

# 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>How recently was the information published?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>How relevant is the information to the search topic?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Who conducted the research and what are their credentials?</li><li>Where was the information published (website, journal, etc.?</li><li>Is it peer-reviewed or in a scholarly publication?</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Why was the information published?</li><li>Is it biased?</li><li>Is it promotional in nature?</li></ul>