Italics and underlining serve the same purpose. So, within a document, italicize OR underline, but do not use a combination or each or even underline and italicize at the same time.

General

Italicize or underline the following:

- To identify foreign words and phrases - *Amore!*
- To identify the names of legal cases - *Roe v. Wade*
- To identify the names of specific ships, satellites, and spacecraft - *U.S.S. Intrepid* (U.S.S. is not italicized)
- To identify words, letters, or numbers used as illustrations or math symbols - *A, an,* and *the* are the only articles in English. OR *x+y*

Titles of publications

Italicize or underling the following:

- Books – *Great Expectations*
- Newspapers – *La Crosse Tribune*
- Magazines – *Sports Illustrated*
- Web Sites – *Something Fishy*
- Pamphlets – *How to Create a Faux Finish*
- Plays / Films – *Cats/Shawshank Redemption*
- Television and radio programs – *Friends/Dr. Joy Brown*
- Entire recordings – *The Best of Elton John*
- Works of art – *Mona Lisa*
- Long poems – *Paradise Lost*
- Comic strips – *Family Circus*

WRITER'S TIP: "Smaller items" within these "larger items" are not italicized or underlined; they are typed in quotation marks. So, the title of a chapter within a book, an article or link on a web site, a song, or a short poem would be surrounded by quotation marks.

For major historical documents or religious books, neither italics nor quotation marks are used, such as the *Declaration of Independence* and the *Bible*.