## SOURCES: ADVANTAGES & DISADVANTAGES



- The table below provides examples of different sources.
- Use it to help you find and evaluate sources.

Source Type	Sources	Advantages +	Disadvantages -
The DESIGN of EVERYDAY THINGS	Discovery toolbar,     The British Library:     www.explore.bl.uk     Worldcat: www.worldcat.org	<ul> <li>Give a thorough coverage of a topic</li> <li>Checked by publisher to ensure quality</li> <li>Usually well-researched</li> <li>Can include references to other sources</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Take a long time to be published, so information may become out of date</li> <li>Author may be biased</li> </ul>
Academic Journals  Fashion Theory	<ul> <li>Examples:</li> <li>Art History</li> <li>Journal of Visual Arts</li> <li>Practice and Fashion Theory.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Up to date</li> <li>Often contain original research</li> <li>Short and focused on a specific topic</li> <li>Peer reviewed and quality controlled</li> <li>Include references to other sources</li> </ul>	Cannot cover a subject in the same depth as a book.

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Magazines  Magazines	<ul> <li>Examples:</li> <li>Creative Review</li> <li>Campaign</li> <li>Cinefex</li> <li>Computer Arts</li> </ul> Examples: <ul> <li>Vogue,</li> <li>i-D,</li> <li>POP,</li> <li>Oh Comely,</li> <li>Tank</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Focus on professional interest</li> <li>Up-to-date coverage</li> <li>Useful source of images</li> <li>Highlight new resources</li> <li>Chance to engage with professional communities</li> <li>Up-to-date coverage of news and opinion</li> <li>Useful source of images</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Not as extensively quality reviewed as academic journals</li> <li>Can be biased and unreliable</li> <li>May be written more as entertainment rather than as factual information</li> </ul>
Newspapers	<ul> <li>Examples:</li> <li>Broadsheets: The Times, The Independent, The Guardian</li> <li>Tabloids: The Sun, The Daily Mirror</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Current source of news and opinions</li> <li>Useful source of images</li> <li>May include facts and figures</li> <li>Broadsheets such as <i>The Times</i> and <i>The Guardian</i> tend to be more reliable</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Can be biased and unreliable</li> <li>Political loyalties may influence information</li> <li>Tabloids such as <i>The Sun</i> can be written more as entertainment rather than as factual information</li> </ul>

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Films/Radio/Television Programmes  kanopy	<ul><li>Examples:</li><li>BoB,</li><li>Kanopy,</li><li>BBC iPlayer</li><li>Netflix</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Documentaries and recorded interviews can be useful primary sources</li> <li>Offer visual representation of subject</li> <li>Can be used as a historical documents when based on facts or real events</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>May be created for entertainment</li> <li>Subjects or events might not be accurately shown; could be biased</li> <li>Less likely to offer further references to follow up</li> </ul>
Websites	<ul> <li>Examples:</li> <li>Gallery &amp; museum websites</li> <li>e.g. V&amp;A</li> <li>Practitioner websites</li> <li>Organisational websites</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Information can be found quickly</li> <li>Can be easily updated</li> <li>Gallery websites provide information about a piece (medium, size, date of creation)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>No quality control; anyone can upload information.</li> <li>May not be of an academic standard</li> <li>May be unreliable or misleading</li> <li>Hard to narrow down useful results</li> </ul>
Statistics  Which factors influence your decision of purchasing a book?	Statista.com     Office for National Statistics,     Data.gov.uk	Can provide quantitative data (numbers) to support an argument	Statistics could be manipulated