The AIP (American Institute of Physics) style is widely used in physics and astronomy.

Citations are indicated by numerals in square brackets in consecutive numerical order throughout the text, with the references arranged in the same order at the end.

This guide is based on AIP Style Manual, 4th edition, 1990 (available to download at http://www.aip.org/pubservs/style.html). As the manual has very few reference examples, some have been taken from the AIP chapter in Cite Right by Charles Lipson.

EndNote for Windows and Macintosh is a valuable all-in-one tool used by researchers, scholarly writers, and students to search online bibliographic databases, organize their references, and create bibliographies instantly. There is now an EndNote output style available if you have access to the software in your library (please visit http://www.endnote.com/support/enstyles.asp and look for TF-O AIP).

1. How to cite references in your text
2. How to organize the reference list
3. Book
4. Computer program
5. Conference paper, proceedings, poster session
6. Database
7. Dissertation or thesis
8. Film
9. Journal article
10. Patent
11. Personal communication
12. Preprint
13. Report
14. Unpublished work
1. **How to cite references in your text.**

Use numerals in square brackets running consecutively through the text. Place the citation indicators before commas, full stops (periods), quotation marks, colons and semicolons.

As pointed out by Bray [1], these calculations are in agreement with other experimental values.

We obtained the following values for the two parameters: \( I = 0.775 \) and \( r_0 = 0.590 \) [13–15].

Do not put citation indicators where they might be mistaken for numbers with a different meaning. Write:

A recent measurement [2] of \( \Delta v \) …

instead of

A recent measurement of \( \Delta v \) [2] …

In the text, refer to authors by last name (surname/family name) only. The use of *et al.* is encouraged in the text.

2. **How to organize the reference list.**

In the reference list, give initial(s) and authors’ surnames/family names. Do not use *et al.*

3. **Book.**

Always include the title, authors’ or editors’ names, publisher’s name and location, and the year of publication.

**One author**


**Multiple authors**


**Edited book**


**Chapter in book**

Different authors in same book


5. Conference paper, proceedings, poster session.


6. Database.


8. Film.


9. Journal article.

Journal titles are abbreviated (use the standard abbreviation given in Appendix G of the AIP style guide). Give the volume number, the first page number and the year of publication. Include the issue when the journal is not paginated consecutively through the volume. Give the year in place of the volume number only when the journal does not use volume numbers.


Article title

This is an optional element. Please consult the journal style sheet for your journal to see if titles are required. Not all examples in this guide give article titles. Capitalize main words in titles if used. This means nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, subordinating conjunctions but not coordinating conjunctions (‘and’, ‘but’, ‘or’, ‘nor’, ‘yet’, ‘so’) or articles (‘a’, ‘an’, ‘the’). Capitalize the ‘to’ in infinitives. Capitalize the first and last words of a title, regardless of the part of speech.

Same author, two different journals

Same author, two references to same journal (one an erratum); different author, same journal


Issue number included


Year in place of volume number


Translated journal article


Article in online journal

The citation may include a DOI or PII (publisher item identifier) after the URL


Online article

Online articles are referenced the same way as articles in print, except that they may include an electronic article number if available instead of the issue and page number.


11. Personal communication.


References to laboratory reports should not contain abbreviations or acronyms for the names of laboratories or agencies; spell them out.


‘In press’ or ‘to be published’ means that the paper has been accepted for publication in a journal, and the title of the journal must be given. Such a reference may be updated at proof stage if it has been published by then. Avoid references to unpublished material that is difficult to obtain.