Developed by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, this style is used in computer science, electronics, information technology, engineering, and telecommunications fields. The IEEE system of referencing allows the reader to identify the source at a glance, and includes all the publication details of each source. All punctuation, dates, and page numbers depend on the type of reference cited, so follow the examples provided with care. This guide is not a complete list.

Basic Rules and Formatting

• Centre a heading ‘References’ on a new page at the end of your work in the same font size and style.
• List entries in numerical order, as they appear in your text. The list is not alphabetical.
• Place the number of each entry at the left margin, enclosed in square brackets as they appear in your text.
• IEEE references are normally single-spaced with a double space between entries, however use double line-spacing for your reference list if your lecturer has specified this for your assessment.
• Indent the text of the entry (about 1.25 cm or 9-10 spaces); tab any second and subsequent lines so that they start at the same point as the entry text.
• The author’s name is listed as first name initial, then their last name in full.
• For up to and including six authors, list the first name initial and the last name in full for each author.
• For more than six authors, list the first author’s first name initial and their last name in full, followed by et al.
• Place the title of the article, patent, conference paper, etc., in quotation marks.
• Place the title of journal or book in italics.
• Sources accessed online need an access date, which is placed in square brackets at the end of the entry.
• The title of unpublished works are not italicised. Place in quotation marks, and capitalised only the first word.
• If a URL needs to be broken, break before a slash or a punctuation mark.
• Place commas between the elements of the entry, and end with a full stop, except after a URL (website).

A basic IEEE reference entry is made up of the following parts.

AUTHOR + TITLE OR “TITLE" + PUBLISHER INFORMATION + YEAR + ACCESS DATE if WEBSITE + URL

Examples

**BOOKS**

One author


Two to six authors (inclusive)


Note: if place of publishing is well known, e.g. London, or if the work is published in the U.S., don’t write the country.

**CHAPTER in book**


EDITED book
[8] X. Editor, Ed. *Title of Published Book*. City of Publisher, State (only U.S.), Country: Abbrev. of Publisher, Year.


CHAPTER in edited book


CONFERENCES / CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Follow the key below for common abbreviations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>Colloq.</td>
<td>National</td>
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<td>Third</td>
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<td>Conv.</td>
<td>Symposium</td>
<td>Symp.</td>
<td>Fourth/nth</td>
<td>4th/nth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exposition</td>
<td>Expo.</td>
<td>Technical Digest</td>
<td>Tech. Dig.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Omit articles and prepositions, such as “of the” and “on”. For example, *Proceedings of the 2006 Robotics and Automation Conference* becomes *Proc. 2006 Robotics and Automation Conf.* Note: All published conference or proceedings papers have page numbers.


JOURNAL ARTICLES


### References

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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</table>

### Other helpsheets available
- IEEE Quick Guide: In-text Referencing
- A Guide to Referencing Styles