



# HOW TO SEARCH QUALITY SOURCES FOR LITERATURE REVIEW

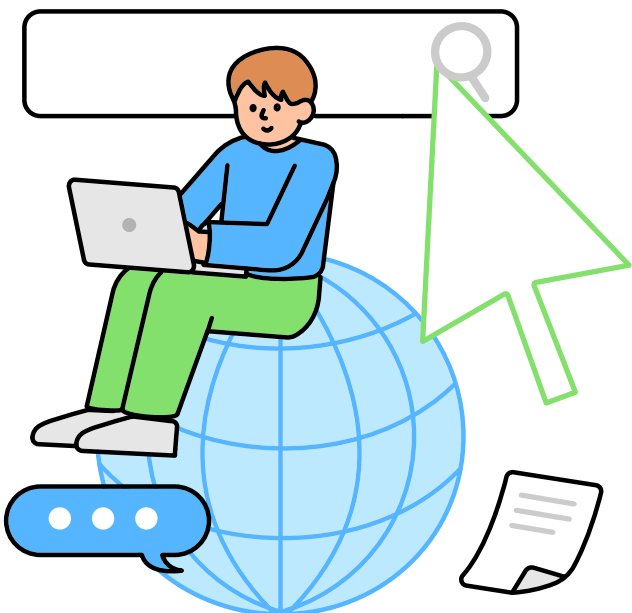
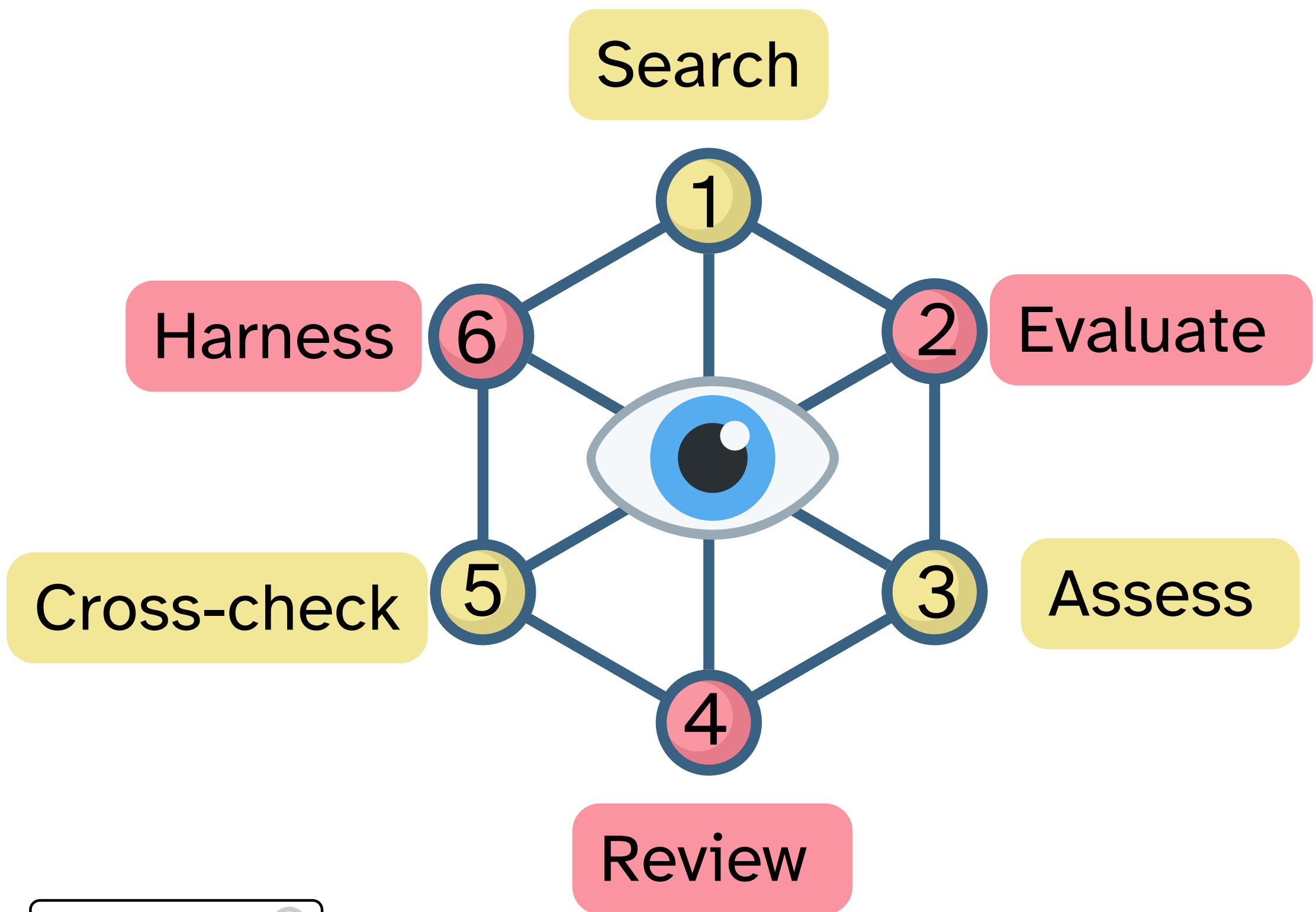
6 Steps





# S.E.A.R.C.H.

*6 essential steps-your key to academic success:*




# 01



## SEARCH WITH SMART STRATEGY

*Search Smart, Not Hard!*

 Start with trusted academic databases to find the most relevant research:

**1** Google Scholar

Search

**2** PubMed

**3** Scopus

★ These platforms offer peer-reviewed, credible articles right from the start, so you can focus on your topic without getting sidetracked.



*Pro Tip:*

*Start with trusted databases to avoid wasting time on unreliable sources.*



# 02



## EVALUATE KEYWORDS EFFICIENTLY

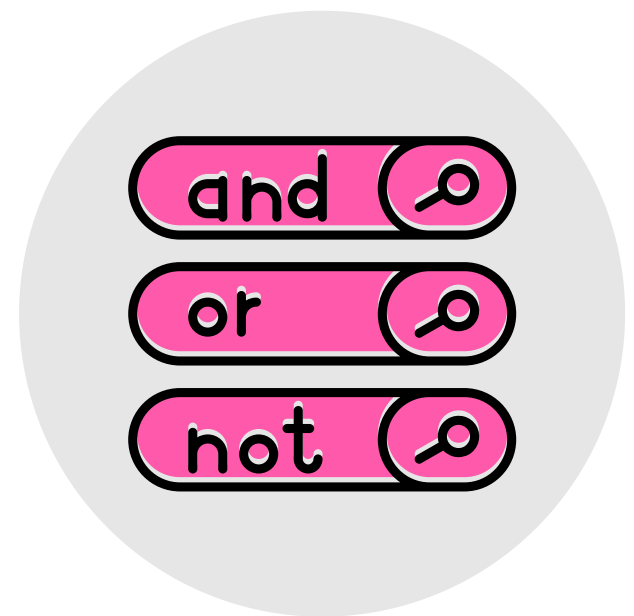
### *Evaluate & Empower Your Keywords!*

📖 Break your topic down and use Boolean operators to refine your search:

1 AND: Combines terms.

2 OR: Includes synonyms.

3 NOT: Excludes terms.



★ For example, search “bioremediation AND soil contamination” to focus on specific research.



*Pro Tip:*

*Try combinations to narrow or expand your search,  
uncover more relevant results, and save time.*



# 03



## ASSESS SOURCE CREDIBILITY

*Assess Everything Like a Pro!*

 Ask these key questions to assess the credibility of your sources:

**1** Who's the author? Is the author a recognized expert in the field?

**2** Where was it published? Peer-reviewed journals are more reliable than websites.

**3** When was it written? More recent research is often more relevant.

★ Articles published in peer-reviewed journals offer credible, high-quality research .



*Pro Tip:*

*Stick to peer-reviewed sources and journals with a high impact-factor.*



# 04



## REVIEW REFERENCES

*Review and Uncover the Hidden Gems!*

 Dig deeper into every selected key paper:

**1** Explore the reference lists and citations of key papers.

**2** Citation chaining: Follow references from key articles to find more sources.

**3** Track referenced studies: Look for overlooked papers and additional insights

★ Often, the most valuable research is hidden in the references or cited papers of key studies.



*Pro Tip:*

*After reading a valuable paper, review its citation list to discover more sources.*





## CROSS-CHECK DATABASES

*Cross-Check for Depth and Accuracy!*

 Cross-check your results across multiple databases for more comprehensive findings:

**1** Different databases offer different insights.

**2** Explore all available databases to get broad perspective.

**3** Use synonyms to broaden your search and ensure full coverage of your topic.

★ For example, using both Google Scholar and PubMed can give you a broader understanding.



*Pro Tip:*

*Don't rely on just one source or platform and cover all aspects of your research.*





# 06



## HARNESS ORGANIZATION TOOLS

*Harness the Power of Organization!*


 Organize your research with tools like:

**1** Reference management tool for managing references.

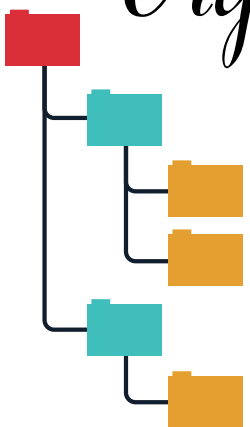
**2** Spreadsheets to track articles, keywords, and notes.

**3** Organize and tag your sources by theme or topic.

★ Use Zotero or Mendeley to organize your references.

 *Pro Tip:*

*Organization makes it easy to find and reference key articles and saves you time.*







Struggling to Navigate Research?

*Search and Review to Achieve  
Excellence!*

