How to Cite Something You Found on a Website in APA Style: What to Do When Information Is Missing

		Reference template			
What's missing?	Solution	Position A	Position B	Position C	Position D
Nothing; I've got all the pieces	n/a	Author, A.	(date).	Title of document [Format].	Retrieved from http://URL
Author is missing	Substitute title for the author	Title of document [Format].	(date).	Retrieved from http://URL	
Date is missing	Use "n.d." for <i>no date</i>	Author, A.	(n.d.).	Title of document [Format].	Retrieved from http://URL
Title is missing	Describe the document inside square brackets	Author, A.	(date).	[Description of document].	Retrieved from http://URL
Author and date are both missing	Combine author and date methods	Title of document [Format].	(n.d.).	Retrieved from http://URL	
Author and title are both missing	Combine author and title methods	[Description of document].	(date).	Retrieved from http://URL	
Date and title are both missing	Combine date and title methods	Author, A.	(n.d.).	[Description of document].	Retrieved from http://URL
Author, date, and title are all missing	Combine all three methods	[Description of document].	(n.d.).	Retrieved from http://URL	

Note. The basic reference template is made up of four pieces: author, date, title (with format in brackets if necessary), and source (the URL). When one or more of these pieces is missing, use the method shown above to adapt the template. In-text citations use the pieces from Position A and Position B (usually the author and date, but if there's no author, then the title and date—more details available at http://www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/web-page-no-author.aspx).

Copyright © 2010 by the American Psychological Association. This content may be reproduced for classroom or teaching purposes provided that credit is given to the American Psychological Association. For any other use, please contact the APA Permissions Office.