Online Citation Tools – Video Transcript

[Theme Music]

This short video tutorial is a survey of online citation tools that can help you create properly formatted references.

If you’re using APA, MLA or Chicago style, or even one of the many other citation styles [Legal Citation, Vancouver Style IEEE Style and others], it’s important to follow the rules when you create the list of references at the end of your paper.

But creating references from scratch can be time-consuming and takes so much effort! There must be an easier way!

Online tools can help you automatically create references in any of the most common citation styles.

[Library Resources] Most library databases and search tools have citation buttons built in. This means you can create a citation for any source found using online library resources with the click of a button.

The citation button might have quotation marks, or include the words “Citation” or “Cite”.

[Citation Generators] There are plenty of online citation generators that will create citations automatically. Simply choose your citation style and enter the source information and let the Internet take care of the rest!

[Citation Managers] Finally, Zotero, Mendeley and Endnote Web are free citation managers that help you collect, store, organize and cite your research sources all in one place.

These citation managers capture references while you search, and store them either in the cloud or on your desktop.

They even work with word processors to insert citations and references while you write!

[Use Caution: Proofread Your Citations] Online citation tools are not perfect, and they sometimes make mistakes in capitalization, punctuation and formatting. Remember to always check your library’s citation style guidelines and proofread your citations to catch any errors.

Need help?

Ask the library. Call, chat, email or drop by.

This concludes our survey of online citation tools.