

Information Identification Chart

In order to cite information correctly, you must first identify the type of information you have located. Just because you found it online does not mean it's a Web site. Identifying print is easy; identifying online material is difficult because print-outs all tend to look alike. Listed below are popular information types and a list of indicators that will help you to identify your source. Don't expect a source to meet all criteria. The bolded indicators are usually a sign of a sure thing!



Source	Date	Title of Article	Title of Publication	Pages	Other
Reference Book	Single year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2001 • ©1998 				Publishing company is listed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salem Press Place of publication often listed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Westport, CT
Newspaper/Newswire	Specific day listed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 19, 2001 	Descriptive or creative	“Newspaper” sounding title <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribune • Gazette • Sun May contain the name of a city <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington Post 	Often has both numbers and letters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A16 • B11 	
Journal	All date formats possible <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring, Summer, Winter, Fall • February 19, 2001 • April 2006 	Serious, complicated, often very long and hard to read	Often starts with or contains the word “Journal”	May have very high page numbers	References are always included May be divided into sections <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction • Methods • Conclusions
Magazine	Month, day, year or month and year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 19, 2001 • April 2006 	Descriptive or creative			Written to entertain or report on events that have already happened
Web					Original online content that does not conform to any other information type Accessed for free by using a search engine or by typing in a unique Web address