Citing images in APA 6th Style: Figure captions
August 2018

Figure captions

A figure may be a chart, a graph, a photograph, a drawing, or any other illustration or non-textual depiction. Any type of illustration other than a table is referred to as a figure in APA style.

When you use a figure that has been adapted or copied directly from another source, you need to reference that original source. This reference appears as a caption underneath the figure.

- Don’t include a title on top - the caption is your title
- Provide a concise explanation of the figure; i.e. a brief but descriptive phrase
- Include copyright information
- To format your caption, use italics and a capital F for Figure, and sequential numbering (if you have more than one Figure)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retrieved from a website</th>
<th>Reproduced from a book</th>
<th>Reproduced from a journal article</th>
<th>Reproduced from a Library database</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. From Title of website. Retrieved from URL. Copyright year by Name of copyright holder.</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Reprinted [or Adapted] from Book title (page number), by A. N. Author, year, Place of Publication: Publisher. Copyright year by Name of copyright holder.</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Reprinted [or Adapted] from “Title of article,” by A. N. Author, year, Journal Title, Volume(issue), page number. Copyright year by Name of copyright holder.</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Retrieved from Title of the database. Copyright year by Name of copyright holder.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Examples
For more help, see the APA Referencing Style Guide: http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th

**Figure 1.** Sirocco the kākāpō at Orokonui Ecosanctuary in Dunedin. From *Department of Conservation*. Retrieved from https://www.doc.govt.nz/nature/native-animals/birds/birds-a-z/kakapo/sirocco/sirocco-at-orokonui/. Copyright 2018 by Department of Conservation. CC BY 4.0.

**Figure 2.** Detail from a printed billboard showing optical colour mixing in CMYK process. Reprinted from *Graphic design: The new basics* (p. 97), by E. Lupton and J. C. Phillips, 2015, New York, NY: Princeton Architectural Press. Copyright 2015 by Princeton Architectural Press.
# Citing images in APA 6th Style: Reference list

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Create a reference list entry (and corresponding in-text reference) if you refer to or discuss an images in your text, or if your assignment asks you to provide a list of images in APA style.

If you are making just a passing reference to an artwork in your text, you do not need to cite it, e.g.:

“...with an expression like that in Munch’s The Scream.”

For more help, see the APA Referencing Style Guide: [http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th](http://aut.ac.nz.libguides.com/APA6th)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Retrieved from a website</th>
<th>Artwork seen in gallery or museum</th>
<th>Reproduced from a book</th>
<th>Reproduced from a journal article</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>