

Identifying Information Resource Types – Humber Libraries

Resource Type	Common Characteristics
Popular Magazine Article <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience: nonprofessional; anyone • Appearance: glossy photos, many advertisements • Content: general interest articles, no reference lists, simple language • Authors: largely staff writers, often unknown • Examples: <i>Sports Illustrated, National Geographic, Maclean's, Men's Health, Cosmopolitan</i>
Scholarly, Peer Reviewed Journal Article <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience: professionals, researchers, academics • Appearance: no advertisements, plain, black & white • Content: original research, literature reviews, often contain abstracts, academic/professional language, often contain statistics/diagrams, long reference lists, peer-reviewed, academic • Authors: many authors, with many credentials and affiliations • Examples: <i>Journal of Advanced Nursing, Journal of Applied Research, Journal of Food Safety</i>
Trade Magazine/Journal Article <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience: industry professionals, organization/association members • Appearance: glossy photos, most advertisements related to industry • Content: current industry trends, new products or techniques, organizational news, articles may have short reference list, may contain professional language • Authors: industry professionals, organization/association members • Examples: <i>Advertising Age, Women's Wear Daily, The Police Chief, Canadian Nurse</i>
Website/Blog <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience: varies • Content: varies • Authors: vary in credentials, sometimes difficult to identify
Government/Association Publication and Information <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Content: published and written by an association or a government, often includes country-specific data and statistics • Authors: government workers, association members • Examples: <i>Health Canada, Statistics Canada, Ministry of Natural Resources, Registered Nurses' Association of Ontario</i>
Book <i>(online [eBook] or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Authors: vary in credentials • Content: varies
Newspaper Article <i>(online or in print)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience: nonprofessional; anyone • Content: current, journalistic, simple language, no reference list • Authors: Writers/Journalists • Examples: Toronto Star, The Guardian, the New York Times