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| **Understanding RSS feeds**  |  |

**What is RSS?**

RSS (Really Simple Syndication) is a web feed format in XML that provides summaries of web content together with links to the electronic full text.

Many websites, databases and electronic journals allow you to set up RSS feeds for articles or journals important in your field. In this way, you can be alerted whenever a new issue of your favourite e-journal is published, and automatically receive an online table of contents with links to the articles.

**How do I use RSS?**

To set up RSS feeds, you need a news reader, feed reader or aggregator – software that checks RSS feeds and displays updated content. Free web-based readers (e.g. Google Reader, Bloglines, Netvibes) let you check RSS feeds from any computer, whereas downloadable applications (e.g. FeedDemon) let you store them on your own computer.

You can set up a feed whenever you see the or logos. Simply click on the logo, copy the URL into your reader, and you will begin receiving feeds from the website, journal or database you chose.

Example: GoogleReader

