

Harvard style for legal information – manual

Referencing Cases, UK Statutes, and UK Statutory Instruments.

These notes are aimed at those students providing references to legal material in conjunction with other cited works. They are based on the generic 'Plymouth Cite Them Right' Harvard referencing style. Please check with your tutor and/or module handbook if an alternate referencing style is to be used.

Cases.

The minimum information required is:

- The names of the parties in the case;
- Actual date of the decision or the Year of decision;
- The primary published source for the case report;
- Volume (if applicable);
- Pages (most frequently only the first page is quoted)

Example: R v Marks, 13th December 2009. Weekly Law Reports volume 2 page 575.

In text citation

Within your text, the citation will be names of the parties and the year of the decision, e.g.: (R. v Marks, 2009) or '... as proven in R. v Marks (2009).'

[NB: The in text, bracketed, citation may be in italics, dependent on your chosen style.]

Reference Listing

Within the reference listing the order of information is:

Names of Parties (Year).[Date of decision]. Source, Volume, Page.

(NB: Date of decision & brackets can be excluded if not known.)

E.g.: R. v Marks (2009). [13th December 2009]. Weekly Law Reports 2, 575.

Or: R. v Marks (2009). Weekly Law Reports 2, 575.

[NB: The report source Weekly Law Reports may be italicised if you use italics for book titles or journal titles; but not if you italicise journal article titles.]

UK Statutes

There are two types of statutes: Acts of Parliament and Statutory Instruments.

1. Acts of Parliament.

Firstly it is necessary to distinguish the country of applicability. Use Great Britain if the legislation applies to the whole UK, or the specific country or territory name if the legislation applies only to that area, e.g.: Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland.

For Post 1963 Acts, you must use the Queen's name and the Act's chapter number; whilst for pre 1963 Acts you must use the regnal year, monarch's name and Act's chapter number. (The regnal year is the number of years after the monarch's accession that the legislation was enacted. E.g.: "26 Henry VIII. Chapter 1" indicates that the Act was enacted in the 26th year of Henry VIIIth's reign).

Finally, a publisher statement is only used for post 1963 Acts, and this is always London: The Stationary Office.

The minimum information required is:

Name of Act (must include year); Year of enactment; Country of applicability; Monarch; Act's Chapter number.

Plus : Publisher (for post 1963) or Regnal year (for pre 1963).

e.g.: Great Britain. Children Act 2004 (2004). Elizabeth II: Chapter 31. London: The Stationary Office.

Because it is possible for an Act to be passed by Parliament in one year and not enacted until the next it is necessary to add the year to the Act's title. For example, the Charities

Act

2011 did not become law until 2012.

In text citation

Within your text the citation will be the country, name of the Act plus year of enactment,

e.g.:

(Great Britain. Children Act 2004, 2004) or '.... as provided for by section 7 sub-section b of the Great Britain Children Act 2004 (2004).'

[NB: The in text, bracketed, citation may be in italics, dependent on your chosen style.]

Reference Listing

Within the reference listing the order of information is:

Country (Enactment Year). Name of Act with year. Monarch: Chapter number. Publisher (if pre 1963 act, insert the regnal year before Monarch; no additional punctuation).

e.g.: Great Britain. Children Act 2004 (2004). Elizabeth II: Chapter 31. London: The Stationary Office.

[NB: 1. Do note the punctuation within the reference.

2. The Act's title, Monarch and Chapter may be italicised if you use italics for book titles or journal titles; but not if you italicise journal article titles.]

2. UK Statutory Instruments (SI).

These are the executive orders that enact, apply, expand or change some or all of an acts' provisions.

The minimum information required is:

Country of applicability, Year of enactment, Title of SI (with year), SI number. Publisher is: London: The Stationary Office.

e.g.: Great Britain. Terrorism (United Nations Measures) Order 2001. SI 2001/3365.

London: The Stationary Office, 2001.

In text citation

Within your text the citation will be the country, title of the SI and year of enactment, e.g.: (Great Britain. Terrorism (United Nations Measures) Order 2001, 2001) or '.... as provided for by section 4 of the Great Britain Terrorism (United Nations Measures) Order 2001 (2001).'

[NB: The in text, bracketed, citation may be in italics, dependent on your chosen style.]

Reference Listing

Within the reference listing the order of information is:
Country (Enactment Year). Title of SI with year. SI number. Publisher

e.g.: Great Britain. Terrorism (United Nations Measures) Order 2001 (2001):
(SI 2001/3365). London: The Stationary Office.

[NB: 1. Do note the punctuation within the reference.
2. The SI's title may be italicised if you use italics for book titles or journal titles;
but not if you italicise journal article titles.]

For further help and advice please contact either your personal tutor, module leader or the Information Specialist for Law, (tel. ext: 87114)

