

Citing Images in your Report/Presentation/Poster in APA Style

If you are using images in projects you will need to include:

1. A caption – which is a copyright and/or attribution statement below the image – the copyright statement fulfills a legal obligation and the attribution statement gives credit to the creator of the image, and maintains academic integrity.

and/or

2. An entry in the reference list – this allows the reader to find the source of the image and fulfills academic requirements for citation.

Posters and presentations require a full caption under each image, or, a short caption followed by a reference list with a full citation for each image.

Papers and reports require a full caption under each image and a reference list with a full citation for each image.

Website or blog requires a credit line linking back to the original with licensing and copyright included. (Note: educational exemptions do not allow for use of images without obtaining permission first, and our licensed image databases (Britannica, Ebsco) do not allow for re-use in an online medium.)

The copyright/attribution statement should include as many of these elements as are available:

creator, title, source, date and copyright holder and date (if applicable) and be preceded by Figure #.

The reference list entry contains as many of these elements as are available:

creator, date, title, image type, source.

(*note: all the elements listed above may not be available for the image you are using – use what you have)

(**note: if the title isn't available you will need to make up a descriptive title)

EXAMPLES

Image from Encyclopedia Britannica.

Encyclopaedia Britannica provides caption information and citation elements on the upper left side of the screen for each image in its gallery.

Caption

Figure 1. Windmills on a hillside in California are used to generate electricity. <https://www.britannica.com>
Copyright Mediaimages/Getty Images.

Reference List

Windmills on a hillside in California are used to generate electricity. [Image]. (n.d.) Retrieved from

<https://www.britannica.com>.

Image from Pixabay

The Pixabay license allows you to reuse and modify images for commercial and non-commercial purposes and no attribution is required. However to meet citation requirements and maintain academic integrity, provide a caption and a citation.

Caption

Figure 1. Jade Pham. Blue water lily. Retrieved from <https://pixabay.com>

Reference List

Pham, J. (n.d.) Blue water lily. [Image]. Retrieved from Pixabay.

Sources used to compile the information in this handout include:

APA Style Blog. There's a Art to It. <https://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2010/04/theres-an-art-to-it.html>

APA Style Blog. Navigating Copyright for Reproduced Images. Overview and parts 1-4.
<https://blog.apastyle.org/apastyle/2016/01/navigating-copyright-overview.html>

Carleton University MacOdrum Library. Customizing Image Credit Lines and Captions.
<https://library.carleton.ca/find/images/citing-images/customizing-image-credit-lines-and-captions>

SFU Library – Finding and Using Online Images: Citing <https://www.lib.sfu.ca/help/research-assistance/format-type/online-images/citing>

UBC Library – Copyright Educational Resources. Image Citation
<http://guides.library.ubc.ca/c.php?g=698822&p=4965735>