Reference Management Software: Comparison of Selected Products

	Refworks Legacy	RefWorks New	Citavi Free	Cite This For Me (formerly RefME)	EndNote (basic)	EndNote (via Web of Science)	Mendeley (free)	References tab in Word	Zotero
Company	ProQuest	ProQuest	Swiss Academic Software	Imagine Easy Solutions	Clarivate Analytics	Clarivate Analytics	Elsevier	Microsoft Office	Center for History and New Media at GMU
URL	www.refworks.com/	https://refworks.proquest.com/	www.citavi.com	www.citethisforme.com	www.myendnoteweb.com	Log in via WoS	www.mendeley.com/	References tab in Word	www.zotero.org
Student price	Free (University License)	Free (University License)	Free	Free - saves work for 7 days	Free	Free (University License)	Free	Free with Word	Free
web-based	Yes	Yes	No - web version being developed	Yes	Yes	Yes	Desktop & web application	references stored in computer's hard disk	No
No. of styles	> 3,700	Thousands - list @ www.refworks.com/content/produ cts/output_style.asp	9,000	1,000 incl OSCOLA	21	6,000	7,000 see https://www.library.yorku.ca/web/resea rch-learn/citations/zotero-vs-mendeley-comparison/	14	9,000
No. of references	Unlimited	Unlimited	100 per database	Information not available	50,000	50,000	Unlimited	Limited	Unlimited
Stand-alone bibliography	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compatible with databases	63	Many	Many	No - has in-built search facility for finding and citing resources	Clarivate, EBSCO	Clarivate, EBSCO	Very few databases offer direct export option	No	Various - export of references in .RIS format
Full-text storage	Initially 100MB but increased when required	Yes, but actual figure is not yet available	Fair use policy of 5GB per cloud project	No	2GB	2GB	2GB	Information not available	300MB
Ease of adding references	Direct export from databases and manual import	Direct export from databases and manual import	Import of files in .RIS/BibTeX format	Manual import of bibliographic information	Direct export from databases and manual import	Direct export from databases and manual import	Export references in .RIS format then import by clicking 'Add in Mendeley library', also able to add from other ref man software. Can also use the Web Importer plugin	Manual	Export in .RIS format and use of Zotero Connector for adding references from Primo, websites etc
Multiple export	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes
Import from online catalogues	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Downloading websites (capturing bibliographic info from the internet)	RefGrab-It	Yes	Citavi Picker	Yes	Web Catcher	Web Catcher	Web Importer	No	Zotero Connector
PDF metadata (extracting bibliographic information from PDF)	No`	Yes ('Save To Refworks' browser plugin available in the 'Tools' section - some feedback reports not reliable)	Yes https://www1.citavi.com/sub/manual 6/en/index.html?new_in_citavi_6.ht ml	Yes (plugin required)	No	No	Yes	No	Yes (when you drag and drop PDFs or folders, Zotero will extract metadata) Info @ www.zotero.org/support/adding_ite ms_to_zotero *
Sharing references	Yes-RefShare	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes & useful feature: Research NetWork	No	Yes
Removal of duplicate records	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Software downloads	Write-N-Cite	Write-N-Cite/RefWorks Citation Manager	Citavi Word Add-In	Web Citer	Cite While You Write	Cite While You Write	Mendeley Word plugin, Web Importer	No downloads	Zotero Word Processor Plugin - not staight forward
Word processor compatibility	MS Word	MS Word, Google Docs	MS Word, LaTeX	MS Word	MS Word	MS Word	MS Word, LibreOffice	MS Word	MS Word, Google Docs, OpenOffice
Reference management software compatibility	EndNote, ProCite, Reference Manager, Papyrus, Biblioscape	EndNote, Mendeley, Zotero	EndNote, Mendeley, ProCite, RefWorks, Zotero	BiBTeX (requires premium account), RefWorks	EndNote, RefMan, ProCite	EndNote, RefMan, ProCite	EndNote, RefWorks, Zotero	References can be converted and stored in EndNote	F1000Workspace, Endnote, Mendeley
Backup	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Manually - create a compressed EndNote Desktop Library. Info @ https://rmit.libguides.com/endnot e/backup	Manually - create a compressed file for your Library and save to Google Drive	Yes - cloud but also manual backup option available	Stores previously used references but unable to determine how long this is retained	Yes
In-text citation software	Write-N-Cite (Word 13 for Macs)	Write-N-Cite/RefWorks Citation Manager/Cite in Google Docs	Citavi Word Add-In	No	Cite While You Write	Cite While You Write	Mendeley Word plugin (Cite As You Write) But need to have desktop version installed - in tab References	Insert Citation button	Zotero Word Processor Plugin
Bibliography	Tab in MS Word	Tab in MS Word	Toolbar in MS Word	No	Toolbar in MS Word, EndNote account	Toolbar in MS Word, EndNote account	"Insert Bibliography" button in toolbar (Word)	Bibliography button in References tab	Zotero plug-in tab
Change citation style	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Operating system	Windows, Mac	Windows, Mac	Windows	N/A	Windows, Mac	Windows, Mac	Windows, Mac, Linux	Windows, Mac	Windows, Mac, Linux
User support - University of Aberdeen	Yes - Information Consultants and Information Adviser	Yes -when UoA transfers to this product. Information Consultants and Information Adviser	No	No	No	No	No	No	No

User support - online	RefWorks online guides and YouTube videos, RefWorks Help File. UoA Library staff - Information Consultants and Information Adviser	YouTube channel. When UoA transfers to this product Information Consultants and Information Adviser will provide support	Citavi manual 6 @ https://www1.citavi.com/sub/manual6/en/index.html, videos, forum	Not high level of support; interesting blog @ www.citethisforme.com/blog, support page at: http://support.citethisforme.com/?Website=External	Online guides, YouTube videos	Online guides, YouTube videos	Mendeley guides, videos, tutorials & forum	Useful document @ https://support.office.com/en-gb/article/add-citations-in-a-word-document-ab9322bb-a8d3-47f4-80c8-63c06779f128	Online guides
Notes/Comments	Looks old-fashioned next to Zotero and Mendeley but as a cloud-based product it allows access to your stored reference details from any computer with an internet connection. Has good functionality. A lot of support from Library staff, bookable workshops and Library guides available	New refWorks is not yet supported by UoA as it does not contain all required features. Large number of citation styles and allows for sharing references with groups. Reference details can be accessed from any computer with an internet connection	Easy to use. It has a function for highlighting text in PDFs and adding comments/a title to the highlighted text - this can serve as a short summary of an article. On the negative side it is only available for Windows and only stores a certain amount of references per project (per database)	Not ideal for substantial pieces of work; more suitable for secondary school level. Easy to use but manual imput of bibliographic information to create references is time-consuming. Another downside: doesn't store references unless you sign up for a paid-for account	Free to use and easy to add references to your account. However, it supports a limited number of styles and doesn't extract bibliographic information from PDFs	Supports thousands of styles and can import from Scopus in .RIS format. Compatible with various word processors. Picks up on missing information from references and helps complete them. Can search records by field rather than searching the whole record. A lot of online support available	Social networking and sharing functions are a plus. Easy to use and friendly interface but doesn't offer a direct export option for many databases and syncing of desktop application to web account is not automatic	Not a lot of support. Referencing option within Word is easy to use but limited	The 'Zotero Connector' plugin is a very useful feature that helps save references directly from websites and Primo but errors have been noted when exporting references from some databases, e.g. EBSCO

Useful links

RefWorks:
https://proquest.libguides.com/newrefworks/quikbib

Citavi:
Citavi manual: https://www1.citavi.com/sub/manual6/en/index.html
Citavi versions comparison: https://www.citavi.com/en/products

Cite This For Me:
www.citethisforme.com/uk/referencing-generator
https://blogs.salford.ac.uk/digital-literacy-skills/tag/research/

Mendeley:
https://resources.library.lemoyne.edu/ld.php?content_id=35820972

'References' tab in Word:
https://www.microsoftpressstore.com/articles/article.aspx?p=2224367&seqNum=2
https://www.reading.ac.uk/web/files/its/refs2013.pdf
https://library.gmit.ie/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/gmitreferencingmsword.pdf

Zotero:
https://www.zotero.org/support/quick_start_guide
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