

## Identifying your source: Journal or Magazine?

Below are some basic differences between journals and magazines. In some cases, for a particular article, the distinction is a matter of judgment. If you cannot decide about your article, ask your professor or a librarian. Remember that citation rules will be different depending on whether your source is a magazine or a journal.

<u>Journal</u>	<u>Magazine</u>
Written by professionals for other experts in the field	Written to attract, inform and entertain the public
Peer reviewed—Articles are read and approved by other professionals or academics in the field before being published to insure accuracy and professional standards	Articles are by magazine's staff writers or freelancers, edited by magazine's editorial board, not usually by subject specialists
Language may be quite technical	Language is less technical
Often contains charts and graphs, but few color pictures	Often has eye-catching and colorful pictures, though it may have some charts and graphs
References (at the end of articles) and footnotes	Attribution of facts and ideas is usually within the text of the article
Very few or no advertisements	Many advertisements