

CITATION MANAGEMENT TOOLS: A USEFUL WEB GIZMO FOR MANAGING ACADEMIC REFERENCES



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What is Citation ?

A citation is a reference to any item (book, journal article, dissertation, archival manuscript, newspaper editorial, report, website, musical composition, etc.) which clearly identifies the source in which the full-text of the item is to be found.

It provides sufficient information to acknowledge the author and locate the item.

The information in a citation is fairly standard, but the order may change depending on the type of item being cited and the style manual you are using it includes.

Author

Article Title

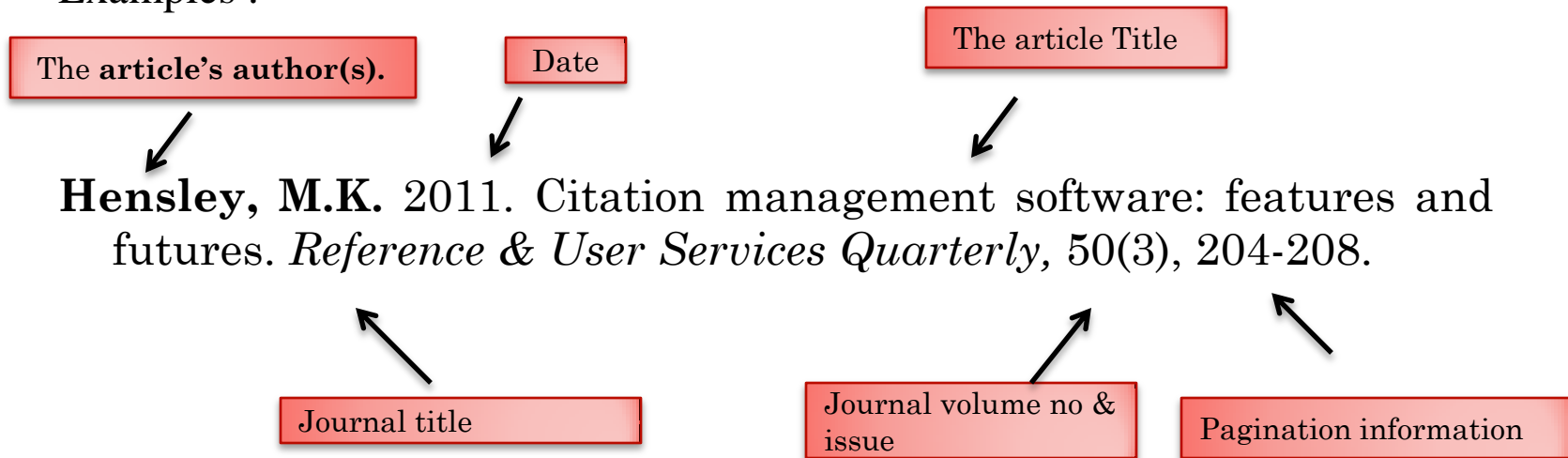
Publication information (i.e title, date, volume, issue, pages, etc)

For online resource (the [permalink/PURL/stable URL](#))

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Whenever browse the library information for articles or any other purposes, a list of bibliographic information will be shown, is a list of citations.

Examples :-



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WHY TO CITE?

The citation is an essential part of scholarly literature. It recognizes intellectual links throughout scholarly literature, it can be helpful not only when writing but also , while conducting research. It offers credit to the first author by citing sources of other peoples work without plagiarizing. There are some other reasons it includes as follows:

- It helps the person to locate the information easily, and also helpful them to recognize the original sources
- It acknowledges the amount of research work done by a researcher
- It provides the reader the information he or she needs to verify your source or to find more information on the subject.
- To avoid plagiarism by quoting words and ideas used by other authors
- To allow readers to track down the sources used by citing them accurately in your paper by way of footnotes, a bibliography or reference list.



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Citation Management Tools

- Citation management tools are programs that collect records or citations from research databases (indexes, catalogs, etc.) that you can then organize for your research projects. They also help you cite your research by creating bibliographies, citations, and footnotes automatically.

Why to use a citation management tool?

- To stay organized
- To prevent transcription or typographical errors
- To ease citing and creating bibliographies



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Important function of citation management tools

- Gather references automatically from article databases
- Format manuscripts and citations instantly in a variety of styles (MLA, APA, Turabian, Chicago, etc.)
- Generate bibliographies
- Create and organize a personal research database of references, images and PDFs
- Share citations with colleagues on campus and around the world
- Transfer references among various applications



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Model of citation management tools

- The model of the tools are not homogeneous and frequently vary in a number of qualities. Therefore, the distribution model of the tools is falling into four categories:
- Desktop based ,
- Web based,
- Browser based and
- hybrid.



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Desktop-based

- It is a desktop based program is installed on the personal computer/ laptop. Information can be stored, organized and create citation locally without dependable on the web. The information remains unchanged on that machine till either overhauled or erased. This kind of model is available both Free and proprietary.
- e.g. Bookends (<http://www.sonnysoftware.com/>), Papers (<http://www.mekentosj.com/papers>), JabRef (<http://jabref.sourceforge.net>)
- *Endnote*



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Web-based tools

- Web-based CM tools refers to any program that is accessed over a network connection through HTTP, instead of existing in a device's memory.
- It often runs inside a Web program. Additionally, these tools also may be client-based, where a little piece of the program is downloaded to a Client's desktop, however the processing is carried out over the Internet to an external server. Some, for example, Refworks and Easybib,
- offer portable enhanced version.
- The information is preserved in the cloud and shielded from PCs. The adaptability of cloud computing, however, is both the best resource and accountability as the failure of an internet connection brings to an end to work.



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Browser-based tools

- Browser-based CM tools, supplies online functionality as well as the ability to work without an internet connection
- It is the only research model, which allow automatically senses content in your web browser, allowing you to add it to your personal library with a single click.
- Though it is open source, developers with a means to enhance or develop rich features. It can interface with a number of mobile applications on both iOS and Android mobile platforms.
- However, there are two main disadvantages connected with this tool.
- Firstly, stable versions are tied to the Firefox browser, distancing the individuals those who use other non-supported browsers.
- Secondly, data is tied to a particular browser instance, meaning that in a lab environment, where multiple users may access the same browsers daily, it is difficult to separate and ensure confidentiality of data.
- The example of the model is Zotero (Zotero 3.0 Beta <http://www.zotero.org/blog/announcing-zotero-3-0-beta-release/>)



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Hybrid tools

- These models consist of a desktop client that can interface with a web based component. It allows user both online and offline access to work. Data can be obtainable both local and cloud. Mobile Devices are often supported.
- Most are proprietary in nature & support various web browsers like Google chrome & safari
- The combination of Endnote and Endnote Web provides the most well-known example of this distribution model.
- Example : (e.g. Endnote (<http://www.endnote.com>), Colwiz (<http://www.colwiz.com>); Mendeley (<http://www.mendeley.com>), Zotero 3.0 Beta (<http://www.zotero.org/blog/announcing-zotero-3-0-beta-release/>))



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Choosing a Citation Management Tool

- Selecting a reference management tool will depend on the needs and workflow of the user as each tool has its particular strengths and weaknesses. There are a few tips to choose right Citation management tools as follows:
- Consult with the people your own discipline or department to see what citation tools currently they are using. If there is one tool that is a clear winner, go with the same.
- Go through briefly at the user interface and analysis the tool to see which one make suitable for you.
- Go through the details features offered by different tools to see which tools well- suited your needs and which are compatible with your operating system and software.



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RefWorks

- Refworks developed in 2001 by a business unit of ProQuest, is a web based citation management tools requires a fee based license.
- Which helps users to generate personal databases and utilize them for a array of research activities.
- Citations are imported from text file or online database very rapidity and effortlessly and then these databases can be used to organize, preserve and share the information
- Users can automatically insert references from their database into their papers and generate formatted citation in a fraction of a second.

Features of Refworks

- It organizes and creates a personal database online: no more index cards to write out and organize. Everything is done automatically as you import the reference into RefWorks.
- It generates citations and manuscripts in seconds: this saves hours of typing time and decreases the number of errors in creating tedious bibliographies. Easily make changes to your paper and reformat in seconds.
- Import citations from a variety of databases: It generates citations from different database like,Scopus, Ebsco , PubMed etc.
- Manage Alerts : RefWorks have integrated with a RSS feed reader to allow you to setup links to your favorite RSS feeds and import data from those feeds directly into RefWorks.
- Searching your RefWorks database is fast and easy: RefWorks automatically creates author, descriptor and periodical indexes when importing so you just click on the word to perform the retrieval. Use Quick Search to search all fields for the most comprehensive results or Advanced Search to narrow your search to specific terms and fields.



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Zotero

- Zotero is a both web and desktop citation management tools, offers users to collect, organize, cite , share and collaborate research work. It is the only research tool that automatically senses content in your web browser, allowing you to add it to your personal library with a single click. Whether you're searching for a preprint on arXiv.org, a journal article from JSTOR, a news story from the *New York Times*, or a book from your university library catalog, Zotero has you covered with support for thousands of sites. It collects all your research in a single, searchable interface. You can add PDFs, images, audio and video files, snapshots of web pages, and really anything else. Zotero automatically indexes the full-text content of your library, enabling you to find exactly what you're looking for with just a few keystrokes.

Features of Zotero

- Annotate and organize research results, including video.
- Save information about a reference, including author, title, and other publication information.
- Create libraries and save searches, and share collections with other people.
- Attach files, links, notes, and PDFs to records.
- Store a screenshot of a web page.
- Export information as formatted citations in word processing programs (Word, Open Office, Google Docs).
- Tag and sort records and perform advanced searches.
- View records in personal collection when offline.
- Cite records in any language



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Mendeley

- Mendeley is a desktop and web based citation management tools, which provides user to manage and sharing research papers, discovering research data and collaborating online. It combines Mendeley Desktop, a PDF and [reference management application](#) (available for Windows, OS X and Linux) with Mendeley Web, an online [social](#) network for researchers. Mendeley requires the user to store all basic citation data on its servers storing copies of documents is at the user's discretion. It provides the user with 2 [GB](#) of free web storage space, which is upgradeable at a cost. It is available either as a premium payable version or a basic version that is free but requires registration

Features Mendeley ?

- It automatically generates Citation in [Microsoft Word](#), [OpenOffice.org](#), and [LibreOffice](#)
- It collaborates easily with other researchers online
- It imports papers and other document from external websites (e.g Pubmed, Google Scholar, Arxiv) easily through browser bookmarklet.
- Back-up and synchronization across multiple computers and with a private online account
- It discovers relevant papers based on what you're reading
- It allows to access your papers from anywhere online
- Usage-based readership statistics about papers, authors and publications.
- Read papers on the go, with our new iPhone app



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Challenges for Citation Management tools

- Some of the citation tools have a complex in nature and it is very difficult to understand their basic. It requires dedicated significant time to learn even the fundamental.
- Most of the CM tools generate citations easily for research materials, but user needs to add citation content from other sources manually.
- An institution may be reluctant to change the existing platform to a new platform, for which it already have invested causing to support , import / export citation, and training issues.
- Some time faculties also hesitant to change to a new platform due to the challenges of importing/exporting their existing citations, changes in their scholarly process.
- Students may be tempted to use the “cut & paste” approach for gathering research materials from the Internet. By picking and choosing quotes from content as opposed to reading and summarizing entire articles, students may lack a more complete understanding of the material.



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Conclusion

- Managing citation for research work or writing a paper for seminar / conference is one of the most complicated process for scholar / students.
- The boredom of arranging citations focused around a variety of citation styles has made the citation manager an essential tool for researchers at all levels.
- The availability of different citation management tools makes it difficult to select the right one.
- However, there are various citation tools are available for generating citation. In this paper, it is selected, Refworks, Mendeley, and Zotero, which are more extraordinary and established among the academic community.
- Both Zotero and Mendeley are award-winning CM tools, whereas RefWorks has the advantage of user based CM tool.
- However, none of these tools are continuously generates exact citation without any difficulty. Managing citation from any one of them produce even a few problems, it may be for the user or system fault..



Thank
you

