



## Truman Bodden Law School Library

# LIBRARY TIP OF THE WEEK

The type of **brackets** used around the date in a citation indicates the importance of the date when finding the case.<sup>1</sup>

**Square brackets** show that the **date is essential** to finding the report. Some law report series publish more than one volume per year. For example:

- [1968] 2 All ER 541

- Volume 2 of the 1968 All England Law Reports, page 541

As there is a volume 2 of the All England Law Reports each year, you need the date in order to find the correct volume 2. Some report series don't have volume numbers at all, in which case the year is the only clue as to which volume you need and will therefore be in square brackets.

**Round brackets** indicate that the **date is less important** when tracking down the case and that the volume is required to locate the case report. For example:

- (1976) 62 Cr App R 262

- Volume 62 of the Criminal Appeal Reports, page 262

The Criminal Appeal Reports publish one volume each year, numbered consecutively, so the year is less crucial when locating the case report as the correct volume can be identified from the volume number alone.

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<sup>1</sup> --, Understanding Legal Citations and Abbreviations

<[http://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/ld.php?content\\_id=2557494](http://libguides.liverpool.ac.uk/ld.php?content_id=2557494)> accessed 16 October 2017