

Determining Publishers' Policies on Open Access: SHERPA/RoMEO

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php>

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For previously published items, we have found that authors seldom retain a copy of their publisher's agreement. In those cases, one of the tools at the disposal of authors to determine if their publishers will permit them to deposit a copy of the full-text of the publication in an open-access archive is the SHERPA/RoMEO database. The database summarizes publishers' conditions and categorizes publishers by colors, indicating level of author rights. While the database is hosted by the University of Nottingham, it contains information about publishers from around the world, including most of the top academic journals frequently utilized within the United States. Users may search by journal title, International Standard Serial Numbers, or by the names of publishers. Search results (as shown in the example below) provide a summary of policies, with links to publishers' websites and other sources of information.

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