

Assessing sources

[[Journal Impact Factor](#)] [[Quartile score:](#)] [[H-index](#)] [[C.R.A.P Test](#)]

Some researchers use metrics like those listed below to determine the value of the source or publication.

Journal Impact Factor

Definition:

Impact Factor (IF):the average number of times articles from the journal published in the past two years have been cited in the reference year.

Journal impact

Quartile score:

Defintion: the relative location of a journal along the range of an Impact Factor distribution.

Quartile	Journal rank
Q1	top 25% of the IF distribution (high)
Q2	between top 50% and top 25% of the IF distribution. (middle high)
Q3	top 75% to top 50% (middle low)
Q4	bottom 25% of the IF distribution (low)

H-index

The h5-index is the h-index for articles published in the last 5 complete years. It is the largest number h such that h articles published in 2008-2012 have at least h citations each" ---e.g. a h5-index of 100 means 100 articles were published in the 5 yr. time frame that have at least 100 citations each.

C.R.A.P Test

Apply the C.R.A.P. test when evaluating sources

Currency	Relevancy	Authority	Purpose
How recently was the information published?	How relevant is the information to the search topic?	- Who conducted the research and what are their credentials? - Where was the information published (website, journal, etc.? - Is it peer-reviewed or in a scholarly publication?	- Why was the information published? - Is it biased? - Is it promotional in nature?