

# Code Citation Tips

## Code Citation Tips

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When writing code, you want to use similar citation ideas as in academic writing instances. Whether you are copying or adapting code from a small snippet or using an entire module or function, you must cite your source.

Your citation should include:

- URL of your source
- Date you retrieved your source
- Title of the program or application you are using
- Type (eg. source code, application, full program, etc)
- Author name(s) if available
- Code version if available

Here are two methods for citing code from a snippet used from

**<http://www.oregonstate.edu/mysource>** retrieved on December 2, 2020:

1. You can cite your code in your written report or your README file. Here is an example on how to cite code in a written document:

**Sample Format:** <author name(s)> (<date retrieved>) <title of application/source code/program> (<Version of code>) [<type of code>]. Source Web address or publisher information.

**Example:** Safonte, D (December 2020) Citing source code (Version 1.0) [Source code]  
**<http://www.oregonstate.edu/mysource>**

2. The second method cite your source right within your code using comments.

**Example:** a good citation can be observed on lines 1-4 below:

```
1      # Citation for the following function:
2      # Date: 12/02/2020
3      # Copied from /OR/ Adapted from /OR/ Based on:
4      # Source URL: http://www.oregonstate.edu/mysource
5
```