



We collect Australia's stories. Ensure your story is preserved for future generations through legal deposit.

Legal deposit in Australia

[Legal deposit](#) makes up the heart of our national collection and helps us preserve Australia's stories.

One copy of everything that is published in Australia is to be given to the National Library under the legal deposit provisions of the Copyright Act (1968). States and territories in Australia each have their own legal deposit legislation, and copies of publications should also be deposited to your local state and territory library.

Legal deposit applies to anything that is published, in print or electronically, and made available to the public for free or for sale in Australia including:

- **books**
- **graphic novels, comic books, zines**
- **maps, sheet music**
- **newspapers, magazines, journals, newsletters**
- **standalone or annual reports**
- **government publications**

An ISBN, ISSN or ISMN is not mandatory for legal deposit. However, these numbers do assist in identifying your unique publication and required for the [Australian Lending Rights scheme](#).

Published works that are not required to be deposited or are only selectively collected include: blank forms and labels; calendars and diaries; activity-based materials such as colouring books, puzzle books and games that do not have significant text; training and procedure manuals; minutes of meetings; teaching and course notes, course workbooks and theses; press releases and trade advertising.

The benefits of legal deposit

By depositing you'll help build the national collection. Once deposited your work will be preserved for future generations. Your publication will help researchers, scholars, and audiences everywhere to understand the Australian experience. Legal deposit collections form a diverse and inclusive picture of the nation and capture what we are thinking, imagining, and writing about over time.

There are over 10 million items in the national collection, and we want Australia's publishers to help us continue to build a comprehensive resource for all Australians to enjoy. Deposited publications reach a large national and global audience through discovery services such as [Trove](#), with electronic access conditions set by the depositor.



What and when to deposit

If your work is published and available to the public both in print and electronically, we prefer the electronic format. If your work is only available to the public in print, you should deposit the print edition with us. We only require one copy.

New editions that have significant updates are accepted into the collection alongside previous editions and should be deposited. If a publication only has minor changes, such as new format sizes or corrections, a new copy should not be deposited.

You should deposit your work within one month of the publication's release date.

How to deposit – National edeposit (NED)

Electronic deposit is free, easy, safe and fast, and is our preferred way to receive collection items. You can deposit an electronic copy of your publication through the National edeposit service (NED) ned.gov.au. You can set access conditions at the time of deposit.

Electronic deposits through NED are discoverable in the National Library Catalogue and Trove almost immediately. You will receive an automated acknowledgement of your deposit. Electronic files need to be free of Digital Rights Management restrictions (DRM) so they can be preserved and made available into the future.

By depositing electronically, you will have met your legal deposit obligations to the National Library of Australia. You may still have obligations to your state or territory library.

How to deposit – Print deposit

If you choose to, you can deliver a copy of your publication in person to the National Library. We will ask you to complete a form when you deposit.

When depositing in print by post there is no standard form to be completed, simply include your name and address on the package or on a slip with the publication.

Send books to:

Legal Deposit
National Library of Australia
Canberra ACT 2600

Send magazines and journals to:

Australian Serials
National Library of Australia
Canberra ACT 2600

While we value print publications deposited in the collection, due to the volume of deposits received we cannot send an acknowledgment. Your publication will appear on the National Library Catalogue within 3 months.

If you have further questions about legal deposit, please refer to our frequently asked questions page by searching for Legal Deposit on library.gov.au. Alternatively, you can email the legal deposit team at legaldeposit@nla.gov.au.

Thank you for contributing to the national collection, we look forward to receiving and caring for your work.

