

# Spiral Nature Style Guide

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Spiral Nature generally follows *The Canadian Press Stylebook* and *The Canadian Oxford English Dictionary*, save for a few occultnik quirks.

There is an overriding preference for conventional spelling and grammar (Crowley was erudite, not "1337"), however allowances are made where alternative words are customary (TOPY's usage of "ov" for "of," for example).

## Style

### Article titles

Capitalize first word, and then lowercase the rest, unless it is a proper name. If you must use a subtitle, and it makes sense to, capitalize the first word of the subtitle as well.

Review titles should be: Book Title, by Author. The subtitle may be included in the book details within the post itself.

### Capitalization

Religions are capitalized: Buddhism, Christianity, Discordianism, Islam, Judaism, Paganism, Satanism, Thelema, Wicca, etc.

Practices are *not* capitalized: astrology, ceremonial magick, chaos magick, hermeticism, kabbalah, meditation, yoga, etc.

### Citation

Websites – Drop the www (e.g. spiralnature.com *not* www.spiralnature.com).

Book, film, television, and album titles should be italicized.

Titles for poem titles, chapters, episodes, and songs should be enclosed within quotation marks.

### Commas

I like the Oxford comma. Use it.

### Footnotes

Page numbers should be footnoted. These and any other footnotes can be rendered by placing them within double brackets, after punctuation (commas, periods, etc.), like this: ((p. 123))

### Proper names

People – The first time a name appears, list their full name and title. Later mentions can be dropped to surname only. We can assume our readers are familiar with certain popular figures: Helena Blavatsky, Aleister Crowley, Austin Osman Spare, Starhawk, etc., and figures from pop culture, but more obscure characters should contain some note of who they are.

Organizations – The first time it appears it should contain the full title, while later mentions can be dropped to initials: Ordo Templi Orientis on first appearance, OTO thereafter.

Titles – Drop Mr., Mrs., Ms., and Miss.

### **Sex, gender, and sexuality**

Spiral Nature does not encourage sex or gender essentialism. Gender is a spectrum, and we strive to be inclusive. As such, gender neutral terms are preferred, with the third-person singular being perfectly acceptable (they, their). Alternately, you may use "one" or "you."

When writing about sex magick use gender neutral terms, or be inclusive. Alternate pronouns, and if including heterosexual practices, also include homosexual practices.

### **Spelling & Usage**

Email – no hyphen.

Internet – will always be capitalized in my heart.

Magick – with a "k," except when referring to stage magic.

Occulture – refers to culture informed or influenced by occult or magickal stuffs.

Occultnik – refers to people who participate in or geek on occulture.