



01 HOW TO Find Journal Articles

This guide is designed to help you locate journal articles on a particular topic. The guide is divided into printed and online resources. Links to internet resources can be found at the end of this guide.

Printed resources

Individual journals

Most legal journals compile indexes for each year, with the intention that these are bound with the loose issues. These indexes can be arranged in a number of ways, normally by author, legislation, case, topic. Annual indexes are usually found at the end of each year. There is no definitive list of which journals produce indexes, it is a matter of checking each journal for each year. Some journals produced indexes in the past, but have ceased to do so.

1947-1983 Legal Literature Index

The Law Society Library holds a typed index compiled using a small number of major law journals between the years 1947 to 1983 (1978-80 is missing). It was compiled by Library staff and is arranged by topic only. The main journals included in this index are Justice of the Peace, New Law Journal, Law Journal (the pre-1965 title of New Law Journal) and Solicitors Journal. Other titles get included in some years, but are then dropped in others.

A more detailed record of the contents of this index can be found in the library catalogue [Knowledge Base](#), in the record *Legal literature: journal article index*. This index is useful for older material, as online indexes do not go this far back.

Online resources

Journal websites

A large number of legal journals now have their own dedicated websites. It is worth searching the internet to check if the journal you are interested in has one. Some journals give free access to the full-text on their websites, but every provider has its own policy.

For example, the Law Society Gazette website has a full text article archive from 1986 onwards which is freely available to all, however the archive is not complete and some articles are missing.

Some publishers list their journals and provide free abstracts. Oxford University Press provide abstracts for a number of their journals articles on their website. Many journals have an archive going back several decades and some articles can be purchased on a pay per view basis. Cambridge University Press offers a similar service.

IngentaConnect

[IngentaConnect](#) provides abstracts of articles for scholars. Some articles can be purchased via IngentaConnect. To see the law journals they cover, select Browse by Subject, then Social Sciences, then Law.

LexisLibrary Journals Index (subscription service)

This database indexes articles from a range of journals. Publishers covered include Bloomsbury Professional, Informa and Cambridge University Press. LexisLibrary also contains the full text of some journal articles.



LexisLibrary is available in the Law Society Library.

Westlaw UK Legal Journals Index (LJI) (subscription service)

Contains over half a million abstracts from the UK and English language European journals.

Westlaw also contains full-text articles from journal titles published by Sweet & Maxwell, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, amongst others.

LJI is a subscription service from Westlaw UK. The Law Society Library subscribes to this database and it can only be accessed in the library.

Please contact the Law Society Library enquiry service if you would like the librarians to search LJI on your behalf. The enquiry service is allowed to e-mail up to five abstracts from Westlaw free of charge.

Useful websites

Cambridge University Press

journals.cambridge.org

IngentaConnect

www.ingentaconnect.com

Knowledge Base

wv-tls.hostedbyfdi.net/webview

Law Society Gazette

www.lawgazette.co.uk

LexisLibrary (subscription service)

www.lexisnexis.com/uk/legal

Oxford University Press

www.oxfordjournals.org/subject/law

Westlaw UK (subscription service)

www.westlaw.co.uk