

Law Library classification scheme

The Moys classification scheme groups primary materials by jurisdiction, and secondary material by subject.

Below is a general outline of the scheme, and a list of subjects with the key classification numbers, if you want to browse the book collection.¹

Overleaf are other ways of getting to the Law Library's resources.

	Classification	Subject
8 th Floor	K: reference books, including dictionaries and guides to abbreviations	Advocacy: KL93 Banking: KN303 Civil liberties: KM201 Commercial: KN250 Company: KN261 Competition: KN266 Conflicts: KC2000 Contract: KN10 Criminal: KM500 Criminology: KB300 Environmental: KN94; or KN80 for resource management Equity: KN200 Evidence: KN390 & KM600 Family: KN170 Intellectual property: KN111 International: KC International human rights: KC200 Jurisprudence: KA Labour: KN190 Law & medicine: KN185 Law & psychiatry: KN155.3 Legal ethics: KL82 Legal history: KL400 Maori land law: KN63.9 M3 Negotiation: KL93.5 Planning: KN96 Property: KN50 Public: KM31 Research & writing: K79 Restitution: KN20.2 Sentencing: KM585.9 Tax: KM335 Torts: KN30 Vendor & purchaser: KN70 Wills & trusts: KN125 (wills); KN210 (trusts)
7 th Floor	K211: journals KA: Jurisprudence KB: General & comparative law KC: International law (incl. journals)	
8 th Floor	KF: Primary sources, UK KG (1-220): Primary sources, Australia KG (301-360): Primary sources, NZ	
9 th Floor	KH: Primary sources, Canada & US KL: Common law generally, including legal history KM: Public law, including public & criminal KN: Private law, including contract, torts, property, family, labour, commercial, practice & procedure KR-KV: other legal systems, including Europe & EC.	

¹ But don't rely solely on these classification numbers – a book may logically belong in several places but physically can only be in one place.

So what do you want to do?

Search for	Books	Use the Catalogue Search by keywords or author or title; Note the call number, then locate as below
	Journal articles	Use an index, to find info about journals articles ² – start with the LINX and LegalTrac databases Search by subject keywords or author or title; Then search the Catalogue for the journal title; note the call number, and locate as below You can also use the e-journal portal (from the Library's homepage) to locate online journals by title
	Primary material	Use the <i>Tables of New Zealand acts and ordinances and statutory regulations in force</i> (KG318 N45) to identify the best resources
Locate	Books ³	By call number ⁴ KA-KC: 7 th floor, through walkway KL-KM: 9 th floor, through walkway KN-KV: 9 th floor
	Journals ⁵	By call number K211: 7 th floor, alphabetically by title; continues through walkway KC2 (journals about international law): 7 th floor, through walkway
	Primary material ⁶	By call number KF (UK): 8 th floor, through walkway KG15-KG205 (Australia): 8 th floor, through walkway KG301-KG351 (NZ): 8 th floor, opposite Seminar room KH (Canada, US): 9 th floor, through walkway
Browse	Books	Use the classification guide overleaf; then locate as above; or keyword search the Catalogue, note useful call numbers, then locate as above
	Journals	Journals are generally too diverse for browsing except: Recent material on display; or When you want a particular journal title – get the call number from the Catalogue and locate , as described above
	Primary material	Legislation & law reports are generally too diverse for browsing except: Recent material on display; and When you want a particular publication – get the call number from the Catalogue and locate , as described above

And why am I using footnotes in a library guide?

Because the Law Library is a complex information environment, and just about every general rule gets frustrated by exceptions. If you get frustrated too, just ask. At the Desk.

² The Library Catalogue will tell you which journals we have, but it won't tell you about the articles within those journals.

³ Some books are on Close Reserve at the main Desk; some are on loan and can be recalled. If you can't find what you're looking for, just ask.

⁴ A "Call number" is the classification plus a unique alpha-numeric filing code, so each book has its own location on the shelves, a bit like an address with a street name (the classification) and a house number (the alpha-numeric filing code).

⁵ This guide deals mainly with print material. You have access to lots of online journals as well – just ask.

⁶ You have access to lots of online primary material as well – just ask.