

## Types of Periodicals

### *What is a periodical?*

A periodical is anything that is published on a re-occurring basis (or “periodically”) at regular intervals. Some are published more frequently than others, and some go through a “peer review” or evaluation process by experts in the subject or field of study. The following table may help when identify in the type of periodical. You may find that the resource you are looking at does not fit perfectly into one category. You will have to determine which category fits most of its characteristics.

	<b>Newspapers</b>	<b>Popular Magazines</b>	<b>Trade and Industry Publications</b>	<b>Scholarly and Research Journals</b>
<b>Examples</b>	Globe and Mail National Post London Free	Maclean’s Newsweek Time Magazine	Foodservice and Hospitality HR Reporter Canadian Paramedicine	American Journal of Nursing Canadian Journal of Criminology Journal of Positive Behaviour Interventions
<b>Written For</b>	General Public	General Public	Employee and Members in a specific industry	Professionals, Scholars, Students
<b>Written By</b>	Journalists, Staff, Writers, Freelance Writers	Journalists, Staff, Writers, Freelance Writers	Industry Experts, Or Journalists with subject expertise	Researchers, Academic professors, Scholars

<b>Content</b>	News stories Current events Classified ads Editorials Book reviews	Currents events and news Hot topics Short articles Interviews	Current trends, news and products in an industry Industry information Career information	Reports on original research In-depth analysis of topics Lengthier articles Statistical information Scholarly or peer-reviewed
<b>Language</b>	Non-technical vocabulary written for a general audience	Non-technical vocabulary; other simple language	Written for practitioners in the field; uses specialized jargon	Academic level writing and vocabulary; specialized language of the discipline  Can be highly technical
<b>Appearance</b>	Photos and many ads Printed on newsprint paper	Many full page color glossy ads and photos	Graphs, charts, tables and photos relevant to the industry  Glossy ads	Graphs, charts and tables  Ads and photos are rarely (if ever) included
<b>Published</b>	Daily	Weekly, Monthly or Bi-weekly	Monthly	Monthly, Bi-weekly, and quarterly
<b>Sources</b>	Sources are rarely cited in full	Sources, when used, are rarely cited in full	Occasional brief references list  Sources can be cited in text	Contains footnotes and fully cited references; often extensive