Purpose of accurate referencing:
• assess the reliability and provenance
• retrace and reproduce research steps

Requirements for references:
• unique way of identification of source
• be able to address distinct passages
• be able to verify authenticity

Keep your reference purpose in mind
Use PWID when this is the only option or the best choice of reference regarding precision, availability and persistency for the reference at hand

When to use different types of web references
Various parts of requirements for references may differ according to context
e.g. bachelor dissertations might only be short lived - version updates might be unimportant (e.g. DOI handbook), precision might be important for research

Permanent links
URLs intended to remain unchanged (PURL, Perma-links, URL shorteners …) use if:
• link is registered
• source is stable enough
• link is preserved
• system is sustainable

Web citation services
Archive and provide identifier (WebCite, OpenCitations, archive.today …) use if:
• resource is online
• harvested sufficiently correct
• link is preserved
• service is sustainable

Web archives/PWID
Web archives with resources, netarkivet.dk (restricted), archive.org (open) use if:
• source exists in archive
• data for PWID is available (archive, time, archived URI)
• web archive is sustainable

PID systems
Registered identifiers (Handle, DOI, ARK, some types of URNs …) use if:
• a PID is registered
• source is stable enough
• link is preserved
• PID system is sustainable

The PWID (Persistent Web IDentifier)
Text:
web archive: netarkivet.dk, archiving time: 2005-06-20T05:57:55 GMT, archived URI: http://www.litlive.dk/ [web page] [access grants required]

URN:

Resolves to

In Web Corpora

Tools
PWID generator prototype
for calculating PWIDs for parts of a web page. Source at https://github.com/netarchivesuite/solrwayback

Resolver prototype
Source at https://github.com/netarchivesuite/NAS-research/releases