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Darby Dickerson

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0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. For those weary of the BluebookBy Bernard SussmanMost of you may not have the slightest idea what this is. If you are not a lawyer or paralegal, just skip to the next bit of merchandise.Lawyers and their typists have been working up their papers, for decades, according to a manual, published every five years, called (now) the Bluebook (officially "The Uniform System of Citation") worked up and revised (often with changes for no reason except each crop of editors wanted to do Something). Except the Bluebook was and is really intended for the editing of Law Reviews, using all the professional typesetting facilities such as italics, small caps, and other stuff that couldn't be done on a typewriter. Even the availability of word processors couldn't do all the fancy stuff demanded by the Bluebook without some serious inconvenience. And the rules for various citations - especially when signaling how precedent decisions related - were not only complicated but subject to whimsical change in successive editions.So the people who actually have to write papers for court - mostly the legal writing professors at law schools - worked up the ALWD Manual (the Green Book), with a much more streamlined and sensible style formulation. And this cheat sheet makes it easy to use by offering models of the most commonly used types of citations following the ALWD formula. Someday the ALWD style manual will topple the Bluebook, and I hope to live that long.

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