MLA 8th edition is now a simpler, more flexible format. Rather than consulting the handbook for the proper way to document a specific source, the writer creates entries by consulting MLA’s list of core elements and compiles them in the recommended order. For more information see: libguides.polk.edu/citingsources

### Examples:

**A print book with one author:**

**8th edition:** (new)


**7th edition:** (old)


**An article from a scholarly journal:**

**8th edition:** (new)


**7th edition:** (old)


**A website:**

**8th edition:** (new)


**7th edition:** (old)


1. **One standard citation format that applies to every source type.** If given, these major elements should be included in the citation: author, title of source, title of container, other contributors, version, number, publisher, publication date, location.

2. Inclusion of “containers” in citations. Containers are the elements that “hold” the source. For example, if a television episode is watched on Netflix, Netflix is the container.

3. The ability to use pseudonyms for author names. It is now acceptable to use screen names in place of authors’ names.

4. Adding the abbreviations vol. and no. to magazine and journal article citations. Example: vol. 30, no. 2, instead of 30.2

5. Inclusion of URLs. It is highly recommended, though not mandatory, to include a URL in the citation. Even if it becomes outdated, it is still possible to trace the information online from an older URL. Omit “http://” or “https://” from the URL when including it in the citation.

6. Page numbers are designated with p. or pp.

7. The following items are no longer necessary to include:
   - City of publication
   - Date of access
   - Medium of publication (print, web, etc.)

8. When a source has three or more authors, only the first one shown is normally given. It is followed by et al.

9. Placeholders for unknown information like n.d. are no longer used.
   - If facts missing from a work are available in a reliable external source, they are cited in square brackets [2016]. Otherwise, they are simply omitted.

10. Common terms in the Works Cited list like editor, edited by, translator, and review of are no longer abbreviated.

11. In text citations have changed very little.