

Locating a DOI not listed in a database record. Using CrossRef or the journal publisher's page.

## APA Helps

Find the DOI (Digital Object Identifier)

Part Two: When no DOI is available

Not all journal articles have DOI information in their database records or in the articles themselves. In this video, we will create an APA reference for a journal or periodical article and locate the DOI when it is not provided in the database record.

In this example, you will see that there is no DOI given for this article from the Business Source Complete database. The DOI is not found at the bottom of the abstract and there is no DOI field listed on the article's detailed record. Next, we will check the PDF full text of this article to make sure the DOI is not given in the article itself. We will scroll down the first page and note that no DOI is given for this article.

Before you search for the DOI, create your reference in Microsoft Word. Example references can be found on p. 199 of the 6<sup>th</sup> edition of the APA publication manual. The OCLS APA 6E Guide also includes example references in the section "References – Journal/Periodical Articles without a DOI."

Use the CrossRef website to see if a DOI has been given to your article. Open your web browser and type [www.crossref.org](http://www.crossref.org). Next, click on the link for the guest query form. Near the bottom of the CrossRef website find the box with the heading, "Search on article title." Type the first author's last name into the first box. Then, copy and paste the article title from your references page into the "Article Title" box. Click the search button. If a DOI has been assigned to the article, it will be displayed in the area underneath the search boxes.

If your search returns a DOI, copy and paste that link into your references. Remember to remove the hyperlink in Microsoft Word. If no DOI has been assigned to the article, the next step is to find the publisher or journal webpage. Open a new tab or window in your Internet browser and choose your favorite search engine: Bing, Google, Yahoo, or so on.

From your references page, copy the journal title and then paste the title into the search engine's search box. Often, the publisher or journal webpage will be at the top or close to the top of the results list. When you have found the correct web address, copy and paste it into your reference, include a "Retrieved from" statement. Your reference is now finished and in APA format.

For help with APA format or other research needs, please call Off Campus Library Services toll-free at 1-800-521-1848 or email [ocls@indwes.edu](mailto:ocls@indwes.edu).