Reference Guide: ACM Style

The Association for Computing Machinery is the pre-eminent professional body dealing in all aspects of information technology. This is a style guide for their reference and citation format.

References Section

The References section appears at the end of the paper. All references appear alphabetically by the lead author’s last name. A clear header should be used to indicate the start of the References.

Example:

References


Citations

As you write your report, you will cite your references. A citation to a reference in the body of the text is indicated by the authors' name(s) and publication date in parentheses.

Example:

During high stress periods, individuals should focus on the situation-specific tasks rather than rely on general knowledge structures (Garcia and Howard, 2000).

Reference Formats

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

A complete reference should contain the name(s) of the author(s) and/or editor(s), year of publication, the title of the article, the name of the book or conference proceedings where appropriate, and bibliographic information about the article such as the name of the publisher, the city of publication, and the page numbers. The basic concept is that the reference should be sufficiently complete so that the reader can readily find the reference and can judge the authority and objectivity of the reference.
All author names appear as LASTNAME, INITIALS. For example, if Andy Dong is the primary author and Alice M. Agogino is the second author, the correct appearance of the author names would be: DONG, A. AND AGOGINO, A.M.

**THIS IS THE REFERENCE FORMAT FOR A BOOK.**

AUTHORS. Year of Publication. *Title*. Publisher, City of Publication.

Example:


**THIS IS THE REFERENCE STYLE FOR AN ARTICLE OR CHAPTER THAT APPEARS IN AN EDITED BOOK.**

AUTHORS. Title. Year of Publication. In Editors *Title of edited book*, Publisher, City of Publication, Year of Publication, Pages.

Example:


**THIS IS THE REFERENCE STYLE FOR A JOURNAL OR MAGAZINE ARTICLE.**

AUTHORS. Year of Publication. Title. *Journal or magazine name, Volume* (Issue), Pages.

Example:


**THIS IS THE REFERENCE STYLE FOR CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS.**

AUTHORS. Year. Title. In *Title of conference*, (Location of Conference), Publisher, Pages.

Example:

Examples:

In the following example, the *Cornell Chronicle* is a regular newsletter which is published online. Thus, we follow the journal/magazine format and include the volume and issue.

STEELE, B. 2004. Look, Ma, no wires! Cornell class project tests wireless networking, *Cornell Chronicle*, 31 (35). http://www.news.cornell.edu/Chronicle/00/5.18.00/wireless_class.html

The following example is for a web site with no evident author; we use the corporation name in its place. The copyright date in the footer gives us the date of publication.