

## Formatting Titles of Texts in MLA Style

### General Rules

These rules apply to titles in the text, in parenthetical citations, and in Works Cited page entries. A title appears the same way no matter where in a document it appears. No titles are underlined. No titles get both quotation marks and italics.

### Formatting Titles

In general, titles of short works go in quotation marks and titles of long works are italicized. (Note: underlining is not used in any style.)

*On Writing: A Memoir of the Craft* (book)

"House Mothers and Haunted Daughters: Shirley Jackson and Female Gothic" (journal article)

### Capitalizing Titles

Capitalize the first letter of the major words of titles. Minor words, such as articles, prepositions, and coordinating conjunctions, are not capitalized unless they are the first word of a title or subtitle.

"Why Boys Don't Play with Dolls" (a short essay)

*In the Heat of the Night* (a film)

Quotation marks	Italics
Any short work	Any long work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Poems</li><li>Newspaper Articles</li><li>Short Stories</li><li>Magazine Articles</li><li>Web Pages</li><li>Songs</li><li>Chapters</li><li>TV Show Episodes</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Book</li><li>Website</li><li>Play</li><li>Film</li><li>Newspaper</li><li>TV Show</li><li>Magazine</li><li>Album</li></ul>