

# Using library resources

## Building a stable link

### Can a link really be unbreakable?

Having broken links in your unit can hinder the student experience and prevent students from accessing the resources you want them to. Creating and embedding stable links will fix this!

### What is a stable link?

Stable links (also known as permalinks) are URLs that will always take a user to a specified resource, regardless of login status or location. A stable link ensures that users are authenticated as a Deakin user and are therefore granted access to the resource.

You can identify a stable link by the presence of ezproxy in the URL.



It is essential to use stable links in your unit so that students can access resources from home, aren't asked to pay for a resource, and so that the link won't unexpectedly break.

### How can you create a stable link?

To convert your URL into a stable link, follow these steps:

1. Go to the [Link Builder](#) on the library website.
2. Enter the DOI or URL for the resource.

A screenshot of a web interface titled 'Stable Link Builder'. Under the heading 'STEP 1: enter URL or DOI for the resource', there is a text input field containing the text '10.1021/ie040076u'. The text in the input field is highlighted with a red rectangular box.


3. Click 'Build link'.

A screenshot of a web interface titled 'STEP 2: build stable link'. There is a button labeled 'Build link' which is highlighted with a red rectangular box.

4. The Link Builder will generate a stable link for the resource. You'll see that ezproxy has been added at the beginning of the link. Click 'Test link' to ensure it works.

A screenshot of a web interface titled 'STEP 3: test stable link'. There is a text input field containing the URL 'https://ezproxy.deakin.edu.au/login?qurl=http://dx.doi.org/10.1021/ie040076u'. The entire URL in the input field is highlighted with a red rectangular box. Below the input field is a button labeled 'Test link' which is also highlighted with a red rectangular box.

This URL can be copied and sent to students and colleagues. If you want to embed your stable link into content in CloudDeakin – read the guide on [Linking directly to resources in CloudDeakin](#), as there is a trick to it!

Note: Some databases will provide ezproxy links already. Look out for the permalink symbol 

If you need further assistance, [contact your Liaison Librarian](#).