

AMA Manual of Style

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Negative Exponents

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Print Publication Year: 2007 Published Online: 2009

Publisher: Oxford University Press

ISBN: eISBN:

DOI: 10.1093/jama/9780195176339.022.610

Item type: section

A negative exponent denotes the reciprocal of the expression, as illustrated in these examples: $x^{-n} = 1/x^n$ $A^{-1} = 1/A$ $B^{-2} = 1/B^2$ A negative exponent may simplify some expressions within running text: $A(x+y)^{-2}$ may also be written as $A(x+y)^{-2}$ or $A/(x+y)^2$ |