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Database Discovery Series
answers...

What is a Database?

MRL subscribes to a
variety of
Online Resources

This guide will
introduce them and
explain how they can
support your **research**.



Common Questions About Databases:

Q: *What is a Database?*

A: A database is an online collection of information organized so that it can be easily searched and retrieved.

Q: *Who uses them?*

A: Databases are used by anyone looking for information, from elementary to collegiate level students to someone looking for an article in a national newspaper. They support research on all levels and on a variety of topics.



Q: *Which Databases does MRL subscribe to?*

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| A: ALLDATA | ProQuest |
| Heritage Quest | Dear Reader |
| LexisNexis | Newsbank |
| Find it Virginia | Westlaw |
| Learning Express | |
| Senior Navigator | |
| Virginia Foundation Directory | |

Q: *Which database is best for my research?*

A: See the database descriptions at www.mrlib.org or pick up one of the database bookmarks that highlight each of the databases' offerings. You can also ask our Reference Department librarians for help. They are very knowledgeable and available to answer your research questions.

Q: *How do I access MRL's databases?*

A: It varies. If the database requires In-Library Use you must use a library computer to gain access. If Home Use is available, you can use your computer and library card number to access. In General, here are the steps to access from home:

1. Log onto www.mrlib.org
2. Click on the Reference Department link
3. Click on Online Resources
4. Click on the Database you would like to access under the Home-Use available heading.
5. If necessary, select local library as Massanutten Regional Library
6. Enter library barcode number (14 digit number on the back of your library card)
7. Submit