New Zealand Law Style Guide (NZLSG) 3rd ed. 2018:  
Footnote and Bibliography Examples

Refer to the New Zealand Law Style Guide 3rd Edition for further rules & additional details. There are exceptions and additional tips for all the basic rules below. Find additional information at Law Subject Guide → Legal Referencing & Citation Tools

Footnotes (use size 10 Times New Roman)

Primary Information

Cases (Rule 3) - Refer to Rule 8 for Cases from Specific Jurisdictions

Reported Cases (Rule 3.2)
If available, always include the neutral citation (for both reported and unreported cases)


If no neutral citation, cite the best reported version of the judgment

Hawkins v Minister of Justice [1991] 2 NZLR 530 (CA) at 534.

Neutral Cases (Rules 3.3)
The neutral citation should always be given – if available.

Attorney-General v X [2007] NZCA 338 at [64].

Unreported Cases (Rule 3.4)
If no neutral citation and case is unreported, cite in accordance with the file number citation format

R v Reekie CA339/03, 3 August 2004 at [35].

Maori Land Court and Maori Appellate Court Decisions (Rule 3.5)


Legislation (Rule 4) - Refer to Rule 9 for Legislation from Specific Jurisdictions

Statutes (Rule 4.1)
Treaty of Waitangi 1840, art 3.
Distillation Prohibition Ordinance 1841 4 Vict 5, cl 1.
Gaming Duties Act 1971, s 9.
Counter-Terrorism Act 2008 (UK), s 92.

Bills (Rule 4.2)
Judicial Matters Bill 2008 (216-1), cl 3.
Unit Title Bill 2008 (212-2) (select committee report) at 3.
Secondary Legislation (Rule 4.3)
Costs in Criminal Cases Regulations 1987, reg 3.
High Court Rules 2016, r 14.3.

Other Official Sources

Parliamentary Materials (Rule 5.1)
Hansard (Rule 5.1.1)
(6 April 2005) 624 NZPD 19676.
(8 July 1996) 574 GBHD HL 1.

For recent NZPD not yet incorporated into a bound volume from www.parliament.nz with no page numbers to pinpoint, give the subject details provided on the website and speaker.
(16 August 2017) 724 NZPD (Maritime Transport Amendment Bill - Second Reading, Julie Anne Genter).

Submissions to Select Committees (Rule 5.1.3)
New Zealand Law Society “Submission to the Justice and Electoral Committee on the Arbitration Amendment Bill 2017” at [3].

Government Publications (Rule 5.2)
Cabinet documents (Rule 5.2.1)
Cabinet Office Circular “Conduct During Periods of Caretaker Government” (21 April 1999) CO 99/5 at [5].

Cabinet Manual (Rule 5.2.2)

Law Commission Reports (Rule 5.2.3)

New Zealand Gazette (Rule 5.2.4)
From Oct 2017

Prior to Oct 2017 – organised by issue number
“Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code – Amendment No 171” (13 July 2017) 73 New Zealand Gazette 127 at 128.

Select Committee Reports (Rule 5.2.5)
Transport and Industrial Relations Committee Inquiry into the future of New Zealand’s mobility (15 August 2017).

Requests under the Official Information Act 1982 (Rule 5.3)
Papers and Reports (Rule 5.4)
Also use this rule for non-governmental papers and reports e.g. company annual reports

Secondary Materials

Books / Texts (Rule 6.1)
Peter Spiller The Disputes Tribunals of New Zealand (2nd ed, Brookers, Wellington, 2003) at ch 1.

eBooks (Rule 6.1.9)
Cite eBooks that are also available in hardcopy in accordance with Books (Rule 6.1) where possible.
Books that are only available electronically:

Online Commentaries and Looseleaf Texts (Rule 6.3)
Simon France (ed) Adams on Criminal Law - Evidence (looseleaf ed, Thomson Reuters) at [ED1.01(2)].
Mathew Downs (ed) Cross on Evidence (online ed, LexisNexis) at [1.2].

Journal Articles (Rule 6.4)
Treat journal articles as if they are all print

Legal Encyclopaedias (Rule 6.5)
General format for citing legal encyclopaedia (except Laws of New Zealand)

Laws of New Zealand (Rule 6.6)
Colin Pidgeon Laws of New Zealand Civil Procedure: Supreme Court and Court of Appeal (Reissue 1) at [59].
Charles Rickett Laws of New Zealand Equity (online ed) at [98].

Internet Materials (Rule 7) (incl. blogs and working papers published on websites)
General Rules (Rule 7.1.1)

Podcasts (Rule 7.1.8)

Social Media (Twitter) (Rule 7.1.10)
Donald J Trump (@realDonaldTrump) “We need a 21st century MERIT-BASED immigration system” <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/960907362109452288>.
Newspaper and Magazine Articles (Rule 7.2.1) print and online versions

International Jurisdictions

Cases (Rule 8)

General Rules (Rule 8.1)
Where possible, follow Rules 3-3.8 when citing cases from overseas jurisdictions.
When citing a reported case, official report series are preferred.
Cite unreported judgments using an official neutral citation.
Add jurisdiction at end of case in brackets, if not NZ – eg (AU).

Australia (Rule 8.2)
Transfield Construction Pty Ltd v GIO Australia Holdings Pty Ltd (1996) 9 ANZ Insurance Cases ¶61-336 (NSWCA) at 71,716.

Canada (Rule 8.3)

England and Wales (Rule 8.4)
Foskett v McKeown [2001] 1 AC 102 (HL).

Nominate Reports (Rule 8.4.2)
Re Beloved Wilke’s Charity (1851) 3 Mac & G 440, 42 ER 330 (Ch).
Saunders v Vautier (1841) 4 Beav 115 at 116, 49 ER 282 (Ch) at 282.

Scotland (Rule 8.5)
Musaj v Secretary for the Home Department 2004 SLT 623 (OH).

United States (Rule 8.6)
Logan v Commissioner of Correction 9 A 3d 776 (Conn 2010).
United States v Palmer 16 US 610 (1818) at 631.
Gregory v Carey 791 P 2d 1329 (Kan 1990) at 1336.

Legislation (Rule 9)

General Rules (Rule 9.1)
In general, follow Rules 4-4.3.6 when citing legislation from international jurisdictions.
Rule 4.1 requires that if citing overseas legislation, an abbreviated form of the jurisdiction in which the Act was passed be included after the year, in round brackets e.g. (GB).

The following covers some of the rules specific to individual jurisdictions.
Australia (Rule 9.2)
Cite Australian statutes the same way as New Zealand statutes.
However, it is necessary to include the jurisdiction of the statute after the titles and year of enactment in round brackets e.g. (Cth).
Criminal Code 1899 (Qld).

Canada (Rule 9.3)

United Kingdom (Rule 9.4)
Pre-1963 (Rule 9.4.1)
Refer here for specific jurisdiction and regnal year details
Interpretation Act 1889 (UK) 52 & 53 Vict c 63, s 1.

Modern statutes (Rules 9.4.2- 9.4.3)
Prior to 1998
Post 1998

United States (Rule 9.5)

International Materials

The NZLSG 3rd ed. only provides information on how to cite some of the more commonly used international materials. For further assistance, refer to the latest edition of the following guides and cite as consistently as possible with the rules of the NZLSG 3rd ed.

- Melbourne University Law Review’s Australian Guide to Legal Citation at <www.law.unimelb.edu.au>
- Fordham International Law Journal’s A Citation Manual for European for European Union Materials at <https://news.law.fordham.edu/filj/eu-guides>
- New York University School of Law, Journal of International Law and Politics’ Guide to Foreign and International Legal Citation.

Treaties (Rule 10.1)
General form (Rule 10.1.1)
United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances 1582 UNTS 95 (opened for signature 20 December 1988, entered into force 11 November 1990), art 5.

Decisions of International Courts of Justice and Permanent Court of International Justice (Rule 10.2)
International Court of Justice and Permanent Court of International Justice (Rule 10.2.1)
Factory at Chorzów (Germany v Poland) (Merits) (1928) PCIJ (Series A) No 13 at 47.
Modern international criminal courts and tribunals (Rule 10.2.2)
Prosecutor v Aleksovski (Judgment) ICTY Appeals Chamber IT-95-14/1-A, 24 March 2000 at [63].
Sayed (Jurisdiction and Standing) STL Appeals Chamber CH/AC/2010/02, 10 November 2010 at [44].

International Arbitral Decisions (Rule 10.3)
Reported decisions (Rule 10.3.1)
Reported international arbitral decisions are cited in the same way as decisions of the ICJ.

Unreported decisions (Rule 10.3.2)
Occidental Exploration and Production Co v Ecuador (Award) LCIA UN 3467, 1 July 20004 at [178].

United Nations Materials (Rule 10.4)
General form for constitutive documents of the United Nations (Rule 10.4.1)

General form for United Nations resolutions (Rule 10.4.2)

General form for other United Nations materials (Rule 10.4.3)

International Law Commission (Rule 10.4.4)

European Materials (Rule 10.5)
General form for European Union cases (Rule 10.5.1)
Cases prior to 2012
Case C-34-89 Smith v EC Commission [1993] ECR I-454

Cases from 2012 onwards
Case C-363-16 European Commission v Hellenic Republic ECLI:EU:C:2018:12 at [34]-[35].

European Union legislation (Rule 10.5.2)

General form for European Court of Human Rights cases (Rule 10.5.3)
Mauer v Austria (1997) 25 EHRR 91 (ECHR) at 92.

General form for European Commission of Human Rights cases (Rule 10.5.4)
Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands v Greece (1969) 12 Yearbook 186 (EComHR) at [186].

International Economic Materials (Rule 10.6)
General form for official documents of the World Trade Organization (WTO) (Rule 10.6.1)
United States – Safeguard Measures on Imports of Fresh, Chilled or Frozen Lamb Meat from New Zealand and Australia WT/DS177/AB/R, 1 May 2001 (Report of the Appellate Body) at [21].

General form for official documents of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) (Rule 10.6.2)
United States – Denial of Most-Favoured –Nation Treatment as to Non-Rubber Footwear from Brazil 39th Supp GATT BISD 128, DS18/R, 10 June 1992 (Report by the Panel Adopted on 19 June 1992) at [4.20].
Generalized System of Preferences L/7073, 4 September 1992 (Notification by New Zealand) at 3.
To create your bibliography, it is recommended that you follow Appendix 7: Additional Style Rules For University Work of the NZLSG 3rd edition, particularly for the completion of research papers, dissertations, theses and works for publication.

Other NZLSG users should also follow Appendix 7. However, you may wish to format authors differently – as shown by the examples below (which is similar to most other bibliography styles), with the order of surname, first name, rather than first name surname in Appendix 7. Please contact your lecturer, for clarification for your assignments.

The bibliography below uses Appendix 7 with the footnote examples from above, to show the changes. The section names and order of them are suggested only.

A Cases

1 New Zealand


Hawkins v Minister of Justice [1991] 2 NZLR 530 (CA).


2 Australia


3 Canada


4 International Bodies


Case C-363-16 European Commission v Hellenic Republic ECLI:EU:C:2018:12.

Denmark, Norway, Sweden and the Netherlands v Greece (1969) 12 Yearbook 186 (EComHR).
Factory at Chorzów (Germany v Poland) (Merits) (1928) PCIJ (Series A) No 13.

Mauer v Austria (1997) 25 EHRR 91 (ECHR).

Occidental Exploration and Production Co v Ecuador (Award) LCIA UN 3467, 1 July 20004.

Prosecutor v Aleksovski (Judgment) ICTY Appeals Chamber IT-95-14/1-A, 24 March 2000.

Sayed (Jurisdiction and Standing) STL Appeals Chamber CH/AC/2010/02, 10 November 2010.


5 United Kingdom

Foskett v McKeown [2001] 1 AC 102 (HL).


Musaj v Secretary for the Home Department 2004 SLT 623 (OH).


Re Beloved Wilke’s Charity (1851) 3 Mac & G 440, 42 ER 330 (Ch).

Saunders v Vautier (1841) 4 Beav 115 at 116, 49 ER 282 (Ch).

6 United States


Logan v Commissioner of Correction 9 A 3d 776 (Conn 2010).

United States v Palmer 16 US 610 (1818).

B Legislation

1 New Zealand

Treaty of Waitangi 1840.

Distillation Prohibition Ordinance 1841 4 Vict 5.

Gaming Duties Act 1971.


High Court Rules 2016.


Wildlife (Canada Goose) Order 2011.

Judicial Matters Bill 2008 (216-1).


Unit Title Bill 2008 (212-2) (select committee report).
2 Australia
Criminal Code 1899 (Qld).

3 Canada

4 European Union

5 United Kingdom
Counter-Terrorism Act 2008.
Interpretation Act 1889 (UK) 52 & 53 Vict c 63.

6 United States

C Treaties

D Books, Chapters in Books and Encyclopaedias
Downs, Mathew (ed) Cross on Evidence (online ed, LexisNexis).

Pidgeon, Colin *Laws of New Zealand* Civil Procedure: Supreme Court and Court of Appeal (Reissue 1).

Rickett, Charles *Laws of New Zealand* Equity (online ed).


**E Articles**

“Banks fight IRD for $8m” *New Zealand Herald* (online ed, Auckland, 16 December 2009).


**F Parliamentary and Government Materials**

(8 July 1996) 574 GBHD HL 1.

(6 April 2005) 624 NZPD 19676.

(16 August 2017) 724 NZPD (Maritime Transport Amendment Bill - Second Reading, Julie Anne Genter).

“Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code – Amendment No 171” (13 July 2017) 73 *New Zealand Gazette* 127.

Cabinet Office *Cabinet Manual 2008*.

Cabinet Office Circular “Conduct During Periods of Caretaker Government” (21 April 1999) CO 99/5.

Cabinet Strategy Committee Minute “Introducing Competition to Delivery of the ACC Scheme: Summary” (22 April 1998) STR (98) M 9/4 (obtained under Official Information Act 1982 request to the Labour Market Policy Group, Department of Labour).


New Zealand Law Society “Submission to the Justice and Electoral Committee on the Arbitration Amendment Bill 2017”.

Transport and Industrial Relations Committee *Inquiry into the future of New Zealand’s mobility* (15 August 2017).

**G Reports**


H Internet Resources


Trump, Donald J (@realDonaldTrump) “We need a 21st century MERIT-BASED immigration system” <https://twitter.com/realDonaldTrump/status/960907362109452288>.

I International Materials

Charter of the United Nations.

Generalized System of Preferences L/7073, 4 September 1992 (Notification by New Zealand).


