

Access to Research: Crib Sheet

www.accesstoresearch.org.uk

With thanks to Somerset Libraries

About

- The *Access to Research* service is a new initiative to give free, walk-in access (**i.e. library use only**) to world-wide academic articles and research in public libraries across the UK.
- 11,400+ journals are currently available (Dec 2015), and over 15 million articles
- Subjects include art, business, social sciences, health, engineering, and all the sciences.
- You can search for articles, view results and check journal titles from any web connected PC or device using the link www.accesstoresearch.org.uk
- To access the **full text** of a journal article you will need to log in to a library computer.
- There are terms and conditions of use which you must agree to before searching the database. NB - Staff **must** ask users to read these!
- Anyone visiting a library to use the People's Network PCs can use *Access to Research* for private study or non-commercial research.
- You can view articles but are **not permitted to save or email articles**.
- You can print a **single article** from **one issue of a journal** for personal use, and further articles from other issues if required (but no more than **one** from each issue of a journal).
- Articles are free of charge – if you hit a paywall on a publisher's page, go back to *Access to Research*, click on *Feedback* (top right) and provide full details to request access to the article.
- NB - make sure that the user is trying to access the article they found on Access to Research and not another article on the publisher's website.

When to use

- To research a subject or topic and view academic research papers
- To browse and view articles in a particular academic journal
- To check bibliographical details or article citations – useful for requesting inter-library loans
- When students or independent researchers need to do in-depth academic research

How to search

Basic Search

- Use the single search box on the home page – type in keywords or author names e.g. *Somerset Levels*. This is the recommended way to search (no need for Boolean operators)
- Suggested matches will appear as you type
- Use double quotes to search for an exact phrase e.g. "*Cheddar caves*"
- Use the options on the blue left hand bar to refine your results by subject, date or language
- Some articles have abstracts - hover over the title to view (you can view abstracts at home)
- Clicking on an article will open a new window – the publisher's website
- To perform a new search, close the window and return to the *Access to Research* site

Advanced Search

- Click on Advanced Search next to the Search box
- Complete the fields as required – you can type in keywords, words in the title, and select content type, for example **Browse and Search Journal titles**
- From the home search page, click the button "*Browse all journals*" – this opens a new window
- Select a subject category such as "*Earth and Environmental Sciences*" or a letter of the alphabet
- Use the search box options to search for Journals e.g. "*Title contains all words*" – *Geology*
- You will be able to see what date each journal title goes back to

For more tips and information, click on "What, Why, Who? Find out more" on

www.accesstoresearch.org.uk