

## What is a Pathfinder?

Library Pathfinders, or Subject Guides or Guides to Resources are used in many academic libraries to help library users with their initial research needs by making them aware of various resources in their Library and how they can be used.

Although Pathfinders have existed traditionally in the form of paper handouts, they are becoming increasingly popular in electronic forms as additions to most library Web pages and include advice about finding information online. Well-constructed pathfinders can be beneficial in many situations, such as when the librarian on duty is unfamiliar with the literature of certain subjects. Further, those pathfinders available online can be used by people who are not even in the library.

From :

### **Electronic Pathfinders in Academic Libraries: An Analysis of Their Content and Form**

By Candice Dahl

Journal Title: College & Research Libraries , May 2001