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.

References

   CrossRef  Google Scholar

   Accessed 1 May 2015


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

An article's citation may only include the letters (abbreviation) of the journal's title and not the full title.
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
Legal abbreviations guides

To identify the abbreviation of a law journal, consult a legal abbreviations guide.

You can locate legal abbreviations guides via the library’s Law Guide.

There are several online guides or indexes available.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>APLJ</td>
<td>Australian Property Law Journal</td>
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<tr>
<td>APLR</td>
<td>Australian Product Liability Reporter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APO</td>
<td>Australian Patents Office [Medium Neutral Citation]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Once you know the name of the journal, search the [Library Catalogue](#) for 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.

The *Australian Product Liability Reporter* is located on Lexis Advance.
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 (3rd ed.) as well as a “Quick Guide” to commonly cited examples.