

Books

Books about civil engineering can be found in the University Library in shelfmark order, e.g. 624. Within each shelfmark books are arranged by a 3 letter alphabetical code which is related either to the author's family name or the first 3 letters of the title. So at 624 a book by an author called Cooper (COO) would be filed before books by Parks (PAR) or a collection of essays by different authors called "Readings in structural engineering" (REA).

You will find most civil engineering textbooks on the first floor at 624. But a surprising number of other shelfmarks will be useful including some on differing floors, see list below. Most books are on open-access shelves and are available to borrow for 4 weeks. Dictionaries and other useful reference sources will have 'For Library Use Only' on the spine.

Finding books on civil engineering subjects

The **Library Catalogue** is the key to our print resources. It shows you what is in our stock, where items will be found and identifies what is out on loan. If you know the details of a book, type one author's family name and one or two major words from the title in the search box. From the results select the required book and click on 'check availability' to see the full shelfmark and to check a copy is on the shelves.

You can browse the shelves when looking for a topic but you will miss anything on loan and ebooks. Use the keyword search on the catalogue to find all useful shelfmarks, and to identify and reserve stock that is out on loan. Take time to think about terms that express your subject – ask for help if you do not find what you are looking for.

Here are some shelfmarks for civil engineering related subjects:

Architecture	720-729	Engineering mechanics	620.1
Bridge engineering	624.2	Environmental	628
Building technology	690-699	Geology	551-559
Civil engineering	624	Highways engineering	625.7
Civil engineering economics	338.479624	Land law	346.41043
Civil engineering management	658.924	Materials	691
Construction health and safety	690.22	Planning law	346.41045
Construction law	343.41078	Project management	658.404
Earthquakes: geology	551.22	Quantity surveying	692.5
Earthquakes: structural engineering	624.176	Soil mechanics	624.1513
Engineering mathematics	510.2462	Surveying	690.24
		Urban design	711.4

Journals

Journals contain the latest research and print copies of civil engineering journals are kept on the top floor of the Library. They are shelved in alphabetical order, either as individual issues in cardboard boxes or bound together into large volumes. Some current journals will have their newest issues on the display near the Library café. These are arranged in broad subject areas such as Architecture, Business and Management, Civil Engineering and Engineering. Key titles of interest include:

Building	New Civil Engineer
Building Engineer	PE&Rs (Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing)
Civil Engineering	
Concrete	

Note that many journals are available electronically. There are direct links to ejournals when you use Discovery or the Publications search page on the Library website.

Online Resources for Civil Engineering

Electronic books (ebooks) are in the Library Catalogue. For a Library Guide on ebooks see <https://library.port.ac.uk/guides/docs/LG175.pdf>. If you have conducted a search on the Library Catalogue and only want to show ebook results, click Electronic Books under the “Collection” heading on the left of the result list.

If you are using resources when you are working away from the University campus you can search the full text of over 100,000 ebooks by going straight into one of our ebook collections. Follow the Electronic Books link from our Resources page: <https://library.port.ac.uk/ebooks.html> to see a selection of our e-book collections.

Credo Reference (available via the library catalogue) is an online source of high quality reference books and dictionaries. It even suggests how to reference what you’ve found at the bottom of each entry. More detailed referencing help is available via the Referencing@Portsmouth webpage <http://referencing.port.ac.uk/>.

Finding electronic articles on civil engineering topics – unless you have been given references by your lecturer and know exactly where to look, you can use **Discovery** to find articles on topics for your assignments. You often get an article abstract and in many cases can link to the full article using the PDF or Locate Full Text links. A Discovery search box can be found at the top right of the Library homepage and also on the **Civil Engineering and Surveying Subject Page**: <https://library.port.ac.uk/subject/sub52.html>. For a Library Guide on Discovery see <https://library.port.ac.uk/guides/docs/LG613.pdf>. You can also use the eJournals tab (at the top right of the Library homepage) to find which journals we hold electronically.

Sometimes you will need to look for the article in a print journal or, if the journal is not held here, send for an interlibrary loan: <https://library.port.ac.uk/interlib.html>

Discovery does not include all our eJournals and databases. Several specialised resources need to be searched individually. You can find an annotated list of useful databases at <https://library.port.ac.uk/subject/page298.html> but the following are some highlights:

Engineering Village	- a general database that includes civil engineering and surveying with millions of articles from 1000s of journals and links to full text where we have it
Construction Information Service	- technical information, articles, standards and other publications
BCIS Online	- building costs information service for the construction industry
Estates Gazette Interactive (EGi)	- news, research and information from the commercial property market
ICE Virtual Library	- Institution of Civil Engineers with links to full text where we have access
RICS Library Services	- property and surveying catalogue of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors

Many of these databases are available via the Civil Engineering and Surveying Subject Page under **Subjects** on the Library website. If you are using resources when you are working away from the University campus you will need to login first or set up your VPN. You can find detailed instructions via the [Accessing electronic resources](#) webpage.

The Library offers lots of other information online to help you get the most from our resources, explore our website <https://library.port.ac.uk/> (available anywhere without needing to log in) to find out more.

Further Help in finding civil engineering sources is available from the Library Support Services Desk or from the Faculty Librarian, Timothy Collinson, (Timothy.Collinson@port.ac.uk tel 023 9284 3224) or Assistant Faculty Librarian, Marie Smith marie.smith@port.ac.uk tel 023 9284 3339). Just ask!