

Quick Guide to the Polymer Library

Subject Content and Coverage

The Polymer Library is an abstracts database covering published literature on **plastics, rubber, polymeric composites** and **adhesives**. All aspects of the **business** and **technology** of the materials, processes and products are included. The database covers the period 1972 onwards and contains over 1,150,000 records.

Access

Please go to <http://www.polymerlibrary.com> and click on 'Search'.
Enter your User ID and Password if applicable.

Search Screen

Searching the Polymer Library is very straightforward. The search screen has a number of windows in which to type your search.

The system gives each hit a relevance score and the best records will appear at the top of the summary list, unless you opt to display your results in date order.

Summary Display

After clicking the magnifying glass next to the top search window, the retrieved records are displayed on summary pages. For each record the Polymer Library displays accession number, title, the first 150 characters of the abstract and the publication year.

Abstract display

By clicking on the title, the full record (abstract, bibliographic data and indexing) is displayed. Alternatively by using the tick boxes in front of each record a number of records can be selected for display in full or brief format.

Document delivery

You can order a copyright-cleared photocopy of the full original document, or in the case of an Open Access document immediately download a free PDF of the full text document, by clicking on the order button at the top of the abstract.

Further help

We'll be happy to help you with your search strategy. Just contact us on polymerlibrary@smithers.com

Searching – Top Tips

Basic Free Text Search

The top search window allows you to search in Titles, Abstracts, Index Terms, and Non Polymer Terms simultaneously.

Searches can be typed in normal language, e.g. *recycling of polyethylene terephthalate bottles*

Search terms are not case sensitive

Stemming

The Polymer Library search system will automatically stem your results, so typing recycle would also find recycles, recycling, recycled and recycleable. To override this function try phrase searching...

Phrase Searching

If you put a phrase in single or double quotes, e.g. *'polyethylene terephthalate'* the system will search for that exact phrase.

Boolean Logic

Always use search brackets to make the search logic unambiguous.

PP or polypropylene and moulding will return different results from *(PP or polypropylene) and moulding*

Further refine your search

The sub search windows allow searching in some other fields and thus further refine the search statement of the main search window.

These windows can also be used with an empty main search window. Further help is available by clicking on the question mark above each search window.

The 'Only search title and abstract' option at the bottom of the search page, operates only in combination with the date order search.

Thesaurus

Search our comprehensive thesaurus of Index Terms for ideas on search terms. Access the online search function on the Search Tips page.