This quick guide provides tips on using Zotero to produce your .bib file for your LaTeX documents. For information on how to add citations to your Zotero Library and other Zotero tips, refer to our web guide on Zotero at MIT: <u>https://libguides.mit.edu/cite-write/zotero</u>.

ZOTERO AND BIBTEX (SIMPLE)

This method is best if you want to do a one-time export, and you don't expect to make too many additions/revisions to your .bib file.

- 1. Follow the instructions for one of the options below based on what you would like to export:
 - To export your **entire Zotero Library**, go to File → Export Library...
 - To export a **collection** (all the records in a folder)
 - Right click (ctrl click on a mac) on the desired folder
 - Select "Export Collection..."
 - To export a **selection of individual records** in your library
 - Select each desired record
 - o Right click (ctrl click on a mac) on the highlighted records
 - Select "Export items..."
- 2. In the Export window:
 - Select BibTeX as your format
 - Select/Deselect other content to include in the .bib file (these selections won't really affect your LaTeX bibliography)
 - Click "Ok", name your .bib file and save it in the same location as your LaTeX file.

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Format: BibTeX

Translator Options

Export Notes

Export Files

Use Journal Abbreviation

Cancel

ZOTERO AND BIBTEX (ADVANCED, USING BETTER BIBTEX)

This method is best if you want to have Zotero autosync with your .bib file as you add or change records in your Zotero library.

- 1. Install and enable the "Better BibTeX" add-on in Zotero. Full instructions for downloading and installing this add-on can be found here: <u>https://zotplus.github.io/zotero-better-bibtex/</u>.
 - Note, in some cases, you may need to update your Zotero version before Better BibTeX can be enabled. To update your Zotero desktop, go to Help → Check for Updates...
- 2. Once Better BibTeX is enabled, select the folder/library/items you wish to include in your .bib file as you did in Step 1 of the simple method above.
- 3. In the export window, you will now see many more options for your export format.
 - Select the "Better BibTeX" option
 - To set up the autosync, make sure you also check the "Keep updated" box.
 - Click "Ok", name your .bib file and save in the same location as your LaTeX file.
- 4. You can adjust or remove a .bib autosync of Zotero records at any time.
 - On a mac, go to Zotero → Preferences... On a PC, go to Tools → Preferences...

Format: Better BibTeX										
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• Click on the "Better BibTeX" tab and then the "Automatic Export" tab. All of your current autosyncs should be listed in the box.

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- To have your .bib file continuously autosync, make sure the "On Change" option is checked.
- To force a sync of your exports (outside of any changes in your library), click "Export" at the bottom of this screen.
- If you want to remove autosyncs, click "Remove"

Tip: You can make adjustments to how Better BibTeX generates your .bib file. In particular, you may want to consider adjusting how it handles potential duplicate BibTeX keys (the unique ID that you include in your \cite{key} entry in your LaTeX file). You can make these changes in the "Citation" tab of the "Better BibTeX" preferences window.