Identifying and Finding Tests and Measures

Searching for tests and measures can sometimes be difficult. This guide lists the major sources you should consult for educational, psychological, or behavioral measures. It does not address medical diagnostic or physical tests. Sources listed within each category are arranged by convenience of use, not by comprehensiveness.

### Finding Reviews of a Specific Test

**Test Review Locator**

http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp

This source may direct you to *Test Critiques* or *Mental Measurements Yearbook*. Some of the reviews are available online for a fee. This database is a volunteer effort. Don’t take the results as definitive.

**Test Critiques** 10 volumes, latest published in 1994

Ref BF176 .T418

Use the cumulative test title index in the last volume. If the test is in this set you’ll find lots of descriptive information plus a list of further references.

**Mental Measurements Yearbook** Z5814 .P8 B932 latest edition Ready Reference

Complete Index / Comprehensive Index / Tests Reviewed in the MMY Series

http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp

The web page is a convenient way to search by test title the 9th edition to present of *MMY*.

### Getting Your Hands on a Known Instrument

If it is a published test, you may need to contact the publisher and purchase the test. Tests that are not commercially available are referred to as “unpublished.” You may need to contact the author of the test for permission to use the instrument. You *might* be able to find it (or information on getting it) on the web. Try a search engine.

### Published Tests and Measures

Try searching the library catalog by keyword with the name of the instrument, for example:

- “trust in physician scale”
- “black male experiences measure”
- “willingness to tolerate nonconformists”
- “instrumental activities of daily living scale”

For over 100 books that include instruments we’ve included the names of the measures in the contents note. All the contents notes begin with the phrase “Tests/Measurements covered in this book”
Tests and Measures in the Social Sciences
http://libraries.uta.edu/helen/Test&Meas/testmainframe.htm
Finding aid developed by a librarian at the University of Texas at Arlington.

ETS Test Collection
Go to http://www.ets.org  Then click on the link for Tests in bar near top of page. You will then be in the Test Directory. Scroll down until you get to Test Link and click there. The description includes contact information.

Tests in Print

Non-Commercially Available Tests and Measures
Unpublished tests and measures are those that are not available commercially for purchase. There are several sources that can help you identify unpublished tests. To actually get a copy of an “unpublished” the test you may:
1) be lucky and find it replicated in a book or journal,
2) obtain it from Behavioral Measurement Database Services (HaPI database will indicate availability)
3) see an indication in the test author’s journal article that the instrument is deposited with the ASIST National Auxiliary Publications Service, or
4) need to contact the researcher who created it.

Directory of Unpublished Experimental Measures
Reference BF431 .D455
Title index for the Directory of Unpublished Experimental Mental Measures : Volumes 1-7
Reference BF431 .D456
Entries are arranged within categories and then alphabetically by test title. There is an author index for each volume and a subject index.

HaPI (Health and Psychosocial Instruments) 1985 -
Select from Indexes webpage http://www.sc.edu/library/er
Index to over 15,000 instruments including those related to organizational behavior and library and information science. There is no way you can tell from the citation if the source or references include the actual instrument.

Selecting a Test

ETS Test Collection
Go to http://www.ets.org  Then click on the link for Tests in bar near top of page. You will then be in the Test Directory. Scroll down until you get to Test Link and click there.

The descriptions are searchable. ERIC descriptors are assigned to each entry.

Buros Institute Classified Subject Index
http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/category.html
Classifies tests in Mental Measurements Yearbook (since the 9th edition, 1985) into 19 major categories.
Mental Measurements Yearbook  Score Index  
Ref  Z5814 .P8 B932  Latest edition shelved in Ready Reference  
The Score Index (no cumulative index, you must consult each edition) lists the actual variables measured by the test.  To do the best search, think up alternate terms for the variable.

Ref  BF176 .T43 2003  
Meant as a quick and easy guide for major tests, it has some special features that could be helpful: foreign language availability index and indexes of tests suitable for special populations (hearing impaired, visually impaired, and physically impaired).

Test Critiques  10 volumes, latest published in 1994  
Ref  BF176 .T418  
Use the categorized listing by broad subject area in the back of the last volume.

The following books describe and comment on instruments in a specialized area.  To find other specialized books search the library catalog (tips offered in “Searching the Library Catalog” section of this handout).

Encyclopedia of Psychological Assessment  
Reference BF39.E497 2003

Directory of Psychological Tests in the Sport and Exercise Sciences  
Reference  GV 706.4 .D57 1996

The Special Educator’s Comprehensive Guide to 301 Diagnostic Tests  
Reference LC 4019.P53 2006

Sociological Measurement: An Inventory of Scales and Indices  
Reference  Z7164 .S68 B6  (1967)

Samples of Tests and Measures  
The samples provided may range from 3 test items to the majority of the instrument.  All of the books listed are in either Reference or Science Reference.  See the “Searching the Library Catalog” section of this handout for tips on finding books that can be checked out.

Measures for Clinical Practice: A Sourcebook.  Fischer and Corcoran.  2 volumes  
Reference  BF176 .C66 2000  
Measures are arranged by use with adults, couples, families, or children.  No title index, scan the table of contents.  There is a cross-index by problem area.  Used widely by social workers.

Measures of Personality and Social Psychological Attitudes  
Reference  BF698.4 .M38 1990  
Measures are grouped by topic, scan the table of contents.  Each chapter begins with a discussion of key issues, locating and selecting measures, and a brief discussion of the measures reviewed.

Handbook of Tests and Measurements for Black Populations  
Reference BF176 .H37 1996  (vol 1-2)

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Search a relevant database [http://www.sc.edu/library/er](http://www.sc.edu/library/er) for citations to articles which will include the fulltext of an instrument. If you know the name of the instrument search with the name and acronym, but you can also search by a topic word or phrase and limit your search.

**CINAHL** (Nursing)
Change the search limit by selecting Publication Type and then *Questionnaire or Research Instrument*

**PsycINFO** (Psychology, including industrial or workplace psychology)
- There is a browsable alphabetical Index of Tests and Measures
- To find articles that include the instrument try searching with phrases: test appended, survey appended, questionnaire appended, instrument appended

**ERIC** (Education)
Use the pull down to search Publication Type and then find *Tests/Questionnaires*

**Searching the Library Catalog**

Is there a specialized book that describes, indexes, or collects tests in a likely subject area? Searching the library catalog can be a little tough because it isn’t always obvious if the book is about tests and measurements or if the book includes tests and measurements. Relevant subject headings include:

- Educational tests and measurements
- Ability - testing
- Achievement tests
- Character tests
- Competency based educational tests
- Criterion referenced tests
- Health surveys
- Language and languages - ability testing
- Norm referenced tests
- Personality tests
- Psychological tests
- Psychological tests for children
- Reading - ability testing
- Sociometry
- *subject* - methodology
  - ex. sex role - research - methodology
- *subject* - psychological testing
  - ex. aged - psychological testing
- *subject* - testing
  - ex. child development - testing
Test Publishers

Buros/ERIC Test Publisher Directory Search
http://buros.unl.edu/buros/jsp/search.jsp
Search by keyword. Be sure to check □Publisher. Directory of over 900 major commercial test publishers. Searches “freeform” - - a search on smith finds two test publishers: Shelby Mills Smith Inc. and Smith, Gerald R.

Tests in Print
Directory in the back of each edition.