

# Journal Finder: How to Get a Copy of a Periodical Article

**Note: This handout assumes you already have the citation for a periodical article.**

A “citation” for a periodical article is the information that tells where to find the article. It usually includes the author and title of the article, the title of the periodical in which it was published, the volume and issue number, the page number(s), and the issue date.

**Example of a citation:**

<small>(article title)</small> <b>Deanna Nolan.</b>	<small>(author)</small> <b>By Andrew Lawrence.</b>			
<small>(periodical title)</small> <b>Sports Illustrated</b>	<small>(volume no.)</small> <b>v. 108</b>	<small>(issue no.)</small> <b>no. 23</b>	<small>(date issue was published)</small> <b>(June 29, 2008)</b>	<small>(pages)</small> <b>p. 28</b>

If you found a citation for an article **within an online periodical database** (for example, in ProQuest or in one of the FirstSearch databases), usually you will **click the article title** to open the record for the article, and then **click the “Link to Full Text” or “Find Full Text” link**. This automatically searches for the journal in which that article was published. (Sometimes this link appears on **list of results** display.) If the phrase “Content is available via the following links:” appears, that means the UM-Flint library does have the article. Click the “Article” link to display the article (sometimes this will display the citation for the article again, and will require you to click a full-text link again). If the UM-Flint library does not have the article, “Sorry, no holdings were found.” Will display.

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**If you found the citation in another way (for example, from the sources cited list of another article), follow the procedure below to find out whether the article is available through the Thompson Library:**

**From the library’s home page ([www.umflint.edu/library](http://www.umflint.edu/library)), under “Journal Finder,” (towards the bottom middle of the home page), type the first few words (not including “The”) of the periodical title for which you are looking and click “Search.”**

If your journal appears on the resulting page, that indicates that the library owns at least some issues of that periodical. It may be available in **print format** (that is, we subscribe to it, like a magazine), on **microfilm**, or in an **electronic format**, accessible by computer. Check carefully the years listed under your periodical title to see if the library has the specific issue that you need.

For example, to find out if the article above is available, type ***Sports Illustrated*** into the "Journal Finder" box. You will see:

### **Sports illustrated (0038-822X)**

from current issues to present in [Print holdings at UM-Flint](#)  
from 08/16/1954 to present in [Freely Accessible Journals](#)  
from 1976 to present in [Microform holdings at UM-Flint](#) Check Mirlyn for location & other info  
from 12/27/1982 to present in [Academic OneFile](#)  
from 12/27/1982 to present in [General OneFile](#)  
from 1992 to 2006 in [Periodical Abstracts](#)  
from 01/13/1992 to present in [ProQuest Research Library](#)  
from 01/01/1995 to present in [Wilson Select Plus](#)  
from 2 years ago to present in [LexisNexis Academic](#)

This indicates that the journal *Sports Illustrated* is available from 1954 to present in various databases, 1976 to present in microform, and current issues in print.

Always look at the years listed as available **to make sure the issue you need is included.**

#### **Electronic periodicals**

If the periodical is available in an electronic database, click the **blue** title of the database to open that database. From there, depending on the database, you may have to take additional steps to find the specific article you need (since all databases work differently, specific instructions for these steps cannot be included here). Consult a librarian if you need additional help.

When you find the article, use the **print button provided by the database** (rather than using the browser's print button) to print the article; in many databases you may email it to yourself to print elsewhere.

#### **Print periodicals**

If the periodical is available in print, ("**In UM-Flint print holdings**"), go to the **Periodicals section (at the north end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor)**, and find the periodical alphabetically on the shelf (e.g., *Sports Illustrated* will be in the S's). Find the volume you need (e.g. volume 108 for the *Sports Illustrated* article listed above), and find the article within that volume.

#### **Periodicals on microfilm**

If the periodical is available on microfilm, ("**In UM-Flint microfilm holdings**") it is stored in the **south west corner of the first floor**. Microfilm is also shelved in alphabetical order by title.

**Sometimes the Journal Finder results will show "0 records retrieved for the search." Or "Sorry, no holdings were found for this journal." This means Thompson Library does not have the journal in which your article was published. You can request the article through Interlibrary Loan (see [lib.umflint.edu/ILL](http://lib.umflint.edu/ILL))**