

# IEEE Quick Guide: In-text Referencing

The IEEE referencing style was developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. It is used in computer science electronics, information technology, engineering, and telecommunications fields.

**In the text** of the paper or report, each citation is referenced using sequenced numbers, encased in square brackets. For example, [1] is inserted after the first citation, and [2] is inserted after the next citation from a different source. Each number therefore corresponds to one source.

The corresponding **full reference** appears at the end of the paper, next to the citation number. **Note** that the reference list formatting differs from the in-text citation for sources that have between three and six authors (inclusive).

Refer to the Federation University *IEEE Quick Guide: References* helpsheet for details.

## Citing sources in the text

| Example   | Explanation   |
|---|---|
| 1. Steel is the most widely used alloy in the world, with a yearly production of 1700 million tonnes in 2017 [1].           | This is the first citation source [1]. Its focus is on the information.   |
| 2. Huynh [11] found that...   | Source 11 refers to useful research findings (single author).   |
| 3. Recent studies [1, 5, 11] have focused on...   | Three sources of recent studies.  |
| 4. This method produces accurate measurements [1], [7], [10]; however, it is inefficient in time and energy use [7] – [10]. | These three sources stated the same thing – they are not a sequence of numbers so each is put in single brackets; Sources 7, 8, 9 and 10 are in sequence, marked by the – |
| 5. According to Dertien and Stramigioli [5] ...   | The family names of both authors are listed (two authors).  |
| 6. Klausen <i>et al.</i> [12] developed a new...  | Use <i>et al.</i> (in italics) when three or more authors of a single source are cited in the text.   |
| 7. As demonstrated in [11].   | This researcher is following a method based on actions tested in [11].  |
| 8. 7. ..., according to [4] and [6] – [9].  | Referring to claims made by source 4 and sources 6, 7, 8 & 9.   |

## Other helpsheets available

- IEEE Quick Guide: References
- A Guide to Referencing Styles