Citing images in APA 6th Style: Figure captions
June 2019

Figure captions

A figure may be a chart, a graph, a photograph, a drawing, or any other illustration or nontextual depiction. In APA style, any type of illustration other than a table is referred to as a figure.

When the figure is your own work, your caption should briefly describe the figure, to provide context to the reader. When you adapt or reproduce a figure from another source, you also need to provide details of the source in a caption underneath the figure. You may need to include copyright information.

- Don’t include a title - the caption is your title
- Provide a concise explanation of the figure: i.e., a brief but descriptive phrase
- Add any other information needed to clarify the figure
- If the figure is part of your thesis, dissertation or exegesis, include copyright information if the figure is reproduced or adapted from another source, and make sure you have permission from the copyright holder to include it in your work
- To format your caption, use italics and a capital F for Figure, and sequential numbering (if you have more than one Figure)

Templates

<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. Any clarifying information. From [or Adapted from] “Title of Web Page,” by A. N. Author, Year (<a href="http://URL">http://URL</a>). Copyright Year by Name of copyright holder. Reprinted [or Adapted] with permission [or Creative Commons License abbreviation].</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Any clarifying information. From [or Adapted from] Book Title (p. xx), by A. N. Author, Year, Place of Publication: Publisher. Copyright Year by Name of copyright holder. Reprinted [or Adapted] with permission [or Creative Commons License abbreviation].</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Any clarifying information. From [or Adapted from] “Title of Article,” by A. N. Author, year, Journal Title, Volume(issue), p. xx. Copyright Year by Name of copyright holder. Reprinted [or Adapted] with permission [or Creative Commons License abbreviation].</td>
<td>Figure X. Descriptive phrase that serves as title and description. Any clarifying information. Retrieved from Title of the database. Copyright Year by Name of copyright holder. Reprinted [or Adapted] with permission [or Creative Commons License abbreviation].</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Examples

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

**Image from a website**

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

**Image from a book**

Citing images in APA 6th Style: Reference list

June 2019

Create a reference list entry (and corresponding in-text reference) if you refer to or discuss an image 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)

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