Westlaw UK
For law firms

The online legal research tool that helps you build the strongest arguments.
What is Westlaw UK?

Westlaw UK is an online legal research tool that provides quick and easy access to a vast library of consolidated primary and secondary law combined with expert guidance from our team of editors. With its easy-to-use functionality, you can instantly access the latest cases, browse books, set up alerts, track the progress of bills through Parliament and much more.

Who uses Westlaw UK?

91 out of the top 100 law firms in the UK are relying on Westlaw UK to speed up their legal research and keep up to date with changes in the law.*

Why subscribe to Westlaw UK?

Expand your knowledge across different areas of the law. Insight on Westlaw UK covers 24 topic areas from Commercial Law through to Intellectual property and Human rights. Articles are written by experts in their field and contain links to relevant cases, legislation and legal texts, ensuring you can get up to speed fast on an unfamiliar area of law fast.

Save time during the research process. Annotated Statutes on Westlaw UK, written by our team of legal experts, provides guidance on the law as it changes over time by way of amendment or judicial consideration. Quickly understand how the law will affect you, your organisation and the industry.

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*Based on the 2017 Top 200 law firm rankings from The Lawyer magazine, 91 of the top 100 law firms are Westlaw UK customers.
Westlaw UK Resources

Westlaw UK’s resources ensure that you have instant access to the information you need to help you build the strongest argument. Content is extensively interlinked throughout the site, increasing your productivity and making your research time more effective.

Cases
Cases are dated back to 1216 and contain analysis documents that include information such as; a case summary, where it’s reported, the appellate history and status of the case. The Graphical History display feature also means that even the most complex of cases can be easily understood. Our case reporters attend court daily so you can be confident that you will have access to the latest judgments quickly.

Legislation
Access fully consolidated legislation for England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland, updated daily. View and track bills from Westminster and Scottish Parliament, plus see how the law stood (or could look like) at a chosen date in time. Access regulatory and guidance materials issued by official bodies or non-governmental organisations such as HMRC Manuals, European Materials and Circulars.

Insight
Insight provides a spring board for research, particularly if you or your team are unfamiliar with a certain area of the law. Easy to navigate, you can access over 18,000 articles across 24 topics written by authors who are all leading practitioners of law. Articles are aligned with key legal trends and are integrated with primary content allowing you to further extend your research.

Books on Westlaw UK
Westlaw UK provides access to over 300 leading commentary titles from authoritative authors, including The White Book and Archbold. Move your legal library online to benefit from some of Westlaw UK’s sophisticated navigation tools and to ensure your collection is always up to date.

Journals
You can expect more than 100 full-text legal journals, expert commentary on UK law, covering key texts such as British Tax Review, Company Lawyer, ICS Employment Law Brief and Law Quarterly Review.

EU
The EU content provides access to primary legislation that constitutes the legal framework of the European Community, as well as secondary legislation, case law and national measures to see how they’re put into practice. You can view preparatory acts, parliamentary questions, and information and notices in the Official Journals C Series.

Current Awareness
View the latest developments across cases, legislation and legal developments contained in or represented by official publications, press releases and legal news. Updated every 5 minutes, we monitor over 1,000 sources of information.

News
Access an archive of articles from over 1000 news and business information databases. Coverage includes most of the UK’s national news agencies including: The Daily Telegraph, The Independent, The Guardian and The Observer.

Did you know?
Westlaw UK is the only solution that allows you to see how amendments made from a Bill will impact current legislation. You can track its progress through Parliament, follow daily updates to ensure you are kept up to date with changes. Allowing you to advise your clients with confidence, and lobby against undesirable.
Features & Functionality

As well as a large range of content, Westlaw UK has some of the best features and functionality to help you conduct research faster.

Search with ease
Benefit from a range of search options, helping you find the content you need quickly. From natural language search to suggested search terms and connectors, all results are ordered by relevance with the most relevant section highlighted.

Integration with Practical Law
If your organisation subscribes to Practical Law, you will be able to access relevant cases and legislation and journals within the Practical Law platform, creating a seamless research experience.

Save and organise documents in folders
My Folders is your own corner of the service where you can store and organise your legal research. Save research documents quickly, or pick up where you left off at your last session as your research is never deleted. With a couple of clicks you can add Case Reports, Analysis documents, Arrangements of Acts, pages from books, individual documents from search results, PDFs, and any other part of your research to My Folders. Ready and waiting for when you need them.

Index of Legal Terms*
Index of Legal Terms offers concise expert explanations of legal concepts and terms including links to the supporting cases and legislation. As well as the option to search the dictionaries, Index of Legal Terms can bring back definitions from cases, legislation or journals, so you’ll always have citable authority. Dictionaries include: Jowitt’s Dictionary of English Law, Stroud’s Judicial Dictionary of Words and Phrases and Osborn’s Concise Law Dictionary.

Revisit past research sessions
Occasionally you may want to remind yourself of the research undertaken for a particular client. With the Trail feature, you can see all your previous research sessions from the last fourteen days and access the documents that were looked at or simply pick up where you left off.

Link between relevant documents
Wherever a statutory provision is mentioned on the service, there will be a direct link to it. If a case is referenced in a book title, you can simply click on the link and be taken straight to it. And if you’re reading a journal article and it mentions a legal textbook (that is also available on the system), you’ll be able to jump straight into the relevant paragraph.

Annotated Statutes*
Westlaw UK’s Annotated Statutes provides invaluable expert guidance as changes in the law are proposed and implemented. New Acts are fully annotated by the team within 14 days of receiving Royal Assent. We include important information such as: What will be the impact of new legislation? How might the legislation be interpreted by the courts? How has the legislation been affected in light of subsequent legislation and case law? It also includes over 360 notes on key legal concepts.

*Add-on required

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