

SciFinder: quick start guide

Getting Started

- The first time you use SciFinder you will need to register and after that you will be able to access SciFinder directly. To register you will need to be on campus.
- Go to the Library homepage at <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/services/library/>
- Scroll down and select **Online Resources**
- Scroll down and select on **Passwords, authentication...**
- Enter your IT username and password
- Scroll down to the SciFinder entry and click on the online **registration form** link.
- Complete the registration form and you will receive a confirmation email, accept this to begin searching.
- To start searching go to <http://scifinder.cas.org/scifinder>
- Remember **SciFinder must only be used for academic research – commercial research is not permitted.**

Search options in SciFinder

- You can search SciFinder by chemical substance, reaction, research topic, author and company name. To see the full list of options click on **Explore**.

Explore ▼	Saved Searches ▼	SciPlanner
REFERENCES	SUBSTANCES	REACTIONS
Research Topic	Chemical Structure	Reaction Structure
Author Name	Markush	
Company Name	Molecular Formula	
Document Identifier	Property	
Journal	Substance Identifier	
Patent		
Tags		

Finding papers on your research topic


- Select the **Research Topic** option at the top of the list
- Enter your search as a simple phrase
- SciFinder does not use Boolean logic so there is no need to link your keywords with AND, OR
- Think of synonyms and put these in brackets e.g. green chemistry (environmental chemistry)
- Use the Advanced Search to restrict your search to a particular publication year, document type, author, language or company.
- Select the phrase(s) that accurately reflect your research topic **by ticking the appropriate check boxes** and then click **Get References**.
- Click on the **title** of the record to see more information.

Finding Chemical substance and reaction data

- If you have the name or registry number, click on **Substance Identifier** on the left-hand side (LHS) and enter the name or number in the search box.

- You can also search SciFinder by **chemical structure** or reaction structure, so you can draw a structure or reaction query using **ChemDraw** and then instantly send the query to SciFinder. For more information on structure searching see <https://scifinder.cas.org/help/scifinder/R42/index.htm>

Improving your results

- Use **Refine** (on the results screen) to limit your results to a publication year, document type or to reduce the results to a more specific subject by using additional keywords.
- Analyze** options provides a breakdown of your results against different criteria so you can see which occur most frequently, the default is by Author.
- To find additional material on the same or similar subject you can use  and then choose **Get Cited** or **Get Citing**.

Saving, printing and exporting

- You can Save, Print or Export selected records or all marked records by clicking on the options at the top right of the results screen
- Click in the check box on the LHS of the record you want to save or print.
- Click on **Export** (on the top right of the navigation bar)
- In the popup box, select **Citation export format (*.ris)** under the **For:Citation Manager** section.
- Edit the file name and remember it.
- Click on **Export** on the bottom. Remember where you saved the downloaded .ris file
- Then in RefMe or Mendeley import the .ris file you downloaded from SciFinder.

Getting full text

- Some references in SciFinder may be available in full-text. To find out click on the **Other sources** button next to the relevant result.
- If you get the **SFX** Services option, click on **GO** and this will connect you through to the full-text.
- If you can't get through to the full-text it might be worth checking if we take the e-journal via the Library Catalogue.

Getting Help

- Click on SciFinder Help link in SciFinder
- CAS provide a series of guides, workbooks and online tutorials: <http://www.cas.org/training/scifinder>
- Contact the [Chemistry Academic Librarian](#)