DATABASE GUIDE

Halsbury’s Laws of Australia (LexisNexisAU)

Halsbury’s Laws of Australia is a comprehensive legal encyclopaedia which provides a succinct overview of Australian law. Statements of the law are organised by subject areas (89 titles) and covers all nine jurisdictions. Commentary on principles of law is supported by extensive reference to Australian legislative and judicial authority. This makes Halsbury’s Laws of Australia a good starting point if you are researching an unfamiliar area of law, as it provides an overview of the legal principles, as well as references to key cases and legislation.

How to Access Database

To access this database go to http://library.vu.edu.au

1. Click Databases & E-journals
2. Select L
3. Click on LexisNexisAU or Connect to: LexisNexisAU

Browsing

1. Select Commentary from the contents banner at the top of the page.
2. From the Sources pull down menu, select Halsbury’s Laws of Australia.
3. Click on the Browse link on the left side to display the Table of Contents.
4. Select the chapter you wish to view by clicking in the check boxes beside the title.

The chapter's table of contents is displayed on the left.

1. Click on the ‘+’ symbol beside a section title to burrow down to the document level.
2. Click on the section/document title to display its full text in the View window on the right.

Alternatively, you can click on the Forward/Back arrows to navigate through the contents of your selected chapter.

Searching

Select Halsbury’s Laws of Australia from the Sources box

Keyword Search

1. Click on the Search tab (on left) to open the database search window
2. Enter your keywords in the Search Terms input box (See the Boolean operators & other tips table on how to combine keywords to search)
3. Click Search

Limit Your Search to a Particular Chapter/Topic

1. Click the Browse tab to display the table of Contents.
2. Expand the branches of the Table of Contents by clicking the ‘+’ symbol.
3. Select the required branch by clicking in the checkbox to the left of the chapter/section/title
4. Click the Search tab to return to the search form
(Note that your selected item appears just under the Search Terms panel)
5. Enter your search terms in the appropriate field – eg. Commentary Heading, References to Cases etc
6. Click Search

Search within a Document Section
This function allows you to search within the footnotes, headings, paragraph number, references to cases and legislation.

1. Click on [+] Show to reveal searchable sections of documents
2. Select a section to search
3. Enter your search terms in the Search Terms input box
4. Click the Search button

Results
1. Click on the hyperlinked title to view full-text
2. Or, you can group titles by clicking in the checkboxes beside the titles. Then, click View Tagged.
3. Choose database icon to print/email and save results.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operator</th>
<th>Enter Search</th>
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<tr>
<td>and or</td>
<td>Misrepresent and negligence</td>
<td>Document contains both terms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Weapon or gun or firearm</td>
<td>Document contains either term</td>
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<td>Trust not family</td>
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<td>Trad!</td>
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<td>wfn</td>
<td>bankrupt w/25 “trade practices”</td>
<td>Occurrences of these words within the number of specified (25) in any order.</td>
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