Definition: A permanent link is a web address that will consistently point to a specific information source. It is a no-fail method of linking to articles (avoids “link rot”). A permanent link is also known as a permalink, stable link, durable link, persistent link, or document link.

Why can't I just copy the URL in my browser's address bar?

- You may be in violation of copyright law or the usage license from a supplier if you email or post a PDF or other content directly.
- URLs that appear in the address bar of your web browser when you search the library's subscription databases often contain dynamically generated, session-based or search-based information that only works for that search session.
- Using permalinks also ensures that only users that are authorized to view the content will be able to do so, since they will use the library's proxy server.

How does a permalink will work from off-campus?

When on campus, access is automatic. You are being authenticated even if you don’t realize it because the database vendor is able to recognize and authenticate your computer’s IP address. When off-campus, authentication happens via a proxy server.

This handout will cover four ways to create a permalink:

- Using links supplied by EbscoHost
- Using a DOI (Digital Object Identifier) and manually linking it to our proxy prefix
- Using the “Capture Citation” option offered by SFX in our online catalog

Questions?

(312) 942-5950
Lib_Ref@rush.edu

http://rushu.libguides.com/
Creating permalinks from items supplied by EbscoHost

The following EbscoHost databases offer PDF access.

- Academic Search Complete
- Business Source Elite
- CINAHL
- ERIC
- Health Source: Nursing/Academic Edition
- PsycARTICLES
- PsycINFO

To create a permalink to an item accessed through one of the above databases:

1. Click on the link icon and the word “Permalink” as shown below.

2. That will bring up a box with the permalink address inside it. That is your permalink. Copy and paste into your syllabus or other document. Remember to test it from off-campus.
Creating a Permalink from a DOI

A DOI, or Digital Object Identifier, can be used to create permalinks. First you need to find the DOI. Often they are given with citation information (see example from PubMed below).

The DOI can also be found by using this website: [http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/](http://www.crossref.org/guestquery/)

Once you have the DOI, you can either manually create a permalink by adding Rush’s proxy prefix, or you can use our Proxyfier tool.

### Creating a Permalink from a DOI Manually

A proxy allows off-site users to access Rush’s online resources. A proxy prefix is essential to gaining access. The DOI proxy prefix for Rush University Medical Center is: [http://ezproxy.rush.edu/login?url=http://dxdoi.org](http://ezproxy.rush.edu/login?url=http://dxdoi.org)

Add this prefix to the DOI, and you have a permalink.
