correct citation style and then click Change. You will then be able to copy/paste the citation into your document.

Common CG Errors



- ❧ Wrong citation style
- ❧ Capitalization of titles
- ❧ Placement of publication date
- ❧ Use of italics
- ❧ Author order



Citation generators are valuable time savers, but **NONE** of them is **PERFECT**. So, use one you like to draft a list of citations, but then do the necessary editing to make certain the citations are in exactly correct format. Here are the most common errors that come up with generated citations:

Not selecting the correct citation style. Sometimes you must select the citation style before you start; in other cases, it is chosen after the info has been typed in. Choosing the correct style will make your citations closest to form.

Capitalization of titles. MLA requires that all significant words in a title be capitalized. APA format requires that the first word, proper nouns, acronyms, and the first word after a colon be the only capitalized words in a book, an article or a chapter title. Some CGs capitalize all letters; some capitalize the wrong ones.

Placement of publication date. This is less of a problem if the style is MLA. But if you're doing APA citations, and a source has no author, a citation generator may place the publication date before the title. That must be changed. The publication date should never be the first element of **ANY** citation.

Italics. Book titles and their subtitles are italicized. Periodical titles are italicized. Titles of articles are not italicized.

Author order. Authors must be listed in the order they appear. If there are multiple

authors for a text, list them in the order they appear; do not put the author names in alphabetical order when entering information in a CG.

The list of works cited or references should be in alphabetical order by author. If there is no author, then the first word of the title of the article is used -- except if it is A, An, or The. In that case, the second word of the title is used.

Common CG Errors



Unedited - bibme

York, Anthony, and Los Angeles Times. "Deal would make it easier for farmworkers to unionize - Los Angeles Times." *Featured Articles From The Los Angeles Times*. N.p., 3 Sept. 2011. Web. 4 Sept. 2011. <<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/sep/03/local/la-me-brown-farmworkers-20110903>>.

Unedited - EasyBib

York, Anthony. "Deal Would Make It Easier for Farmworkers to Unionize - Los Angeles Times." *Featured Articles From The Los Angeles Times*. 03 Sept. 2011. Web. 04 Sept. 2011. <<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/sep/03/local/la-me-brown-farmworkers-20110903>>.

Corrected

York, Anthony. "Deal Would Make It Easier for Farmworkers to Unionize." *Los Angeles Times*. 3 Sept. 2011. Web. 4 Sept. 2011. <<http://articles.latimes.com/2011/sep/03/local/la-me-brown-farmworkers-20110903>>.

There's one other error that happens frequently with CGs that auto-fill, especially web pages being cited. They tend to pick up extraneous information or incorrect titles. This is due to the information embedded in the web page.

Take a look at the examples on this slide. The top version is what comes straight from the **bibme** citation generator. The second comes straight from **EasyBib**. The EasyBib version is more correct, but both need to be edited.

The corrected version is shown at the bottom.

Resources



- ☞ BibMe
 - ☞ <http://www.bibme.org/>
- ☞ CiteFast
 - ☞ <http://citefast.com>
- ☞ EasyBib
 - ☞ <http://www.easybib.com/>
- ☞ RapidCite
 - ☞ <http://www.rapidcite.com/>
- ☞ Son of Citation Machine
 - ☞ <http://citationmachine.net/>