

# Finding Psychological Tests

## Quick Start Guide

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### What are Psychological Tests?

Psychological tests are survey tools that gauge certain traits, aptitudes, habits, or needs. There are two main categories of tests:

1. **Published Tests.** Information about these is available in a variety of sources. The actual tests are only available from the test publishers. It is sometimes possible to find these published in a journal or report.
2. **Unpublished Tests.** These tests are not available commercially, but can often be found in journal literature.

This guide will show you how to find information and reviews about published and unpublished psychological tests.

### Getting Started

To start finding information about psychological tests, the first place to look is in one of the following reference sources. These sources provide comprehensive and useful information on tests. You can discover how to find a particular type of test, how to locate a specific test, and how to locate test publishers. You can also find out how to evaluate tests and how to get more information on a specific test.

1. **Tests in Print (TIP):** *Concordia Reference Collection BF 176 T47 2002.* TIP is a bibliography of every published and commercially available psychological test. TIP acts as an index to tests, test reviews and literature on specific tests. There is also a Classified Subject Index that lists tests according to 19 subject areas.
2. **Mental Measurements Yearbook (MMY):** *Concordia Reference Collection BF 431 Z9 B9 2003.* Tests are listed alphabetically by title and include descriptions, critical reviews and references for hundreds of tests.
3. **Tests:** *Concordia Reference Collection BF 176 T43 2003.* This bibliography contains information on testing instruments in psychology, education and business.
4. **Test Critiques:** *Concordia Reference Collection BF 176 T33 1984.* This is designed as a companion to *Tests* and contains information on the practical applications and technical aspects of tests. Don't forget to look in *Tests* for more information on any test described in this resource.

### Online Databases

Psychological tests, reviews of tests, and articles that talk about the use of tests and measurements are often published in journals, including both published and unpublished tests. Journal articles can be found in online databases. Access to these online databases is provided from the Databases page on the Library's website (<http://library.concordia.ab.ca/databases>).

1. **PsycINFO.** Search this database for specific tests, scales or instruments in academic literature. To find appropriate keywords, use the "*Thesaurus of Psychological Index Terms*" (BF 32 A512 2001) located at Concordia Library's Reference Desk. An online version of the *Thesaurus* is also available within PsycINFO. Some useful subject headings include:

- Achievement measures
- Aptitude measures
- Attitude measures
- Intelligence tests
- Performance tests
- Personality measures
- Psychometry
- Test construction

Cross-search your keywords with the Advanced Search classification field for tests and/or measures (to search all testing-related classification, use "22\*" as the classification system). It is also useful to search the Tests & Measures index under "Indexes" in PsycINFO when searching for a particular test.

2. **ERIC.** This is an excellent resource for tests, scales, and measures relating to education. Use "*Thesaurus of ERIC Descriptors*" to find appropriate keywords, located at the Library's Reference Desk (Z695.1 E3 T44 2001). An online version is available within the ERIC database. Some useful subject headings are:

- Intelligence tests
- Psychological testing
- Cognitive measurement
- Psychological evaluation
- Educational testing
- Aptitude tests
- Occupational tests
- Performance tests.

3. **SocINDEX with Full-Text.** This is another online database where you can find information on psychological tests. Search by test name in the title field, use keywords to search by subject, and use the online thesaurus to identify useful terminology.
4. **MEDLINE.** This database provides access to tests in biomedical literature that relate to medicine, psychiatry, and the neurosciences.

## Other Resources

1. **American Psychological Association – Testing and Assessment** (<http://www.apa.org/science/testing.html>).
2. **Buros Institute of Mental Measurements** (<http://www.unl.edu/buros/>). This site provides the latest information from the publishers of *Mental Measurements Yearbook*. Find information on tests, test reviews, and test publishers.
3. **Directory of Unpublished Experimental Mental Measures.** Available in NEOS Library Catalogue.
4. **Educational Testing Service (ETS)** (<http://www.ets.org>). This is a searchable database of over 20,000 tests and measurements, which provides information such as test descriptions and availability.
5. **Measures for Psychological Assessment: A guide to 3000 original sources and their applications.** Available in NEOS Library Catalogue.