

# How to Find Book Reviews

1. Determine the publication date of your book.

Book reviews generally appear at the time of publication or within 2-3 years after. The date may determine what database you use to find a review, since some databases may not cover the dates needed.
2. Try a general book review index.

**Book Review Digest**– Index to reviews of books published or distributed in the U.S. or Canada. A work of nonfiction must have received reviews in at least two of the magazines; fiction, in at least three. Includes short excerpts from the reviews. Access: 1905-present: Available electronically from the Library’s home page under “Find...Articles/Databases” in the alphabetical list.
3. Try GENERAL periodical databases.

**Academic Search Ultimate:** One way to search for book reviews is to put the title in quotation marks (Example: “The DaVinci Code”). You may wish to add the author’s last name to the search as well (Example: “Color of Water” and McBride)

**Reader’s Guide Retrospective:** For reviews of books published prior to 1983, try searching this database, using the same types of searches as for Academic Search Complete (above). TIP: If you find too many articles that do not appear to be reviews, you can add the word “review” to your search.
4. Try SUBJECT-SPECIFIC periodical databases.

Most subject-specific periodical databases include reviews of books in the disciplines covered by the databases. To find the appropriate databases arranged by subject, click on “Find...Articles/Databases” from the Library home page and select the appropriate subject from those listed. Choose a relevant database from the subject guide and use the search tips above to search for book reviews.