What is a DOI, a digital object identifier?

A DOI, or Digital Object Identifier, is a string of numbers, letters and symbols used to permanently identify an article or document and link to it on the web. Because the DOI insures findability for the object, citation styles (APA, MLA, Chicago Manual of Style, Turabian, etc.) are starting to request the use of a DOI in a citation for e-journal content.

All DOI numbers begin with a 10 and contain a prefix and a suffix separated by a slash. The prefix is a unique number of four or more digits assigned to organizations; the suffix is assigned by the publisher.

Below are some methods that can be used to obtain DOIs:

- If a journal publisher uses DOIs, they will usually print the DOI somewhere on the first page of the article.

- Some of the online resources used to search for articles on topics will supply DOIs in the citations. View the full citation to see if a DOI is included.
How do I cite an article with a DOI?

A DOI number does not affect the in-text citation of an article, but it does change the reference entry slightly. An article with a DOI number would use the following reference -

How to cite a journal article with a digital object identifier (DOI)


**Formatted example:**


- **Last name of author(s), initial(s)** of first name(s) with period. Put & before last author. Separate authors with a comma.
- **Publication year in brackets.**
- **Use sentence-case for title of article:** capitalize first word of title and sub-title only. Capitalize proper nouns, such as companies or place names.
- **Use italics and capitalize all long words in the journal/source title.**
- **Italics for volume number, issue number in brackets.**
- **First-page to last page of article**
- **Digital object identifier (doi) labelled with doi and placed at end of citation. If needed, remove blue hyperlink.**
Contested Codes: The Social Construction of Napster.

Authors: Soliz, David¹
Hunter, Staring²


Document Type: Article

Abstract: In the 5 years since its inception, some interpretations of the program known as Napster have been inscribed into laws, and purchasing decisions while others have been pushed to article examines how and why certain assumptions about Napster gained greater currency while others have not. Our analytics involves an examination of discourse about Napster in several legal, economic, social, and cultural—and is informed by a conceptualization of Napster as an ongoing encounter between the accomplishment of inventors, institutions, and interest groups. As such, the value of empirical examinations of Napster’s markets, as well as the prescriptive advice which it supplies, in providing a contextualized understanding of the technological, legal, and cultural complements rather than substitutes for empirical analyses.

[FROM AUTHOR]

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