



AMS Style Guide: WHAT IS IT?

AMS Style refers to the citation format of the American Mathematical Society which includes *Journal of Algebra*, *Communications in Algebra*, *Proceedings in the American Mathematical Society*, *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society*, and *American Mathematical Monthly* among others. AMS style guide represents best practices. It is the preferred style of Mathematics Program. This handout summarizes citation formatting for Math courses.

MANUSCRIPT FORMATTING: [AMS](#) recommend the following manuscript formatting—

- AMS Style guide recommends: “Less is more” in writing. Focus on accuracy and readability. The Style Guide provides more detailed style information on top matter, running heads, end matter, heading styles, enunciation categories (theorems, proofs, definitions, remarks), presenting footnotes, figures and captions,
- **The Chicago Manual of Style** is the guide used for grammar and style not covered by AMS.
- **Top Matter, Running Heads, and End Matter** are covered in Chapter two of AMS Style Guide, pp. 15-26.

Top matter (some essential items for top matter related to publishing in a journal has been left out): Top matter refer to the first page of the article/written work. Required elements in the topic matter include: **title** (Only first word, first word after colon, and proper names capitalized), **author line** (initial and last name), **abstract** (list “Abstract.” In bold, followed be description. 150 to 300 words, depending on length of paper. First-person pronouns are acceptable).

Running Head (right and left): Running heads on the right presents the title and should not be longer than 50 characters (4 inches). If the title is longer, abbreviate. Running heads on the left should present the author’s name (or names) as it is in the byline. Shorten if it is long (use “et al.” if it is too long). Acronyms may be used but not abbreviated words.

End Matter: End matter appear at the end of an article/writing and include: acknowledgments, information about the author, reference, author affiliations, author email and URL addresses.

“Acknowledgements”: Optional. References to individuals should include initials for first name and fully written last names.

“About the Author”: Optional. Brief description of title/status, university affiliation, membership, awards/prizes if related to the mathematics field.

“References”: Required.

“Affiliation”: Required. Include department, university, location.

“Email and URL”: Optional.

- **Listing items:** all phrases and all complete sentences should have parallel construction. Stet lists set within a paragraph if the items are short (separate with semicolon). For longer lists, the default format is to break out a single sentence and then indent the list.

Example:

Theorem 1.
(a) *The approximant H in Theorem 2 is obtained by taking $S = 0$.*
(b) *If we take $S = 0$, then we obtain $H = n$.*

--Every entry must be punctuated.

--Capitalizations are used for complete sentence entries. Phrases use lowercase.

--No colon after an introductory sentence, if the list continues the sentence:

The connected graph G is built by
(1) committing all uncommitted edges, as described above;
(2) joining the remaining open entry vertices with some number, Δ , of extra vertices so as to make G have n vertices and be d -regular; and
(3) designating one of these extra vertices as t .

- **Pagination:** Follow the Chicago Manual of Style 17th Edition format. All pages are counted in the pagination, regardless of whether numbers appear.
--Page numbers generally should be placed at the upper right-hand corner of the page, one inch from the top and side
--Number all pages (including tables and figures), starting with the title page. Arabic numbers may be used for front matter (Chicago Style, 2.38).
- **Line Spacing:** Print outs should be double-spaced. Avoid extra space or blank lines between paragraphs (Chicago Style, 2.8)
- **Space between paragraphs and colon:** Single character space between sentences and after colons used within a sentence (Chicago Style, 2.9)
- **Grammar:** See Chicago Style, 7th Edition, pp. 225-362. **Punctuation**, pp.362-416.

REFERENCES AND INTERNAL CITATIONS—GENERAL OVERVIEW:

- **References** is a list of references that follows the paper in a separate section with the heading “References.”
--References should be listed in alphabetical order.
--Enumerate all references (they are end notes).
--Numbers in the references are NOT Superscript. Indent from the number.

1. Butler, M. C. R., Ringel, C. M. (1987). Auslander-Reiten sequences with few middle terms and applications to string algebras. *Comm. Algebra* 15(1-2):145–179. DOI: 10.1080/00927878708823416.

- **Internal citations** are within the body of the essay.
--Use reference numbers using brackets: [8], [11, Section 4.8], [3, 6, 7]
--No page references are included in internal citations.
--Cited authors are named in the abstract but not in the body of the article. Cite reference

numbers directly rather than the author:

“The results of this paper can also be compared to the results of [3, 6, 7].”

“By [12, Section 13], the set \mathcal{S} has the natural structure of multisemigroup, cf. [9], defined as follows. . .”

Books

Last Name, First Name Initial. Second Initial. (Year of Publication). *Italicize book title: capitalize all proper nouns*, Volume number [if needed]. Publisher’s City: Publisher.

4. Ganyushkin, O., Mazorchuk, V. (2009). *Classical Finite Transformation Semigroups. An Introduction. Series: Algebra and Applications*, Vol., 9. London: Springer.