

Pathfinder for Islam

1. For general background information, use an **encyclopedia**, such as *World Book* or *New Book of Knowledge Encyclopedia*.

2. Generate a set of **keywords** or terms, such as:

Islam

Muhammad, prophet

Islamic empire

Muslim

Also look under the **specific** topics: Ramadan, hajj, shahada, jihad, pillars of faith

3. For specific facts, use specialized reference books, such as:

Encyclopedia of Multiculturalism

The Ancient and Medieval World

Medieval World

4. For general information, use a subscription database from the Digital Library, such as ABC-Clio.

5. For current information search for periodicals a magazine index, such as EBSCO.

6. For current information, also check the **internet**. Remember to evaluate what you find because quality varies greatly from site to site. Some good websites include:

<http://www.factmonster.com/ce6/society/A0825600.html> (Information on Islam)

<http://www.factmonster.com/ipd/A0588998.html> (Pillars of Faith)

<http://cnn.com/2004/WORLD/meast/01/23/hajj.overview/index.html> (brief overview of Islam)

7. For in-depth information, examine **books**. Use your keywords to locate books through the library's catalog. Some good Dewey Decimal Classification Numbers include:

297

909.097671

304.59

Islam

Islamic empire

Islamic law