

MLA Works Cited Help: Four Useful Tools

Use these tools to build, check, and fix MLA Works Cited entries. A citation generator can help you start, but you are responsible for the final citation.

1. Build it. Use a guide or generator to make a first draft of the citation.	2. Check it. Look for the author, title, container, publisher, date, and URL when available.	3. Format it. Put the entry on a Works Cited page, alphabetize it, and use a hanging indent.
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Tool	What it does best	Use it when...	The caution
MLA Style Center style.mla.org	This is the official MLA website. It teaches the parts of a citation and includes an interactive citation template.	Use it when you want to understand why a citation is built a certain way or when you need the most reliable answer.	It is not the fastest option. You will need to think through the source instead of simply copying a result.
Purdue OWL owl.purdue.edu	This guide explains MLA rules clearly and gives examples for Works Cited entries, page formatting, and source use.	Use it when you need to check formatting rules, see examples, or confirm what a finished Works Cited page should look like.	It is mostly a guide, not a generator. You may still need to create the citation yourself.
Scribbr MLA Generator scribbr.com/citation/generator/mla	This tool creates MLA citations from source information such as a URL, title, DOI, or manual entry.	Use it when you need a quick first draft of a citation for a website, article, video, or book.	Always check the result. Generators can miss details, choose the wrong source type, or format something strangely.
Citation Machine citationmachine.net/mla	This familiar generator can quickly create MLA citations for many common source types.	Use it as a backup generator when Scribbr does not work well or when you already know what information the citation needs.	Watch for ads, pop-ups, and incomplete entries. Do not assume the first result is automatically correct.

Class rule: A generator may help you start the citation, but it does not replace your judgment. Before you submit, check that each Works Cited entry is complete, alphabetized, readable, and formatted with a hanging indent.

Quick reminder: Google is a search engine, not a source. An AI tool may help you check formatting, but it should not be treated as the authority for MLA style.