

Major reference works 2026

Empower researchers and students with the foundational knowledge to explore, connect, and excel across disciplines.





87% of ScienceDirect users agree they need fundamental information in their work.

Source: Survey of 270 users of ScienceDirect.

Major reference works

- Build fundamental knowledge and confidence in new subject areas.
- Bridge disciplines with comprehensive insights that connect the dots across subject areas.
- Are written and edited by leading experts to provide trusted, authoritative knowledge.
- Are aligned with other content types on ScienceDirect, ensuring your researchers are making the most of your content and can easily get the full picture of a subject area.
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MRWs continue to deliver value for decades

The lifetime usage of MRWs is greater over a longer period of time than other content types demonstrating the enduring value of this critical foundational content.



A recent study shows **60% of MRWs** usage is still generated **10** years after publication*

*Based on Usage Analysis on ScienceDirect



Explore our MRWs 2026, spanning topics from the Anthropocene to Medicinal Chemistry

MRW	Expected publication date
Encyclopedia of Endocrine Diseases, 3rd Edition	1 February 2026
Evolution of Nervous Systems, 3rd Edition	1 February 2026
Comprehensive Cryospheric Science and Environmental Change	1 March 2026
Encyclopedia of the Anthropocene, 2nd Edition	1 May 2026
Comprehensive Polymer Science, 2nd Edition	1 May 2026
Comprehensive Medicinal Chemistry, IV	1 May 2026
Encyclopedia in Operations Management	1 May 2026
The Heart and Vascular System: An Encyclopedia	15 May 2026
International Encyclopedia of Language and Linguistics, 3rd Edition	1 June 2026
Food and Consumer Behavior: A Comprehensive Reference	1 June 2026
Encyclopedia of Animal Behavior, 3rd Edition	1 June 2026
Encyclopedia of Ecology, 3rd Edition	1 August 2026
Encyclopedia of Particle Physics	1 August 2026
Encyclopedia of Renewable Energy Engineering	1 September 2026
Encyclopedia of Psychotherapy, 2nd Edition	1 September 2026
Consciousness: A Comprehensive Reference, 2nd Edition	1 September 2026
Comprehensive Organic Functional Group Transformations, III	15 September 2026
Encyclopedia of Social Measurement, 2nd Edition	1 October 2026
Encyclopedia of Climate System Science	15 October 2026
Encyclopedia of Pharmacy Practice and Clinical Pharmacy, 2nd Edition	1 November 2026
Encyclopedia of Tribology and Lubrication	1 November 2026
Encyclopedia of Fuel Processing Technology	15 November 2026

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^{*}Only available pre-publication of the MRW