

QUICK GUIDE TO IEEE REFERENCING

J. Slawney

13.05.2024

In universities, **electrical engineering students** typically use referencing systems based on the **IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers)** style. The **IEEE referencing style** is the **most common** and **widely accepted** citation format for electrical, electronics, and computer engineering disciplines.

Key Features of the IEEE Referencing Style:

- **Numbered citations:** In-text citations are represented by **numbers in square brackets**, e.g., [1], [2].
- **Reference list:** Entries are listed in **numerical order** at the end of the document (not alphabetical).
- **Minimal in-text detail:** IEEE citations focus on clarity and brevity in technical writing.

Example:

In-text:

Many techniques have been proposed for power optimization [3].

Reference list:

[3] J. Smith and R. Brown, *Power Optimization in Embedded Systems*, 2nd ed. New York, NY, USA: Springer, 2021.

Here's a **quick example of IEEE referencing**, including how to cite **in-text** and how to format the **reference list**.

◆ IEEE In-Text Citation

Use **numbers in square brackets** for all in-text citations.

Example:

Signal processing techniques are essential in modern communication systems [1], [2].

Citations are numbered **in the order they appear** in the text. If you cite the same source again, reuse the **same number**.

A concise list of **common IEEE reference formats** for different types of sources can be found at the following websites:

https://journals.ieeeauthorcenter.ieee.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/7/IEEE_Reference_Guide.pdf

<https://www.scribbr.com/category/ieee/>

<https://libraryguides.vu.edu.au/ieeereferencing/referencelist>

<https://libguides.murdoch.edu.au/IEEE/all>

These are structured according to the IEEE style guide and are ready for you to adapt for your own citations.

Final Tips for Using IEEE Style

- Be consistent with punctuation and formatting.
- Use initials for first names (e.g., J. K. Rowling, not Joanne Rowling).
- If there are more than six authors, you may use *et al.* after the first author.
- Double-check abbreviations for journal names (use IEEE-approved abbreviations).

Tools

You can use a template in **Word** or **LaTeX** for IEEE referencing, or a tool like **EndNote** or **Zotero** to manage citations.