The Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC) provides information on citing and referencing aimed at authors publishing articles in RSC journals. This guide is based on RSC Publishing ‘Author guidelines’ (https://rsc.li/1PFaC0t).

Citation examples

The Royal Society of Chemistry uses a numeric style of referencing with reference numbers given in superscript in appropriate places, for example:

Over the past several decades there has been extensive research in cellulose, cellulose-based particles and cellulose based composites. There have been several review articles and books\(^1–3\) describing various aspects of cellulose: cellulose structure,\(^4–6\) CN processing,\(^7–10\) bacterial cellulose,\(^8,11–14\) regenerated cellulose,\(^12,15\) chemical modification of cellulose surfaces,\(^7,8,12,15–21\) rheological behavior of cellulose suspensions,\(^16,17,22\) self-assembly of suspensions,\(^5,22,23\) interaction with water,\(^19\) CN composites,\(^5,7–10,19,24–29\) and patent literature.\(^9\)


The reference numbers should be cited in sequence through the text, including those in tables and figure captions.

Reference list

The reference list should contain full details of all of the sources mentioned in the text, in numerical order. For example:


Reference examples

On the following pages are some examples of the more common types of document you might want to reference. Each gives the RSC format for the reference, followed by an example.

Give ALL authors’ / editors’ names in each entry in the Reference List: they must not be replaced by the phrase ‘et al’. So in all cases where INITIALS. Author’s / Editor’s surname appears, you would enter the surnames and initials of ALL contributing authors / editors.
Books

INITIALS. Author's surname, *Title*, Publisher, Place of publication, Edition (if not the first), Year.


**Book with editor(s) instead of author(s)**

*Title*, ed. INITIALS. Editor's surname, Publisher, Place of publication, Edition (if not the first), Year.


**Book with corporate author**

Corporate author, *Title*, Publisher, Place of publication, Edition (if not the first), Year.


**Book usually known by its title (no authors/editors)**

*Title*, Publisher, Place of publication, Edition (if not the first), Year.


**Book chapter (where chapters have individual authors)**

INITIALS. Author of chapter's surname, in *Title of book*, ed. (if applicable) INITIALS, Surname of author/editor of book, Publisher, Place of publication, Edition (if not the first), Year, Chapter, Chapter pages.


Journal articles

*Use this format for PDF or HTML versions of print journals.*

Journal titles are given in abbreviated form using the style defined in Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index (CASSI): [http://cassi.cas.org/](http://cassi.cas.org/). If you cannot find an abbreviation for a journal, and if it is not obvious how the title should be abbreviated, reference the full title.

INITIALS. Author's surname, *Title of journal* (abbreviated), Year, **Volume number**, Pages.


For published material where page numbers are not yet known, articles should be cited by DOI (Digital Object Identifier).


For material accepted for publication, but not yet published, the following form is used:


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Title of webpage, URL, (access date).

Please note the most important information to include is the URL and the date accessed.


Material presented at meetings

Conference paper (when proceedings have a named editor)
INITIALS. Author of paper’s surname, in Title of conference proceedings, ed. INITIALS. Surname of editor of proceedings, Publisher, Place of publication, Year, Pages of paper.


Conference paper (when proceedings have no named editor or are part of a major series)
INITIALS. Author of paper’s surname, Title of conference proceedings, Publisher, Place of publication, Year.


For material presented at a meeting, congress or before a Society, etc., but not published, the following form is used:


Thesis / Dissertation

INITIALS, Author’s surname, Designation type, Name of institution, Year.


Report

INITIALS, Author’s surname, Title, Department/Division Report number (if given), Publisher, Place of publication, Year.


Patent

Patent country (abbreviated), Patent number, Year.

Br. Pat., GB2448234, 2008


Please note that the format for patents has been adapted to match the output style in EndNote.
Software

Creator, Software Name (Version), Publisher, Place of Publication, Year.

F. James, AIM2000 (version 1.0), University of Applied Sciences, Bielefeld, Germany, 2000.


Unpublished material

For personal communications the following is used:

G. B. Ball, personal communication.

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