Finding full text articles from citations and references

You have come across a reference to a journal article and now want to know how to locate it.

The following tutorial explains how to locate a journal article from a citation or a reference list.

You can use your own article information and follow the steps, or work with the examples given.
What is a citation?

A journal article citation is made up of elements such as the author’s name, article title, journal title and details, such as volume and page numbers.

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An article’s citation may only include the letters (abbreviation) of the journal’s title and not the full title.

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The Future Direction of Driverless Cars in the UK (2016) 27(4) APLR 165
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Journal title abbreviations

If you only have the abbreviation of the journal, you may have to find out what the abbreviation means first, in order to locate the article. For example:

The Future Direction of Driverless Cars in the UK
(2016) 27(4) APLR 165

To identify the abbreviation of a law journal, consult a Legal Abbreviations Guide.

These are located in the Law Guide.
Identifying abbreviations and searching for the journal

For our example, *CaseBase Abbreviations* was used to identify what APLR stands for. It is the *Australian Product Liability Reporter*.

Once you interpret the abbreviation, search the Library Catalogue to locate the journal.
Library Catalogue search results

From the results pages, click on the links to the journal, to be taken to the database containing the journal.
Referencing journal articles

To learn about referencing in law, take a look at the AGLC Referencing page in the Law Guide.

Here you will find access to the Australian Guide to Legal Citation (4th ed.) as well as a “Quick Guide” to commonly cited examples.