

Think to Link

Sharing Library Articles

- Bad way: Download
- Good way: Link

Why

- Statistics
 - Download: If you download and share an article, only one download is record. The resource looks under-used.
 - Link: Linking helps Randall Library accurately track usage - cost per use is a metric that we use to determine whether or not to keep or cut resources.
- Rules
 - Download: Some library database licenses prohibit distributing content. The sharing of copyrighted sources is not always covered by Fair Use.
 - Link: Linking complies with UNCW database licenses and U.S. copyright law.
- Accessibility
 - Download: Sharing a downloaded copy means *you* have to make sure the .pdf is fully accessible.
 - Link: Links allows your students to use features in the library databases, including accessibility tools.
- Teaching
 - Download: Sharing a downloaded copy obscures the means of access, reinforcing the myth that everything is available for free online.
 - Link: Linking can help teach your students to be aware and thoughtful about issues of access and their information privilege.

So, Think to Link!

Brought to you by the William H. Randall Library at the University of North Carolina Wilmington