Starting to search with online resources

**E-Journals Finder**
- Log in to UDo
- Click on the tile for Library on your UDo home page
- From the list, click on the tile to go to our Library Guides
- In the left-hand menu on the next page click on the link for E-Journals Finder

**Remember!** Use this to look for a specific journal article – *not* a topic

Eventually, you’ll need most/ all of the citation to get to the right article but remember not to put the whole citation into the E-Journals Finder search box as you won’t get the right results.

**Example**
To bring the full-text of this article up on your screen

In E-Journals Finder, type the journal title into the search box – the journal title is in *italics* in the reference above.
As you type, you’ll be offered suggestions and if any of them match, click on the title to select it.

If, while you’re typing, the suggestions suddenly disappear—check your spelling. If everything is spelt correctly but you are not being offered any titles that means that we do not have electronic access to the journal that you’re looking for. (Remember! Search the print catalogue as we may have print access to it instead.)

If your journal title is there and you’ve clicked to select it, you should see—on the next page—a little more detail.

So in the image there is the name of the journal, a search box so that you can look within it for an author or keywords from the article title, and also a link that will take you to the whole journal. At the end of that link is the date range showing how much full-text access we have to that journal.

**Option 1**
You can either search by an author's name (first or second if it’s in the reference) or some key terms from the article title and put them into the search box instead. Either option should work as long as the names/ terms are not so common that you would be overwhelmed with results.

**Option 2**
Or, instead of Option 1, you could click on the link for the publisher/ supplier of the journal (in this case it is Wiley Online Library) and go to the journal's home page, then locate the year, volume, and issue you want (using your reference to provide you with that information) and you can then find the article that way.
Library Plus
We subscribe to many databases which are subject, discipline, or broad category specific.

Because no single database can index all articles in the world on a topic, if you were going to search relevant, individual databases for your discipline then you would probably have to search at least 4 (or more!) in order to get a fairly decent level of coverage of what articles are out there.

When doing final year projects, dissertations and so on you may find it’s better to search these individual databases but to begin with, when you’re just starting to get to grips with the electronic resources, Library Plus is a good place to start.

Library Plus is sometimes called an ‘aggregate database’ or a ‘federated search’ which is a fancy way of saying that you put your search terms into Library Plus and it will search lots of databases for you (including the library catalogue), all in one go.

It doesn’t search everything, so you will need to make sure that you’re aware of what is and isn’t covered and, if necessary, search the other relevant resources as well to fill any gaps.

The benefit of this type of search is that (generally) you won’t have to search individual databases one by one. The drawback is you can become overwhelmed by the number of results the database shows you.

Let’s have a look at how this works.

On the LibGuides home page (https://libguides.derby.ac.uk), in the Quick Links box on the left-hand side of the screen, click on the link for Library Plus

You may be asked to log in to UDo a second time when you click on the link – this happens. You’ll then be taken into the basic search screen
I want information on the **potential barriers to effective hand hygiene among nurses**

Immediately, I can see four terms I want to see in my results:

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qualitative / barriers / hand hygiene / nurses
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You can see that I’ve added the term ‘qualitative’ to the list of things I want to look for. The reason for this is that, in relation to this topic, I want information on why people do—or don’t do—something. Their rationale, or reasoning for it. So essentially, I need qualitative feedback which covers their feelings, or responses, or attitudes to hand hygiene that prevents them from using good practice or follow guidelines.

When you type hand hygiene in, you should enclose it in speech marks: “like this”. Speech marks force the database (and search engines) to look for your whole phrase, all together. Without the speech marks you **will** get results for e.g. hand hygiene, but you will also get results where hand is in one part of your abstract and hygiene is in a completely different location. This may reduce the relevancy of the article’s content.

**Remember!** As you type, the database will offer suggested terms but it **won’t** include the speech marks so you could end up with an inaccurate set of results that don’t truly reflect what’s available on the topic if you just click what you’re offered. Make sure you use the tools to get the most out of your search strategy.

I want to look for the words **nurse** and **nurses** but I also wouldn’t mind finding records that had **nursing** or **nursed** in them as well; so I’m going to use an asterisk (*) to get the database to do the work for me.

The asterisk * after the last letter is called a **truncation symbol** and that’s because it truncates—or cuts off—the end of the word and tells the database to look for any
word that begins with that particular set of characters (sometimes referred to as the ‘stem’) no matter what ending appears after the asterisk.

The truncation symbol also works/ is recognised in search engines like Google or Bing

You can use the truncation symbol to look for all sorts of variant words but be careful in a database as large and diverse as Library Plus.

It’s not recommended, for example, to look for car* - yes, it will find care/ carer/ cared/ caring. It will also find car/ carbon/ carburettor/ carboniferous/ carabiner etc. so you’ll end up with too many false positive results.

So, our search box in the Basic Screen of Library Plus should look like this:

![Search Box](image)

When we click on the Search button, we will then be shown any items (articles, books, e-books etc.) that match our search criteria. This mix of resources is due to Library Plus including our Library Catalogue in the list of databases it searches.

One thing to note is that, because this search was done in the basic screen, our results should all be full-text which means you can read the whole item.

(Obviously, if it’s a print book you will need to reserve it/ hunt it down in the library yourself. E-books and e-articles can be opened from within the database or via a re-direct to the Library catalogue.)
The number of results you get will vary and be dependant on what you’ve searched for and how specific you’ve been with your terms. The more terms, or words, you tell the database must be present all at the same time, in the same record, the fewer results you’ll have.

If you do find that you have too many results, in the hundreds (or thousands) then you can use the limiting sidebar on the left-hand side of the screen to narrow your results down further.

The sidebar is divided into sections and only some of each section is visible; where there may be more options to choose from you will see a Show More link at the bottom of that particular area.

My search has given me 42 results and you can see a screenshot of the top section of those results below.

Ringed in green are the number of results the database found contained all of the terms I asked it to look for.

Ringed in red in the grey banner at the top of my results is a note that exact duplicates have been removed from the results. It’s important to note the language here: ‘exact’ because you can see that the first two results are for the same article.

What’s been ringed in blue are the two—different—databases that the article’s records have been sent from. They could be different because they don’t list the same number of subject headings; or one could have an abstract that you can see in
Library Plus while for the other record you would have to click on the blue, **View Abstract**, button to open it up.

What this means is that I **don't** have 42 individual and different results; I potentially have far fewer than that.

I can narrow them down further if I want to by reducing the age of my results and I can do that just by dragging the date range slider in the sidebar along.

I can also narrow my results down by language as, although the majority of your results will be in English, most of the databases have international content so there may be some non-English language results in your list. Click on the underlined link for language and you should see a drop-down list that you can then select from.

Help!

This guide has been designed to act as a refresher or primer to users wanting to search E-Journals Finder or Library Plus. You can adapt this to fit your subject/research topic quite easily as the process of searching remains the same even if the terms you use vary.

If you need further help, or if something doesn’t work the way you expect, then you can either:

Contact the **Library** on (01332) 59 1215 or email them at library@derby.ac.uk