

Italics or Quotes?

Whether to italicize or use quotation marks around a title depends on the style guide you're using: MLA, APA, Chicago, or AP. Most formatting rules are based on the style guide, rather than being always true.

The types of titles below are generally used between style guides. (There are some key differences in APA.)

Italics

- Journals
- Books
- Periodicals
- Magazines
- Newspapers
- Websites
- Blogs
- Aircrafts/Ships
- Pamphlets
- Album names
- Paintings
- Films
- Podcast series
- Plays/Dramas
- Television series

Quotation Marks

- Articles
- Essays
- Chapters
- Sections
- Poems
- Episodes
- Songs
- Video Games
- Short Stories

When to Underline

Underlining is a way of showing something is italicized when italics are not an option (like when hand-writing). This won't come up very often, so you generally won't have a reason to use underlining.

The Bottom Line

If you're not sure, look it up according to the style guide you're using. Valencia's Library website has MLA, APA, and Chicago guides. Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab) may also be useful.