BASIC GUIDELINES
Section 5.3 of the MLA Handbook (7th ed.) provides general guidelines, including the following:

- The list of works cited appears at the end of the paper, on a new page.
- Centre the title, Works Cited, an inch from the top of the page and then double space between the title and the first entry.
- Begin entries flush with left margin, indenting subsequent lines one-half inch from left margin.
- Double-space the entire list, between and within entries.
- Alphabetize entries by author last name (or by title if author name is unknown).
- Medium of publication (print, web, etc) is now a component of the MLA entry.
- URLs for Web publications are provided only as supplementary information when necessary. See section 5.6.1 for details and exceptions.

Guidelines for citing items in the body of your essay are provided in MLA Citation Style Guide II: Parenthetical References.

SELECTED EXAMPLES

CITING PERIODICAL PRINT PUBLICATIONS
Section 5.4 covers print periodicals such as newspapers, magazines and journals.

Article in a Scholarly Journal

Article in a Newspaper

CITING NONPERIODICAL PRINT PUBLICATIONS
Section 5.5 covers print publications such as books, parts of books and dissertations.

Book by a Single Author

Book by Two or More Authors

Work in an Anthology (such as a chapter, essay, short story)

Article in a Reference Book (such as an encyclopedia or dictionary entry)
CITING WEB PUBLICATIONS

Note that a citation for a Web publication will in some cases be based in part on guidelines provided in sections 5.4 and 5.5, with additional guidelines provided in 5.6.

Work on the Web (such as a Web site)


Entry should include (see 5.6.2.b):
- Name of the author of the work; title of the work (in “quotes” if part of a larger work or site); title of the overall Web site (italicized); version or edition; publisher or sponsor of the site (if none, use N.p.); date of publication (if none available, use n.d.).
- Medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, year).

Work on the Web Cited with Print Publication Data (such as an e-book)


Entry should include (see 5.6.2.c):
- Relevant facts about the print publication as described in section 5.5
- Title of the database or Web site (italicized), medium of publication (Web), and date of access (day, month, year).

Scholarly Journal on the Web (such as an open access journal with no print version)


Entry should include (see 5.6.3):
- Relevant facts as per 5.4. If there are no page numbers, or if page numbers begin in a new sequence for each article, use n.pag. in place of inclusive page numbers.
- Include medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, year)

Scholarly Journal in an Online Database (such as an article in a library database)


Entry should include (see 5.6.4):
- Relevant facts as per 5.4. Give inclusive page numbers when possible.
- Include title of the database, medium of publication (Web) and date of access (day, month, year)

Government Publication on the Web (see 5.5.20 and 5.6)


This guide is based on the seventh (7th) edition of the MLA Handbook:


**Note that the new 8th edition of the MLA Handbook (2016) is now available.**

For details, and to access a copy of this and other MLA guides online, please see:
http://libraryguides.mta.ca/research_help/citation_guides/mla