

# Open Access (OA) Journals & Articles

## What is Open Access?

**Open Access (OA)** refers to the free, immediate, online availability of research outputs such as journal articles or books, combined with the rights to use these outputs fully in the digital environment. **Open access journals** are scholarly publications whose articles are available and reusable worldwide free of charge and without restrictions immediately upon publication.

Unlike traditional subscription-based journals, OA content is open to all readers with no access fees. Most open access journals publish articles under [Creative Commons](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/) licenses, allowing for broader reuse and distribution while maintaining proper attribution.

## Key Benefits of Open Access:

- **Increased visibility and impact** of research through wider accessibility
- **Enhanced citation frequency** due to unrestricted access
- **Accelerated knowledge dissemination** without paywalls
- **Global accessibility** regardless of institutional subscription status

## Tools and Resources

[Directory of Open Access Journals \(DOAJ\)](https://doaj.org/)

The **Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)** is the premier resource for discovering quality open access journals. Launched in 2003, DOAJ now contains over 21,000 journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, arts, and humanities.

#### **Key Features:**

- Community-curated list of peer-reviewed OA journals
- Comprehensive coverage across all disciplines and languages
- Quality standards for inclusion (peer review, licensing, copyright policies)
- Serves as the starting point for OA journal searches

## Other Useful Tools:

- **BASE (Bielefeld Academic Search Engine)** - Specializes in open access content discovery
- **OpenDOAR** - Directory of institutional repositories

# Open Access Journal Highlights

## Architecture & Design

### AGATHÓN - International Journal of Architecture, Art and Design

**URL:** <https://www.agathon.it>

**ISSN:** 2532-683X (online), 2464-9309 (print)

AGATHÓN is an open access journal indexed by SCOPUS and SCIMAGO, covering Urban Planning, Architecture, Engineering, Art, and Design. The journal publishes original research in English and Italian, following a double-blind peer review process.

**Focus Areas:** Urban planning, architectural design, engineering applications, product and visual design

# Architectural Science Review

**Availability:** Check DOAJ for current open access status **Focus:** Building performance, environmental design, sustainable architecture

# Business & Management

# Data Science

## *Data*

This journal focuses on enhancing data transparency and reusability in science. It publishes research on data collection methods, analysis techniques, and scientific dataset descriptions.

### **Key Features:**

- Indexed in Scopus, Web of Science (ESCI), and other major databases
- CiteScore Q2 ranking in Information Systems and Management
- Rapid publication (average 19.3 days to first decision)

**Focus Areas:** Data methodology, dataset documentation, data science applications

# Tips for Authors and Researchers

## Finding Quality OA Journals:

1. **Use DOAJ** as your primary search tool for legitimate OA journals
2. **Check indexing status** in major databases (Scopus, Web of Science)
3. **Verify peer review processes** and editorial board credentials
4. **Review licensing terms** to understand reuse rights

## Funding Considerations:

- Many OA journals use **Article Processing Charges (APCs)** to cover publication costs
- Some journals operate on **diamond open access** (free for both authors and readers)
- Check institutional funding support for OA publication fees
- Consider **green open access** through institutional repositories as an alternative

## Quality Indicators:

- Inclusion in DOAJ directory
  - Clear peer review policies
  - Transparent editorial processes
  - Proper ISSN registration
  - Appropriate licensing (typically Creative Commons)
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