# Citing Patents

You will likely have the need to cite patents; exporting patent citations to a reference manager requires a little bit of extra thought and effort. The following table provides several examples of patent databases and their respective compatibility with various reference managers.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Database | Export to Reference Manager |
| The United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) ([uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) ) | None |
| Google Patents provides additional tools to view and search patents: ([patents.google.com](https://patents.google.com/)) | to BiBTeX and EndNote (depending on view) |
| Free Patents Online: [www.freepatentsonline.com](http://www.freepatentsonline.com) | to BiBTeX and EndNote |
| Lens provides additional tools to view and search patents (patents are searched separately from "Scholarly Works") ([lens.org](http://www.lens.org) ) | RIS format that works well for import into various citation managers |

If you import into your reference manager from one of these sites, the bibliography entry will have a citation to the database you are using, e.g. Google Patents. Since there are only a few fields required in a patent citation it may be more efficient for you to manually create an entry in your reference manager.

Example Creating a Patent Bibliography Entry:

Patent Number: 10,597,639

Date Patent Issued: March 24, 2020

Title: "3D-printed scaffold device for cell transplantation "

Inventors: Millman; Jeffrey (St. Louis, MO), Song; Jiwon (St. Louis, MO)

Assignee: Washington University (St. Louis, MO, US)

Sample Bibliography Citations:

• IEEE Format

o **Author Initial. Surname, "Title", Patent Number, Year Published.**

o Jeffrey Millman and Jiwon Song, ''3D-printed scaffold device for cell transplantation'', US10597639, March 24, 2020.

• APA Style

o **Author Surname, Author Initial. (Year Published). Title. Location.**

o Millman, J and Song, J (2020). ''3D-printed scaffold device for cell transplantation''. St. Louis, MO.