

Researching at the Library?

Understanding these library terms may help you find information more efficiently.

Library Resources

LIBRARY CATALOGUE

A searchable collection of all the items that a library owns (books, magazines, videos, etc.)

INTERLIBRARY LOAN

A service that allows a user of one library to borrow books or other materials owned by another library

CLASS NUMBER

The number on the spine of a library book, which is like an address to tell where the book is located in the library



Search Terms

ABSTRACT

A brief summary of an article, thesis or conference proceeding

PEER-REVIEWED JOURNAL

A scholarly journal that has articles submitted and reviewed by experts in the same field (e.g., doctors are peers that review other doctors' articles submitted to a medical journal)

BOOLEAN SEARCH

A type of search that allows users to combine search terms by using the operators AND, NOT and OR to broaden or narrow a search

HTML FULL TEXT

An article or book formatted differently from its original published form that provides greater accessibility, easier navigation and links to related content (an alternative format to PDF)

E-BOOK FULL TEXT

The full text of an entire e-book



Content Formats

TRADE PUBLICATION

Also called a professional magazine, it is written and published for a specific industry or profession (*Library Journal*, *Chef Magazine*, *Popular Mechanics*)

PRIMARY SOURCE

An artifact or document that is a first-hand account of a person, event or time period (e.g., a soldier's letter or diary from the Civil War)

EPUB

An electronic publication of an e-book that supports reflowable text (which automatically resizes to fit your screen) so it can easily be read and navigated on a device of any size

PUBLICATION TYPE

This refers to the format of the information source, such as periodical, newspaper or book

SWOT ANALYSIS

In business research, a tool used to identify an organization's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats

