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Databases for Australian Legal Research

Abstract
This article comprises a series of schedules listing databases that are useful for people conducting legal research in Australia. The article's objective is to make it easier for people who know approximately what they are looking for to identify the appropriate database or databases. That is, the article works primarily from target (for instance, Australian Secondary Legal Material) to database, without users having to check on a list of descriptions of databases to see which ones have information of the kind that they need.

Keywords
databases, legal research, Australia

Cover Page Footnote
The authors thank the librarians at Sydney University Law School for their help in preparing this article.

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Databases for Australian Legal Research[1]

Catherine Vidler Smith[2] and John Prebble[3]

This article comprises a series of schedules listing databases that are useful for people conducting legal research in Australia. The article's objective is to make it easier for people who know approximately what they are looking for to identify the appropriate Database or databases. That is, the article works primarily from target (for instance, Australian Secondary Legal Material) to database, without users having to check on a list of descriptions of databases to see which ones have information of the kind that they need. Nevertheless, the first schedule, immediately below, works in the more conventional way: that is, it lists databases and gives a short description of their contents, though these contents descriptions are not its primary function. Rather, the task of the first schedule is to list abbreviations of database names used in the article and database uniform resource locators, known as 'urls'. The contents descriptions are secondary. Schedules after the first use abbreviations of database names both for conciseness and because a single database is often the appropriate source of several different kinds of information. This arrangement avoids repetition of lengthy database names and urls, though this saving comes at the expense of requiring readers to use the first schedule as a key to the article's abbreviations. Where a database is available on subscription only, the expression 'by subscription' replaces its url.

The authors have designed the article as a convenient compendium for teachers, librarians, practitioners, and students. While copyright resides with the authors, readers are welcome to copy the article with appropriate acknowledgement for their use, teachers to copy for students, or librarians for readers.

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1 The authors thank the librarians at Sydney University Law School for their help in preparing this article.

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ABI Inform Index (ABI)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Citations and lengthy abstracts of articles from 1,000 U.S. and international professional business and management publications

ACT Legislation Register (ACTLEG)

Access: http://www.legislation.act.gov.au/
Acts, subordinate laws, disallowable instruments, approved forms, notifiable instruments, commencements notices and bills.

ACT Supreme Court Judgments (ACT)

Access:
http://www.courts.act.gov.au/supreme
Australian Capital Territory Supreme Court Judgments.

ANU Library (ANULIB)

Access:
http://anulib.anu.edu.au/clusters/law/subjects/intlaw.html#cou
Extensive collection of international law links, including treaties and conventions, journals, courts and tribunals, and international organisations.

Asian Law Online (ALO)

Access:
http://www.law.unimelb.edu.au/alc/bibliography/
University of Melbourne-based Asian law collection of English language materials on Asian laws available throughout the world. It includes books, chapters in books, journal articles and theses.

Attorney General's Information Service (AGIS)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Extensive coverage of all aspects of law including: banking, companies and securities, constitutional law, criminal law, environmental law, copyright law, family law, legal aid and human rights. Australian, New Zealand and Pacific law journals are comprehensively indexed and abstracted, and material from major US, UK and Canadian law journals is selectively included.

ATP Taxpoint (ATP)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Full text database of Australian taxation materials, including Australian Tax Reports, legislation and commentaries.

Australian Administrative Law Library (AALL)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Australian Administrative Law Decisions, and Australian administrative law.

Australian Case Citator Plus (ACCP)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Australian reported cases from 1825.

Australian Corporations Law Library (ACLL)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Includes Corporations Law, Ford's Principles of corporations law, Australian corporations law reports, ASIC releases, Corporations law bulletin, Australian corporation practice, Bankruptcy law and practice

Australian Criminal Law Library (ACRLL)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Includes federal and state legislation and Criminal Practice and Procedure.

Australian Digest (ADIG)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Case law developments updated by Australian Monthly Legal Digest.

Australian Family Law Library (AFLL)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Comprehensive database of Australian family law resources.

Australian Law Librarian's Group (ALLG)

Access:
http://www.slsa.sa.gov.au/legislation_index/
Subject Index to South Australian Legislation.

Australian Legal Monthly Digest (ALMD)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Summaries of recent Australian case law, legislation and articles.

Australasian Legal Information Institute (AUSTLII)
Access: www.austlii.edu.au
Comprehensive source of primary and secondary Australian legal materials with international links.

Australian Legal Research Library (ALRL)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Includes Halsbury's Laws of Australia, Australian Current Law, Statutes Annotations, Encyclopedic Australian legal dictionary, Australian Encyclopaedia of Forms and Precedents

Australian Parliament (AUSTPARL)
Access: www.aph.gov.au
Australian Parliament web home. Links to Hansard, Bills, and Parliamentary departments.

Australian Civil Procedure and Evidence Library (ACPEL)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Contains Cross on Evidence, Ritchies Supreme Court Procedure NSW, Court forms precedents and pleadings

BillsNet (BILLS)
Access: http://www.aph.gov.au/parlinfo/billsnet/main.htm
Australian Parliamentary Bills.

Britain and Ireland Legal Information Institute (BAILII)
Access: www.bailii.org
British and Irish primary legal materials.

Canada Justice Department (CJD)
Access: http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/index.html
Canadian consolidated statutes and regulations.

Canadian Legal Information Institute (CANLII)
Access: www.canlii.org
Canadian primary legal materials.

Capital Monitor (CAPMON)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION

CaseBase (CASEBA)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Australian citator for cases, statutes and journal articles.

CaseTrack (CASETRA)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Extensive source of full-text judgments.

Celex (CELEX)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Coverage of the decisions of the Community lawcourts, the Court of First Instance, the Court of Justice, and opinions of the Court of Justice of the European Communities

Centre for Corporate Law and Securities Regulation (CCLSR)
Access: http://cclsr.law.unimelb.edu.au/judgments/
Corporate Law Judgments. Includes links to archives of Corporate Law Bulletin, and Centre for Corporate Law and Securities Regulation.

Chan Robles Virtual Law Library (CHANROB)
Access: http://www.chanrobles.com/virtualibrary.htm
Philippine legal resources, with business and world-wide links.

Cinch Criminology Citations (CINCH)
Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Indexes and abstracts of articles from published and unpublished material on all aspects of crime, criminal justice and criminology.

Constitution Finder (CONST)
Access: http://confinder.richmond.edu
Index of constitutions, charters, amendments and other documents. Nations listed alphabetically.

Cornell Legal Information Institute (CORNLII)
Access: www.law.cornell.edu
Comprehensive source of United States primary and secondary legal material.

Current Law Cases (CLC)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Digest of summaries of UK cases

Current Legal Information (CLI)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Includes Legal Journals Index and Current Law Cases. Covers English and European cases and journals.

Daily Law Notes (DAIL)

Access: http://www.lawreports.co.uk/indexdln.htm
Free 24 hour service from the Royal Courts of Justice and European Court of Justice. Includes updates from the House of Lords, the Privy Council, the Court of Appeal and all divisions of the High Court.

Department of the Parliamentary Library (DPL)

Access: http://www.aph.gov.au/library/intguide/law/
Index of links to internet law resources. Listed by jurisdiction and area of law

Federal Legislative Instruments (FLID)

Access: http://frli.law.gov.au/
Collection of legislative instruments maintained by the Commonwealth Attorney-General's Department in Canberra. Includes regulations and rules of court.

Federal Magistrates Service (FEDMAG)

Access: http://www.fmc.gov.au/judge/index.html
Judgments of the Federal Magistrates Court of Australia.

Findlaw (FIND)

Access: http://lp.findlaw.com
Resources by practice area, jurisdiction, cases and codes, news and analysis.

Fletcher School's Multilateral Project (FLETCH)

Access: http://fletcher.tufts.edu/multilaterals.html
Texts of international multinational treaties and other instruments.

Foreign Tax and Commercial Laws (FTCL)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Full text versions of world-wide consolidated legislation for tax and commercial law.

India Law Info (ILI)

Access: www.indialawinfo.com
Comprehensive database organised by area of law.

Her Majesty's Stationary Office (HMSO)

Access: http://www.hmso.gov.uk/
United Kingdom Legislation and secondary information, including links to HMSO publication scheme, Command Papers, Gazettes and the Civil Service Yearbook.

Hong Kong Legal Information Institute (HKLII)

Access: http://www.hklii.org/
Coverage of decisions of the Court of Final Appeal, Court of Appeal, Court of First Instance, Other Courts & Tribunals, and Practice Directions.

Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals (IFLP)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION

Infotrac (INFO)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION

Kuyushu University, Japan (KUYUSH)

Access: http://www.law.kyushu-u.ac.jp/~luke/japaneselawlinks.html
Japanese Law Links.

Lawlink (LAWLINK)

Access: www.lawlink.nsw.gov.au
Government portal to law and justice agencies and services, hosted by the NSW Attorney General's Department.

Laws of Australia (LOA)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Principles of Australian Law.

Legal E-journals (LEJ)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Links to free and subscription on-line journals.

Legaltrac (LEGALTRAC)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION

United States database of articles published in major law reviews and journals. Full text not always available.

Lexis (LEXIS)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Comprehensive source of primary and secondary legal materials, United States focused but also international.

Loislaw (LOIS)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
American case law and legislation, plus libraries of US texts and journals by topic and by jurisdiction.

New South Wales Parliament (NSWPARL)

Access: http://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/
New South Wales legislation in force, including links to archived legislation and historical versions of legislation.

Northern Territory Legislation (NTL)

Access:
http://notes.nt.gov.au/dcm/legislat/legislat.nsf
Includes links to copyright policy, and Treasurer's directions.

Pacific Islands Legal Information Institute (PACLII)

http://www.paclii.org
Pacific Island law links, developed and published by the University of the South Pacific Law School, and assisted by AUSTLII.

Public Access to Legislation Project (PAL)

Access: www.legislation.co.nz
Interim website of New Zealand legislation.

Queensland Courts Homepage (QLDCT)

Access:
http://www.courts.qld.gov.au/qjudgment/
Queensland judgments including sentencing remarks and Registrar's notes.

Queensland Parliament (QLDPARL)

Access: http://www.legislation.qld.gov.au/
Queensland legislation.

Quicklaw (QUICK)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Canadian full text judgments, as well as legislation, tax and news.

Scaleplus (SCALE)

Access: http://scaleplus.law.gov.au/
Legislation of the Commonwealth and non self-governing Territories (and related material such as Reserved Commonwealth Laws, the Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act and the Constitution as well as Bills, explanatory memoranda/statements, tables, indexes and other finding aids).

South African Hypertext Legislation (SAHL)

Access: www.acts.co.za
Legislation, Amendments, and Regulations, indexed by area of law.

South Australian Parliament (SAPARL)

Access:
http://www.parliament.sa.gov.au/leg/5_legislation.shtm
South Australian Acts and Regulations.

Supreme Court of Japan (SUPJAP)

Access:
http://www.courts.go.jp/english/ehome.htm
Prominent judgments, guide to judicial system and court procedure.

Tasmania's Consolidated Legislation Online (TCL)

Access: http://www.thelaw.tas.gov.au/
Tasmanian legislation including information guides to legislation.

Tasmanian Parliament (TASPARL)

Access: www.parliament.tas.gov.au
Tasmanian Parliament home page including links to Bills and Hansard.

The Knowledge Basket (KNOWL)

Access: http://rangi.knowledge-basket.co.nz/gpacts/actlists.html
Free-to-browse New Zealand legislation.

Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary Documents Home Page (VLPD)

Access: http://www.dms.dpc.vic.gov.au/
Victorian Bills, Acts and Statutory Rules.

United Nations Treaty Collection (UNTC)

Access:
http://untreaty.un.org/English/treaty.asp

Comprehensive database which includes the United Nations Treaty Series, the League of Nations Treaty Series, and texts of recently deposited multilateral treaties

Web of Science Citations Index (WEBSCI)

Access: http://isi1.isiknowledge.com/portal.cgi/wos
The Social Sciences Citation Index (within Web of Science) is multidisciplinary, with searchable author abstracts, covering the journal literature of the social sciences, including law.

Westlaw (WEST)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Full text legislation, case law, journal articles and news from the U.S., but including Europe, U.K and Australasia

Wilson's Index to Legal Periodicals (WILP)

Access: BY SUBSCRIPTION
Index to articles from more than 500 legal journals. From the USA, but with some UK and Australian citations.

World Legal Information Institute (WLII)

Access: www.worldlii.org
Mega-database of world-wide legal links.