Citation Tools

Introduction to:
Zotero, Mendeley, & EndNote

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Citation Tools Overview

- Gather & Organize References
- Format Citations & Bibliographies
- Manage PDFs & Notes
Choosing a Tool

- UW supports:
  - Zotero
  - EndNote
  - RefWorks
  - Mendeley
# Comparison Chart

### Citation Management Software

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>EndNote Desktop</th>
<th>EndNote Basic</th>
<th>Mendeley</th>
<th>RefWorks</th>
<th>Zotero</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes (UW license)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes (UW license)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web-based</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access &amp; edit database offline</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enter in-text citations offline</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supports different citation styles</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insert citations in Word or Open Office docs (with installed plugin)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insert citations in Google docs</td>
<td>No (owned by Thomson Reuters)</td>
<td>No (owned by Elsevier)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No (owned by ProQuest)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open source</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attach files</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attach web page or screen captures</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annotate pdfs within program</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No +</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile capability</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>App availability</td>
<td>Yes (Cost $$)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No (3rd party)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Research Guides

### Citation Management Software

#### About Citation Management Software

**What is a citation manager?**

These are personal citation databases and bibliography creators that allow you to import, store, organize, and share your research citations and automatically format your bibliographies into whatever style you need (APA, MLA, Chicago, and more). Most also allow you to annotate source texts and other files, and share content with others.

**Which one should I use?**

- **EndNote Desktop** (not supported by UW Libraries)
- **EndNote Basic**
- **Mendeley**
- **RefWorks**
- **Zotero**

**Important note:** EndNote Desktop is not supported by UW Libraries. UW Libraries provides support for four citation managers: EndNote Basic, Mendeley, RefWorks, and Zotero. These citation managers provide the same features — they will all allow you to save citations, organize them into folders or libraries, and generate bibliographies and citations as you write. What you choose depends on your own preferences and work style. It’s a good idea to also talk to other researchers in your department, discipline, or field to see if they might collaborate with you and are already using one particular tool. Consider your comfort level with the different types of support offered by each tool (customer service phone number, user forums, etc.). Other factors to weigh include integration with your preferred word processor (by the amount of available storage for citations and attachments).

Although learning to use a citation management tool does take an investment in time, you can always change your mind and switch to another tool.

Reference data can be easily transferred from many programs. **Please note that attachments don’t always transfer!**

**If you would like some support in choosing or learning to use a tool:** make an individualized appointment with a graduate student librarian at the Research Commons. We are here to help you apply these tools to your work.

**Which tool should I use?**

- Use this chart to compare features of the four UW supported tools. Consider these questions: Do you use multiple devices to access your citations? Do you have internet access? Which web browser do you prefer to use? What tools are your colleagues using? Also consider which database is most valuable to you.
Zotero, Mendeley, & EndNote

1. Install Program
2. Import References
3. Attach Files
4. Organize Folders
5. Format Citations
Additional Resources

- Research Guides [Comparison Chart]:
  [Link](http://guides.lib.uw.edu/research/citations/citation-tools)

- Research Commons [Consultation Request]:
  [Link](http://www.lib.washington.edu/commons/services/citation)

- Citation Team Email:
  [Email](rcomgrad@uw.edu)