

Citation + Full Text

[Print](#)

The Chicago Manual of Style. 17th ed.

University of Chicago Press Editorial Staff (editor).

Sept. 2017. 1,146p. illus. Univ. of Chicago, hardcover, \$70 (9780226287058). 808.

[REVIEW](#). First published December 1, 2017 (*Booklist*).

Faithful to its mission to help authors and editors present their ideas with consistency and clarity, the seventeenth edition of *The Chicago Manual of Style (CMS)* incorporates technology-driven change in scholarly communication, giving new attention to metadata and keywords, software and devices, and the day-to-day opportunities the latter offers authors as online publishing increases. Nonjudgmental explanations of Creative Commons licenses' options replace the sixteenth edition's skepticism. A notable side effect of technological change is that Chicago now "discourages the use of *ibid.* in favor of shortened citations." Yet the fundamentals abide; for example, section 6.19 affirms Chicago's well-founded recommendation of the Oxford comma, a stalwart protection against ambiguity in written communication. As it incorporates contemporary examples (e.g., NOOK, Lady Gaga), *CMS*, as expected, offers sensible, clear advice on matters great and small for authors' guidance—such as the treatment of names of ships and spaceships, use of the en dash, how to edit electronic manuscripts, and the ins and outs of documenting and citing works of many kinds. Just as the seventeenth edition reflects publishing changes since the 2010 sixteenth edition, the online counterpart, an inherently continuously evolving work, will be the version of choice for those whose libraries license it.—*James Rettig*
