

# Title Case Conventions

## General Conventions

*The rules of title case are not universally standardized. The standardization is only at the level of house styles and individual style guides. Most English style guides agree that the first and last words should always be capitalized, while articles, short prepositions, and some conjunctions should not be. Other rules about the capitalization vary. – Wikipedia*

## Specific Style Guides

### Associated Press

1. Capitalize:
  - a. First and last words
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, and subordinating conjunctions
  - c. Words of four or more letters
2. Lowercase:
  - a. Articles (*a, an, the*)
  - b. Coordinating conjunctions
  - c. Prepositions

### American Psychiatric Association

1. Capitalize:
  - a. First word
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns, including the second part of hyphenated words (*Data-Centric* not *Data-centric*)
  - c. Words of four or more letters
2. Lowercase:
  - a. Everything else

### Chicago Manual of Style

1. Capitalize:
  - a. First and last words
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, and some conjunctions
2. Lowercase:

- a. Articles (*a, an, the*)
- b. Conjunctions *and, but, for, or,* and *nor*
- c. Prepositions, regardless of length, except when stressed, used adverbially or adjectivally, or as a conjunction
- d. *to, as*

### Modern Language Association

1. Capitalize:
  - a. First word
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns
  - c. Words of four or more letters
2. Lowercase:
  - a. Everything else

### New York Times

1. Capitalize:
  - a. First and last words
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and pronouns
2. Lowercase:
  - a. Articles (*a, an, the*)
  - b. Coordinating conjunctions
  - c. Prepositions

### Wikipedia

1. Capitalize
  - a. First and last words
  - b. Nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, pronouns, and subordinating conjunctions
  - c. Prepositions of five or more letters
  - d. *to* in infinitives
2. Lowercase:
  - a. Everything else

### gist Proposed

*Note: must be computable*

1. Capitalize
  - a. First and last words
  - b. Words of four or more letters
  - c. Second part of hyphenated word (e.g., *Data-Centric*, not *Data-centric*)

2. Lowercase:
  - a. Articles: *a, an, the*
  - b. Conjunctions: *and, but, if, for, or, nor, so, yet*
  - c. Prepositions:  
*as, at, by, cum, ere, for, in, of, off, on, out, per, pre, pro, qua, re, sub, to, up, via*
3. Capitalize everything else