

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF CINCINNATI AND HAMILTON COUNTY

Your Library Online

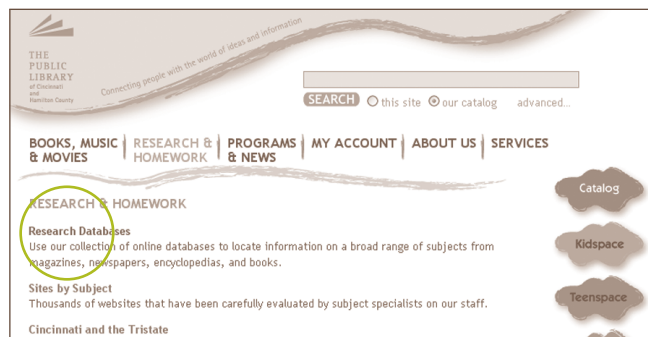
Looking for an article from *The New York Times* or *Consumer Reports*? Struggling with a homework assignment that's due tomorrow? Searching for information about a long-lost ancestor?

Did you know that the Library's collection of online databases can be used to help you with these kinds of questions? That you can use these databases from the comfort of your home or office 24/7? And all you need to use them is your library card? Getting started is easy – just use this handy guide!

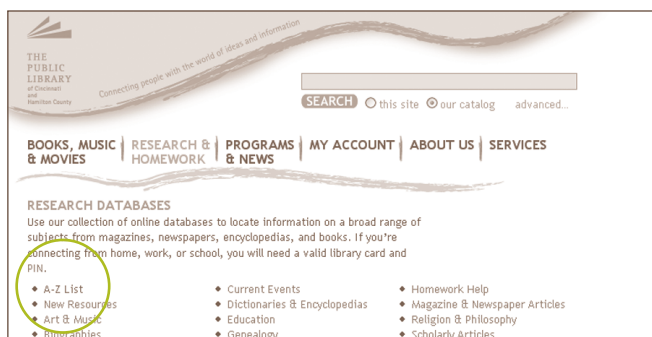
Getting Started



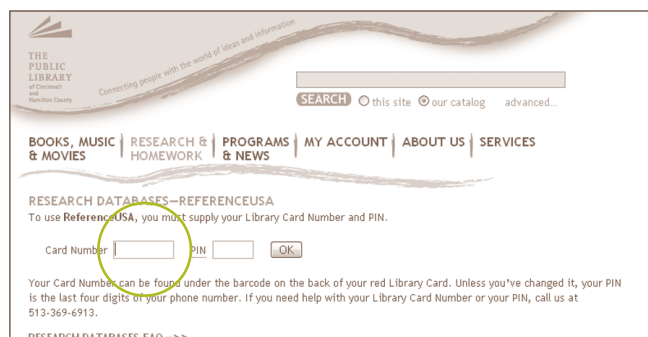
1 From the Library's homepage, www.CincinnatiLibrary.org, click on "Research & Homework."



2 Next, select the "Research Databases" link.



3 You can use the "A to Z" button to go directly to the resource you need or you can click on the appropriate subject heading.



4 If you're using the databases from home, you'll be prompted to enter your library card number and PIN once you've selected a resource.

Your library card number can be found under the barcode on the back of your library card. Unless you've changed it, your PIN is the last four digits of the phone number you gave us when you applied for your card.

HERE ARE SOME HELPFUL
STARTING POINTS FOR OUR

Database Collection

Books & Literary Criticism

NovelList offers lots of ways to find great fiction, with thousands of book reviews, plus features that allow you to search for specific subjects, settings, genres, series, plot details, and “read-alikes” for favorite authors.

- I love Janet Evanovich’s humorous Stephanie Plum mysteries. How can I find other novels like them?
- I can’t remember the author or title of a science fiction novel someone recommended. It’s about what happens when the Internet comes to a village in Central Asia.
- I’m looking for suggestions for my book club. I also need discussion questions and background information about the author.

The **Literature Resource Center** is a good source for information on major authors, compiled from several basic biographical and critical encyclopedias, dictionaries, and literary journals.

- Our class wants to write to Judy Blume. We need an address for her or her agent or publisher.
- I need literary criticism on Susan Sontag's works.
- Where can I get a list of African American authors who wrote during the Harlem Renaissance?

Magazines & Newspapers

Proquest offers access to full-text articles from *The New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal* and hundreds of other national and international papers.

- I heard a story on the radio about an article in an Irish newspaper about President Bush. How can I find it?
- My teacher wants me to pick a topic and find five recent newspaper articles about it.

Use **NewsBank** to find full-text articles from a wide range of national, regional, and international newspapers, including *The Cincinnati Enquirer* (1999-) and *The Cincinnati Post* (1990-).

- I’m looking for local newspaper articles about Cincinnati City Council.
- I was involved in a car accident last year and was told there was an article about it in a Dayton newspaper. How can I find it?

Consult **MasterFile**, **ProQuest**, and **General Reference Center Gold** for full-text articles from thousands of well-known magazines.

- I’m buying a new vacuum cleaner and want to find out what *Consumer Reports* and other consumer magazines say about them.
- I started reading an article about dinosaurs in a magazine at the doctor's office. I don't remember whether it was in *Time* or *Newsweek*. How can I find that article?

Genealogy

Find information about those elusive ancestors with **Ancestry Library Edition**.^{*} Federal Census records (1790 to 1930), ship passenger manifests, city directories, obituaries, wills, land records, maps, gazetteers, and genealogical reference guides are some of the resources offered by this database.

^{*}Ancestry Library Edition is only available at library locations.

- How can I find the names of my great grandparents?
- What year did my grandfather come to the United States?
- Were my ancestors living in New York City in 1890?

Use **HeritageQuest** to access Federal Census records (1790 to 1930) and over 25,000 family and local history books, search for genealogy and local history articles in the PERSI periodical index, and search selected Revolutionary War veterans' records.

- How can I prove my ancestor served in the Revolutionary War?
- I want to know if any articles have been written about a particular surname I'm researching.

Health & Medical

Information in the **Health & Wellness Resource Center** comes from hundreds of health and medical journals, newsletters, pamphlets, and reference books.

- Exactly what is gastric bypass surgery?
- What are the effects of a Vitamin B-12 deficiency?
- One of the children at preschool has pinworms. Does that mean my son will get them, too? How would I know?

NetWellness offers consumer health information created and evaluated by health care professionals from the University of Cincinnati, Ohio State University, and Case Western Reserve University.

- I think I might be diabetic. How can I find out more about diabetes?
- I'm looking for information about teenage smoking so I can write a paper for health class.

Business & Finance

Reference USA offers detailed information on millions of U.S. companies, healthcare providers, and households. Search the business database by company name, sales volume, SIC code, product line, or geographic region; and the residential database by name, city, state, or phone number.

- How can I find a list of florists in zip code 45231?
- Where can I get a list of small businesses, with earnings less than \$500,000, in West Chester?
- I have a friend who lives in the Chicago area, but I don't know exactly where. Can I find his address and phone?

Use the **Business & Company Resource Center** for information on domestic and international companies, investment reports, product information, market share data, and articles from business magazines.

- I am starting a small business as a financial planner. Where can I find out more about current trends in that industry for my business plan?
- What are the top 10 food processing companies in the world?
- How can I get hold of an up-to-date investment analysis of Avon Products?

LOTS MORE HELPFUL RESOURCES
ARE AVAILABLE AT

www.CincinnatiLibrary.org

Homework Help

From Aristotle to Paul Zindel, the **Biography Resource Center** has information about people in the arts, science, business, politics, sports, government, and history.

- When was Gary Paulsen born? How long has he been writing books?

Use the **Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center** to explore a wide range of important social issues such as euthanasia, censorship, capital punishment, and homelessness.

- My teacher wants me to write a pro/con paper on gun control. Where can I start looking for information?

In **Live Homework Help**, you can work with real tutors in the "Online Classroom."

- I don't understand how to do my algebra homework, and I need some help with this problem.

SIRS Discoverer is a helpful resource for students in elementary and middle school who need full-text articles from magazines, newspapers, and government documents.

- I need help finding information on careers in science. My teacher said to use magazine and newspaper articles. Where should I look?

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the difference between using a database and doing a search on Google?

The enormous volume and uneven quality of information on the Web can make finding exactly what you need a frustrating experience. Information in databases has been reviewed and edited

by experts and comes from reliable, authoritative sources. Using a database, instead of Google, saves you time and gives you search results that are accurate, objective, and current.

Is there any charge for using them?

No. The Library has purchased subscriptions to these databases so they can be provided free of charge to our customers. If you are not in the Library, all you need to use them is your library card.

Can I email the results to myself?

Yes, most databases give you the option of emailing the article to yourself. Many also let you save your search results to

a special folder, create bibliographies, and generate citations for you.

What does it mean when a database offers the "full-text" of an article from a magazine or newspaper?

The entire article, not just a summary of it, is available online.

I searched for information in all the logical places and I still can't find what I'm looking for. What now?

Call your local library and a reference librarian will be happy to help you! You may also log onto Ask a Librarian, live online reference service available 24/7 from the Library's website.



THE
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and
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