

A staged process

Part of the process	Aspect of the literature search and review
	Initial browsing to scope what is published ↓
	Recording details of potential useful databases, journals, etc. ↓
	Detailed searches for relevant material, checking its quality ↓
	Making careful choices about what to read ↓
	In-depth engagement with key reading matter ↓
	Decision-making about how to draw upon previous research for ideas, theory, methods, background material ↓
	Understanding the connections between different items that you read ↓
	Decision-making: what to include in the literature review, at what length ↓
	Writing up your literature review ↓
	Referring back to aspects of the literature about methods and methodologies as you evolve your own methods ↓
	Referring back to aspects of the literature when you have analysed your own data or material, for purposes of comparison ↓
	Drawing on the literature in your discussions of your findings ↓
	Referring back to aspects of the literature as you draw conclusions and/or make recommendations ↓
	Maintaining reading, to ensure your work is up to date when you submit it ↓
	Adapting your literature review and possibly other aspects of your research, if feasible, in the light of any newly published material