Citing Social Media in APA Style

The following information was copied or adapted from the APA Style Blog and the APA Style Guide to Electronic References

General instructions:

• Provide the name of the page or the content or caption of the post (up to the first 40 words) as the title.
• Provide social media identity information. On Twitter, provide the author’s screen name in square brackets (if only the screen name is known, provide it without brackets). On Facebook and Google+, when the author is an individual, spell out his or her given name in square brackets.
• The author reflects who posted the content, not necessarily who created it. Credit additional individuals in the narrative if necessary.
• Do not italicize the titles of status updates, tweets, pages, or photographs; do italicize the titles of items that stand alone, such as videos and photo albums.
• If the item contains no words (e.g., a photograph without a caption), provide a description of the item in square brackets.
• Describe the content form (e.g., tweet, Facebook status update, photograph, timeline, video file) after the title in square brackets.
• Provide a retrieval URL that leads as directly and reliably to the cited content as possible (click a post’s date stamp to access its archived URL).
• Provide a retrieval date if the content may change (e.g., whole feeds or pages). Do not provide a retrieval date if the post has a specific date associated with it already (e.g., status updates, tweets, photos, and videos).

Examples:

Posts, Tweets, Status Updates, Pages & Forums

Blog Post

Tweet
Angelou, M. [DrMayaAngelou]. (2013, June 9). You can only become truly accomplished at something you love [Tweet]. Retrieved from https://twitter.com/DrMayaAngelou/status/343844424767389696/


Twitter Page
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Facebook Page

Facebook Status Update
Gaiman, N. [Neil]. (2012, February 29). Please celebrate Leap Year Day in the traditional manner by taking a writer out for dinner. It’s been four years since many authors had a good dinner. We are waiting. Many of us have our forks or chopsticks at the [Facebook status update]. Retrieved from https://www.facebook.com/neilgaiman/posts/10150574185041016

Reddit Thread

Reader comments

YouTube Comment

Blog Comment

Reddit Comment
00mba. (n.d.) Re: Injured mountain bike rider's story continues to fall apart. [Online forum comment]. Retrieved from https://www.reddit.com/r/Calgary/comments/6n2y4n/injured_mountain_bike_riders_story_continues_to/dk6c12y/

Online forum
Rampersad, T. (2005, June 8). Re: Traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions [Online forum comment]. Retrieved from World International Property Organization website: http://www.wipo.int/roller/comments/ipisforum/weblog/theme_eight_how_can_cultural#comments

Images & Photos

Image/Photo with Caption
Facebook
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**Instragram**
Justin Trudeau [justinpjtrudeau]. (2018, April 8). A wonderful conversation with the Queen ahead of #CHOGM18 today. It’s always a privilege to discuss the state of the world, and benefit from her wisdom and insight. [Photograph]. Retrieved from https://www.instagram.com/p/Bhuy8A1BB5v/?hl=en&taken-by=justinpjtrudeau

**Image/Photo without Caption**

**Webpage (no author)**