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What are Law journals?

- Journals are also known as magazines, periodicals or serials.
- Journals are publications that contain articles written by various authors, published at regular intervals.
- Journals are a good source of current information as they often contain original research.
- Law journals are useful for:
 - identifying recent developments in law
 - providing comprehensive overviews of specific areas of law
 - commentary about cases and legislation

Finding Law journal articles using databases

- For Australian articles, use AGIS Plus Text in the first instance
- AGIS Plus Text is
 - Australian
 - Produced by the Attorney General's

Department (Cth).

- Contains a growing number of full text journal articles

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Overview

Finding law journal articles

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Finding law journal articles

Step 1: Determine search terms

- For search strategies, see [Legal Research Strategy worksheet](#) (PDF)

Step 2: Choose a search tool (a database)

- View **key databases** in the [Law Guide](#) (opens in a new window)
- [Full list of law databases](#) in alphabetical order
- For the following demonstration, we will be using **AGIS Plus Text**.
- Enter your University email username and password when prompted.

Step 3: Perform the database

search



[Search with AGIS Plus Text](#) [PPS 1.4MB]

Step 4: Finding the full text of a journal article



[Searching for a journal with A to Z journals list](#)

[PPS 1.2MB]

Step 5 (optional): Modify search strategy

Depending on the results retrieved, you may or may need to [modify your search strategy](#).

Points to remember from the demonstration

- If your results return only abstracts, check the **A to Z journals list** to see if the full text is available elsewhere.
- Ask at the Research Help Desk for alternatives to access the full text.

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Legal Research: An Introduction

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Citing of legal journal articles

- For help creating a bibliography - see the [Australian Guide to Legal Citation](#) (3rd ed, 2010) (PDF opens in a new window) 33-35 [1.16]
- For help creating footnotes - see examples below.

Examples - footnotes

Article format	Example footnotes
PDF from a database (e.g. AGIS Plus Text)	Graham O'Dell, 'Lodging a Native Title Claim Using a Claim Group Representative Body' (2009) 28 <i>Australian Resources and Energy Law Journal</i> 395, 400.
Non-PDF from a database (e.g. Lexis.com)	Will Bateman, 'Procedural Due Process Under the Australian Constitution' (2009) 31 <i>Sydney Law Review</i> 411, 415. Tip: Cite as per printed journal [4.9]
Electronic journal	John Lane, 'Should Australian Courts Accept or Refuse the Aid of Private International Law When Considering Whether to Enforce Foreign Maritime Liens?' (2009) 16 (1) <i>eLaw Journal: Murdoch University Electronic Journal of Law</i> 32, 38 < https://elaw.murdoch.edu.au/index.php/elawmurdoch/article/view/2/5 >.

Examples - footnotes and bibliography

- [Law - footnotes and bibliography examples](#) document (PDF), available via the [Referencing and Citing Law Resources](#) page, provides a summary of the most commonly referred to sources.

This completes the Finding Journal Articles module.

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