

APA style citation formatting for YouTube video content:

THE REFERENCE I GENERALLY GO TO FOR FORMATTING & CITATION QUESTIONS (IN APA STYLE):

http://www.dianahacker.com/resdoc/p04_c09_s2.html

You'll see here that the problem is there is no specific entry (use the drag down menu) for YouTube video – b/c the archiving and future availability of YouTube content is so sketchy & unpredictable at this point, I guess a purist view might hold that YouTube, like Wikipedia, is not a credible citable source for truly scholarly studies. I would argue, however, that for a demonstration of how something works -- a scholar might verify the correctness of the demonstration in a YouTube video by checking it against other sources (print/subscription database) and then use it as part of a presentation or project. In that case, they would still want to give credit to the makers of the video content or at least point to where it came from.

If you look at the examples below for citing YouTube videos in APA style, what they have done is combine the APA citation format for:

- Movies
- Wiki postings
- Online articles

The key(tricky) components include:

- Identify the person responsible (author) – note this is NOT the person who posts the video – go with author unknown before using the person who posted
- Include the URL, date retrieved, and name of the hosting website (YouTube)

FOR EXAMPLE:

FROM: <http://lib.radford.edu/Resources/handouts/styleguides-apa.asp#youtube>
<http://lib.radford.edu/Resources/handouts/styleguides-apa.asp>

Radford University Radford, VA
YouTube and Online Videos

Author(s)	Year of Publication	Web Page Title
Date Retrieved	Sponsoring Web Site	URL

Has An Author:

Takayma-Ogawa, J., & Willette, J. (2007). *What is information literacy* [Video]? Retrieved December 12, 2007, from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yeopJX5jV8>

No Author:

Slingshot fun [Video]. (2007). Retrieved February 1, 2007, from <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCmZYce0J2E>

- Citations should be double-spaced and use hanging indents.
- Video title should be italicized.
- Before the punctuation mark after the video title, include the word Video in square brackets.
- No colon before the URL.
- There is no period at the end of the URL.
- For videos, provide the author only if you **sure** that person created the video. Do not list the person posting the video online as the author. If you are unsure, treat the citation as having no author.

FROM: www.lincoln.ac.nz/libr/guides/citapa.pdf

Lincoln University New Zealand

**Video Weblog post,
e.g. YouTube**

Norton, R. (2006, November 4). How to train a cat to operate a light switch [Video file]. Video posted to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vja83KLQXZs> **** INDENT 2ND LINE

FROM: <http://www.library.ubc.ca/ubco/apastyle.html>
<http://www.library.ubc.ca/ubco/apastyle.html>

University of British Columbia

MEDIA

Video clip: Retrieved from the internet (p. 23 #46 from the Suppl.)

Norton, R. (2006, November 4). How to train a cat to operate a light switch [Video file]. Video posted to <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vja83KLQXZs>
Citation in text: (Norton, 2006)

