**How to cite a book (APA)**

INSTRUCTOR: How to cite a book in APA style. Let's say you're writing a research project on the psychology of internet trolling. And you find a book that talks about the effects of pervasive anonymity online. How do you find all the information you need to cite the book in your research project?

First, let's look at the four elements that make up an item in a reference list in APA style and where they can be found. Get the author's name and the book's title from the title page, not the cover. Here's the author's name.

And this is the book's title and subtitle. On the copyright page, you'll find the publishers name and the year the book was published. To create your reference list entry, write the author's last name first, followed by the initials of the first name and the middle name if there is one. Put a comma after the last name and periods after the initials.

This author doesn't have a middle initial, but suppose he did. If the book has more than one author, list the authors in the order they appear on the book's title page and put each author's last name first. Put an ampersand before the final author's name. This book doesn't have two authors, but suppose it did. Following the author's name, put the year of publication in parentheses. After the closing parentheses, put a period.

Next, write the book's title and subtitle if there is one. Italicize them. Capitalize only the initial word of the title and subtitle and any proper nouns and put a colon between the title and subtitle. In this case, the book's title is, You are not a Gadget. And the subtitle is, a Manifesto.

Finally, give the name of the publisher. When listing the publisher, it's not necessary to include terms like company, incorporated, or other terms that indicate corporate structure. But otherwise, write the publishers name as it appears on the copyright page. After the publishers name, end the entry with a period.

Be sure to double check your punctuation. You need a period after the author's initial and a period after the parentheses containing the date. You need a period after the book's title. If there is a subtitle, a colon separates the main title and subtitle. And you need a period after the publisher.

Finally, this reference list entry is not longer than one line. But if it were, make sure you set up a hanging indent which indents each line after the first. And that's the basic format for citing a book in APA style. For variations such as an addition or an online book, consult your handbook's APA documentation section.