

WHAT WILL IT DO FOR ME?

The Quick Guide to Choosing a Reference Manager



Mendeley is a free software that you can download to your computer or use in-browser. It takes all of your PDF article files and organizes them. It allows for tagging, and has a growing community of scholars.



EndNote is purchased by some labs, which require its use. You can set up preferences to search within specific databases and collect citations through a personalized interface.



Zotero is a free software that you can download and use on Firefox, with plugins for Chrome and Safari. It saves citations and connections to online media, as well as taking screenshots of your internet research.

T I M E I T T A K E S T O L E A R N



45 MIN



1-2 HR



30 MIN

W E A K N E S S E S

Mendeley has some difficulty downloading citations and PDF files from library databases. Older PDF files that do not have proper metadata will not give proper citation information to Mendeley.

EndNote costs money, but access may be available through your program. If it is, will that transfer to you upon graduation? If not, you will need to move your citations to another program.

Zotero is used with your personal browser – to use it on multiple devices you have to carry your library settings on an external device or sync via Firefox, which is not secure on a public computer.

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