



LIBRARY RESEARCH GUIDE:

MUSIC

FALL 2022

General Tips for Searching E-resources

(Note: The following techniques usually work with online catalogs, periodical databases, reference databases, search engines, and other standard library resources):

- To search for exact phrases, enclose them within double quotation marks:
"music education"
- To search for multiple endings of words, use an asterisk/star in place of the variant endings. This technique is known as "truncation."
concert* (retrieves "concerto," "concertos," "concerti," "concertante," etc.)
symphon* (retrieves "symphony," "symphonic," "symphonies," "symphonien," etc.)
- To find all terms, use the "and" command. This command narrows your search.

schubert and song*

NOTE: Certain resources (e.g., Google products) assume an "and" between multiple search terms, so you don't need to include one there.

- To find synonymous/equally acceptable terms, use the "or" command (and enclose the phrase within parentheses). This command broadens your search.

schubert and (song* or lied*)

Finding Reference/Background Materials

- Useful electronic reference databases for general subjects include [Credo](#) and [Oxford Reference](#), both of which comprise hundreds of reference resources on all subjects.

- [Biography in Context](#) includes information about notable people, both contemporary and historical, from a wide range of sources, such as biographical dictionaries, magazines, newspapers, and academic journals.
- Reference databases for music include [Oxford Music Online](#) (which houses *The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*), [Musical Theater Songs](#), and the [Naxos Music Library](#) (a digital library for recordings).
- Relevant print books are located here in the library's Reference Area:
Music: 780s

Finding Books

- To find books, both print and electronic, in Converse's Mickel Library, go to our [Discovery Service](#), type your terms in the search box, and select "Converse Catalog"; to find borrow-able books in South Carolina college/university libraries, go to our [Discovery Service](#), type your terms in the search box, and select "PASCAL Delivers":
"mozart effect"
beethoven and "string quartet*"
- To find **citations to books in libraries throughout the U.S.**, most of which can be borrowed via Interlibrary Loan (see below), use WorldCat.
- To find additional ebooks, use the library's Discovery Service and select "Articles, Books, and More." Then limit your search to "Books" as the "Resource Type" (note: in addition to ebooks, you'll also retrieve print books held in Converse's library.)

Finding Periodical Articles

- General/Multidisciplinary Databases
[Academic Search Complete](#) – covers over 12k magazines and academic journals in all disciplines; more than 8k of these titles include the complete text of the articles.

Note: Periodical indexes default to a "keyword" search.

"music therapy" and alzheimer*

elfman and (film* or movie*)

- Subject-Specific Databases

[Music & Performing Arts collection](#) – Full-text of 300-ish American and international journals in these two fields; citations and abstracts for articles in hundreds of additional journals

[JSTOR](#) – Contains complete back runs (non-current) of 103 journals dedicated to scholarly research and theory in the field of music and the performing arts.

[RILM Abstracts of Music Literature \(1967 to present\)](#) – Includes journals, selected dissertations, Festschriften, and congress reports.

Finding “Articles, Books, and More”

Go to the library’s [Discovery Service](#), type in your search terms, and select “Articles, Books, and More” from the pull-down menu to retrieve literally BILLIONS of journal articles, books, book chapters (etc., etc.) from thousands of individual databases.

Finding Out if Our Library Owns a Particular Periodical

To find complete articles for which you’ve found only a citation or abstract, you’ll first want to click the “[Periodicals by Title](#)” link on the [library’s home page](#) (in the “Research” section, within the “Discovery Service” category). Key in some or all of the journal’s name (NOT the title of the article itself), and you’ll see a listing of periodicals the library owns in electronic format as well as those it owns in print/physical format. For those in electronic format, their records will provide links to the database(s) that include(s) them. Occasionally these records will be incorrect or confusing; if you have any trouble determining whether the library has access to a particular journal article, please contact us through the “Ask a Librarian” service.

Using Interlibrary Loan

Once you've determined that our library doesn't own a book, score, or article (etc.) that you need, you're encouraged to go through our PASCAL (SC academic libraries) or Interlibrary Loan (WorldCat) services to get them (we can borrow from among millions of resources held by thousands of libraries across the country). You must login to the library system to order through PASCAL or Interlibrary Loan.

PASCAL libraries deliver via courier 3 days a week, and will send books and scores, but not articles. To order PASCAL items, click the "request" link attached to the item that you need.

The Interlibrary Loan system will send books, scores, and articles. From the [library's homepage](#), click on "[Interlibrary Loan Requests](#)" and then log in. Select the correct form for the type of resource you're requesting and fill it out as completely as you can. Articles generally arrive – sometimes in electronic format, sometimes in photocopied print format - within 2-7 business days. Books arrive via the postal service and generally takes a little longer: 5- 10 business days