

chicago footnote citation examples

The Chicago Manual of Style footnote citation examples are crucial for academic and scholarly writing, offering a standardized way to attribute sources and enrich your text. Understanding these examples ensures proper academic integrity and allows readers to easily locate the original works you reference. This comprehensive guide delves into the intricacies of Chicago style footnotes, covering various source types from books and articles to websites and unpublished materials. We will explore the fundamental elements of a Chicago footnote, the differences between notes and bibliography entries, and provide clear, practical examples for common citation scenarios. Mastering these Chicago footnote citation examples will elevate the quality and credibility of your research.

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Understanding Chicago Style Footnotes

The Chicago Manual of Style (CMOS) offers two primary citation systems: the notes-bibliography system and the author-date system. This article focuses exclusively on the notes-bibliography system, which is prevalent in humanities disciplines like literature, history, and the arts. In this system, sources are cited using either full note citations on first reference or shortened note citations on subsequent references, with a corresponding bibliography at the end of the work that lists all sources cited. The purpose of footnotes or endnotes is to provide immediate context for the reader, allowing them to verify information and explore further without disrupting the flow of the main text. Proper application of Chicago footnote citation examples is a hallmark of meticulous scholarship.

The distinction between a full note and a short note is significant. The first time a source is cited, a full note is typically used, containing all the necessary bibliographic information to identify the source. Subsequent references to the same source can then use a shortened note format, usually comprising the author's last name, a shortened title, and the page number. This efficiency helps maintain readability while still providing the reader with enough information to locate the source in the bibliography. Mastering these distinctions is key to effectively using Chicago footnote citation examples.

Key Components of a Chicago Footnote

A well-formed Chicago footnote citation generally includes several core pieces of information, though the exact order and punctuation can vary slightly depending on the source type. Understanding these components is the first step toward correctly constructing any Chicago footnote citation example. These elements work together to provide a complete and unambiguous identification of the source material.

Essential Information in a Footnote

- Author's name (first name, then last name for the first mention; last name only for subsequent mentions).
- Title of the source (italicized for books, in quotation marks for articles or chapters).
- Publication information (city of publication, publisher, and year for books).
- Page number(s) where the information was found.
- For articles, the journal title (italicized), volume and issue numbers, and date.
- For online sources, the URL and date of access.

Punctuation and Formatting

Punctuation in Chicago style footnotes is precise. Commas separate elements within a note, and periods generally mark the end of the note. Titles of standalone works like books are italicized, while titles of parts of larger works, such as articles or chapters, are enclosed in quotation marks. The author's name appears in the order of first name followed by last name in full notes, a key detail in Chicago footnote citation examples. Page numbers are crucial for directing the reader to the specific location of the cited material.

Book Citation Examples in Chicago Style

Footnotes

Citing books is a fundamental aspect of academic writing, and Chicago style provides clear guidelines for various book formats. Whether it's a single-author work, an edited volume, or a multi-volume set, adhering to specific Chicago footnote citation examples ensures consistency and clarity. The first citation of a book requires detailed information, while subsequent citations can be shortened.

Single-Author Book

When citing a book written by a single author, the first footnote should include the author's full name, the title of the book (*italicized*), the place of publication, the publisher, and the year of publication, followed by the specific page number(s). Subsequent citations use a shortened format.

- **First Footnote Example:**

- 1. Jane Doe, *The Art of Research: A Comprehensive Guide* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020), 45.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 2. Doe, *Art of Research*, 78.

Edited Book

For a book compiled or edited by someone other than the author of the content being cited, the editor's name is included prominently. The editor is usually listed first, followed by "ed." or "eds." for editor(s).

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 3. John Smith, ed., *Essays on Modern Literature* (New York: Academic Publishing House, 2018), 112.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 4. Smith, *Essays on Modern Literature*, 150.

Chapter in an Edited Book

When citing a specific chapter within an edited collection, the author of the chapter is listed first, followed by the chapter title in quotation marks, and then information about the book itself.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 5. Emily Carter, "Victorian Poetry and Society," in *Studies in Literary History*, ed. Robert Jones (London: Blackwell Publishing, 2019), 221.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 6. Carter, "Victorian Poetry," 235.

Journal Article Citation Examples in Chicago Style Footnotes

Academic journals are a cornerstone of scholarly research. Chicago style offers precise formatting for citing articles, ensuring readers can easily locate the specific publication and page. These Chicago footnote citation examples are essential for research papers, theses, and dissertations that rely on peer-reviewed articles.

Article in a Print Journal

Citing a journal article involves providing the author's name, the article title in quotation marks, the journal title in italics, volume and issue numbers, the publication year, and the specific page number(s).

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 7. Michael Brown, "The Impact of Industrialization on Urban Development," *Journal of Historical Studies* 45, no. 3 (2021): 310.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 8. Brown, "Impact of Industrialization," 325.

Article in an Online Journal (with DOI)

When an article has a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), it is preferred over a URL as it provides a stable link. The DOI is usually included at the end of the citation.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 9. Sarah Green, "Renewable Energy Trends and Policy Implications," *Environmental Science Quarterly* 22, no. 1 (2022): 55, doi:10.1007/s12345-022-06789-0.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 10. Green, "Renewable Energy Trends," 60.

Website and Online Resource Citation Examples

In the digital age, citing online resources is as critical as citing traditional print materials. Chicago style provides specific guidance for websites, online articles, and other digital content, making these Chicago footnote citation examples highly relevant. Accuracy in providing URLs and access dates is paramount.

Web Page with an Author

For a web page with a designated author, the citation includes the author's name, the page title in quotation marks, the website name (italicized), and the URL, along with the date of access.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 11. David Lee, "Understanding Climate Change Data," *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*, accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.noaa.gov/climate-data-explanation>.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 12. Lee, "Understanding Climate Change Data."

Web Page without an Author

If no author is listed, the citation begins with the title of the page in quotation marks, followed by the website name, URL, and access date.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 13. "Guidelines for Responsible AI Development," Tech Ethics Foundation, accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.tech-ethics.org/ai-guidelines>.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 14. "Guidelines for Responsible AI Development."

Other Common Chicago Footnote Citation Examples

Beyond books and articles, academic research often involves a diverse range of sources. Chicago style offers specific formats for citing these materials, ensuring comprehensive coverage and adherence to scholarly standards. These less common but important Chicago footnote citation examples demonstrate the flexibility of the system.

Newspaper Article

Newspaper citations include the author (if known), the article title in quotation marks, the newspaper name (*italicized*), the date of publication, and the page number.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 15. Maria Garcia, "Local Elections See Record Turnout," *Chicago Tribune*, November 2, 2022, sec. A, 1.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 16. Garcia, "Local Elections."

Blog Post

Blog posts are cited similarly to web pages, including the author (if present), post title in quotation marks, blog name (italicized), and URL with access date.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 17. Alex Johnson, "The Future of Remote Work," *Digital Nomad Diaries*, July 15, 2023, accessed October 26, 2023, <https://www.digitalnomaddairies.com/remote-work-future>.

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 18. Johnson, "Future of Remote Work."

Unpublished Dissertation

Citing an unpublished dissertation requires the author's name, dissertation title (italicized), the degree sought, the university, and the year of completion.

- **Full Footnote Example:**

- 19. Emily Davis, *The Sociological Impact of Social Media on Teenagers* (PhD diss., Northwestern University, 2019).

- **Subsequent Footnote Example:**

- 20. Davis, *Sociological Impact*.

Notes vs. Bibliography Entries

It is essential to understand the relationship between footnotes (or endnotes) and the bibliography in Chicago style. While both serve to cite sources, they differ in their purpose, format, and placement within a document. This distinction is crucial for a correctly formatted paper using Chicago footnote citation examples.

Purpose and Format Differences

Footnotes are designed for in-text citation and often include more descriptive information or tangential commentary. They provide immediate context for specific points made in the text. Bibliography entries, on the other hand, are listed alphabetically at the end of the document and serve as a comprehensive list of all sources consulted or cited. The bibliographic format is generally more concise and does not include page numbers for the specific in-text reference, but rather the full page range of the work.

Examples of Differences

- **Footnote Example (Book):**

- 1. Jane Doe, *The Art of Research: A Comprehensive Guide* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020), 45.

- **Bibliography Entry Example (Book):**

- Doe, Jane. *The Art of Research: A Comprehensive Guide*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2020.
- Notice that in the bibliography, the author's last name comes first, and punctuation differs. The page number for the specific citation is omitted in the bibliography entry itself, as it refers to the entire book.

Consistent application of these rules ensures that your research is both credible and accessible to your readers. By diligently following the guidelines for Chicago footnote citation examples, you contribute to the clarity and authority of your written work.

FAQ

Q: What is the primary difference between a footnote and a bibliography entry in Chicago style?

A: The primary difference lies in their purpose and placement. Footnotes are used within the text to provide immediate citation for specific information, while the bibliography is an alphabetical list at the end of the document that compiles all sources cited. Footnotes often include specific page numbers for the cited material, whereas bibliography entries refer to the

entire work.

Q: When should I use a full Chicago footnote citation versus a shortened one?

A: You should use a full Chicago footnote citation the first time you reference a particular source. For all subsequent references to the same source, you can use a shortened footnote, which typically includes the author's last name, a shortened version of the title, and the relevant page number.

Q: How do I cite a website in a Chicago footnote if there is no author listed?

A: If no author is listed for a website, begin the footnote with the title of the specific page or article in quotation marks. Follow this with the name of the website (*italicized*), the URL, and the date you accessed the page.

Q: What is a DOI, and why is it important for citing online journal articles in Chicago style?

A: A DOI (Digital Object Identifier) is a unique, persistent identifier for electronic documents. It is important for citing online journal articles because it provides a stable and permanent link to the article, even if the website's URL changes. It is generally preferred over a URL when available.

Q: Do I need to include the publisher's location in Chicago footnote citations for online books?

A: For online books, if the publisher's location is readily available and relevant, it is typically included. However, the emphasis for online sources is often on providing the URL and the access date, ensuring the reader can locate the digital version.

Q: How do I cite a source that is cited within another source (an indirect source) in Chicago style?

A: In Chicago style, when you cite a source that you found mentioned within another source, you should cite the original work in your footnote and indicate that you accessed it through the secondary source. For example:
Author of original work, "Title of original work," Year of original publication, cited in Author of secondary source, Title of secondary source (Place: Publisher, Year), page number. The bibliography should only list the

secondary source you actually consulted.

Q: What is the correct way to format page numbers in Chicago footnote citations?

A: Page numbers are typically preceded by "p." for a single page or "pp." for a range of pages. For example, p. 45 or pp. 112-118. If citing a footnote or endnote number within another work, you would use "fn." followed by the number, e.g., fn. 7.

Q: Are there specific Chicago footnote citation examples for citing government documents or reports?

A: Yes, Chicago style has specific formats for government documents. Generally, you would cite the issuing agency as the author, followed by the title of the document (*italicized*), and publication details such as date and any report numbers. The exact format can vary depending on the type of government publication.

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