**Access to a Known Journal Article**

Often, you are trying to find a known article. You may be using a database or you may have been given a citation to an article. Use the information below to determine how to get access to the article.

Are you working from a database?

---

Yes

Does your article have a logo or link indicating full text is in the database?

---

Yes

Click on the link/button to access full text.

No

Does your article have the "Find It!" button?

---

Yes

Click on the "Find It!" button to check for access.

No

No

Use information from the citation to get access. There are 3 options:

- Use the Find It! Citation Finder to check for access. Enter as much information about the item as possible.
- Use the Online Journals List for journals you think are available electronically. Search for the JOURNAL title.
- Search the Journals Catalog for both print and electronic journals. Search for the JOURNAL title.

If not taken directly to the article, once you get to the journal’s site, you can browse to get to the correct volume and issue number or you can search for the title of your article.
Common problems and their solutions:

| I don’t know how to determine the journal title. | The journal title (in **green** in examples below) is usually the 2\(^{nd}\) item that looks like a title in the citation. Some common citation styles often put it in **italics** and it will usually be found next to a volume/issue numbers (in **red** in examples below) for the journal name.

Examples:


| --- | --- |
| The journal title is abbreviated. | Many abbreviations appear in the catalog. Use the Journals Catalog to search for the abbreviated title.

If that doesn’t work, consider also entering the abbreviated journal name into a web search engine (like Google or Yahoo!). You will often find the full title which you can then enter into the Journals Catalog.

See Journal Abbreviation Resources on the Web for other places to visit for help. |
| The journal not available at OSU. | Request via Article Express. They will try to get a copy from another source. Find It! will have a direct link to make an interlibrary loan request. |
| The journal is only available in print. | Request via Article Express. Find It! will have a direct link to make an interlibrary loan request. They will scan it for you. You can also use it at the location given or have it sent to another location. Make sure the year you need is present before visiting the location (example: if the article is from 1995 and the location has 1964-1987, then you won’t be able to get it there). |
| I don’t have the journal title, just the article title. | Use a subject research database or WorldCat@OSU to see if you can find the item using the article title. Many articles have similar titles, so enter other information you may have (like author name). |
| I am totally lost as to how to find this item. | See Ask Us for help options. You may also visit a library location in person for assistance or contact a subject librarian for the discipline you’re researching. |