Bibliographies: Documenting Sources Used for Papers with Irvine’s Writing about Music

Basic Organization
Your bibliography should be a list of all the sources you’ve consulted for your research. It is almost always the very last item in your paper, after the text, and after endnotes (if you’ve used that format).

Resources in your bibliography are arranged alphabetically.

Basic Citation Elements
Each resource that you include in your bibliography is called a citation. And most citations are made up of similar elements (author, title, etc.) that need to be presented in a consistent format. Here’s a citation for a book, showing the elements of citation in the correct order and formatting:


Author (last name, first)    Title    Publisher Place
Publisher Name    Date    Number of Pages

But, if you’re not using a straightforward one-author book, you might also need to account for a translator, and editor, a multi-volume set, or many other variables. Some of the other variables you might need to include in a citation are:

* multiple author names
* editor(s)
* two titles (article title & journal title)
* edition information
* translator(s)
* web addresses

THAT’s why you consult Irvine’s – the style guide will show you the correct format depending on the type of resource you’ve used. Chapter 9 in Irvine’s is devoted to style issues with bibliographies.

Bibliography Citations: Examples of Style

Below are several examples for bibliographic citation styles for a variety of sources. These particular examples serve as a quick guide to bibliography citations (NOT endnotes or footnotes). Each example includes the section in Irvine’s that discusses the issues you need to consider when citing that specific type of source.

Notice that bibliography citations use what’s called a hanging indent: only the 1st line of the citation is lined up with the left margin—all other lines are indented underneath.

K. Shanton, 2016
Books - One Author (§120)


Book - Two or More Authors (§122)


Book – No Author (§125)


E-Book – (example from the ebrary database; not in Irvine’s. Note that database name and date of access are included)


Essay in a Collection (Chapter in Edited Book or Anthology) (§140)


Journal Article (§138)


(note: *The Turn of the Screw* is a title of an opera, and so it is underlined. It is a work title within the title of an article. §154 discusses when to put titles in quotes or underline.)

Journal Article from Online Database (Note: only for HTML text. Cite PDF articles as if you used print)


Signed Article in Print Dictionary or Encyclopedia (§140)


Signed Article in Online Dictionary or Encyclopedia (note database name, date of access, and url)

*Unsigned Article in Print Dictionary or Encyclopedia (§141)*


*Musical Scores (§142-143)*

(note: your score citation format will depend on the type or portion of the work that you’re citing. See below)

The example below is for when you’re citing the entire score (anthology or single piece):

**composer**: Maurice Ravel  
**title**: Pavane pour une infant defunte  
**place of publication**: Paris  
**publisher**: Max Eschig  
**date of publication**: no date is given  
**total # of pages**: 4


The example below is citing a portion from a larger composition or a collection of pieces:  
(like an aria from an opera, or song from a song cycle, or a movement from a sonata, etc.)

**composer**: Edvard Grieg  
**part you’re citing**: Springdans (no.6 in op.47)  
**larger work**: Lyriske Stykker, op.47  
**name of book in which this is found**: Music in the Romantic Period  
**editor**: F.E. Kirby  
**place of publication**: New York  
**publisher**: Schirmer Books  
**date of publication**: 1986  
**pages of excerpt**: “Springdans” is on pp. 819-820.


*Review (§146)*


*Recording (CD, Video, or DVD) (§145)*

The following example shows a citation for a CD with the following information:

**composer**: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart  
**CD title**: Symphonies, no. 39 & 41  
**performers**: English Baroque Soloists  
**Conductor**: John Eliot Gardiner  
**Record Label**: SDG  
**Publication/Release date**: 2011  
**CD/Label Number**: 711  
**Total time**: 30 min., 53 sec.


K. Shanton, 2016
*Recording (Online via Audio Database)*


*Video Online*


*Website (notice the break before the punctuation mark in the url)*


This style guide adapted from Towson University’s *Revised Irvine Examples for Bibliographic Citations in Music*, available online at:
http://pages.towson.edu/lwoznick/docs/music/mymusic_citations.pdf