Finding case notes – NZ and UK – two methods.

A good case note provides critical analysis of a specific case, will place it in its legal context, and offers that first step to understand the case. Find them in the journal literature. The name of the case features prominently, often in the title of the article. Remember, the analysis is of one specific judgment.

Option 1: Find it directly

Start with an index or a database of journals articles (via Law Subject guide). Get further tips on using these databases for secondary sources here: Legal research Skills at Otago: Secondary Sources (the cancellation problem)

**New Zealand**
- LINX (via WestlawNZ)
- Lexis Advance (NZ Secondary Materials)
- HeinOnline
- LegalTrac
- Library Search

**United Kingdom**
- Westlaw (International Materials > Journals)
- Lexis Advance US (select UK)
- HeinOnline
- LegalTrac
- Library Search

e.g. Lexis Advance

1. Search by party name keywords, or the citation, then filter all results to NZ Analytical Materials

2. Narrow by Journal Indexes OR LinxPlus (they are the same thing)

Several of these results are general articles about a range of cases on an area of law.

The fifth result is a case note. You may need to see the full text of the item to identify it as such. See below.

Note: LinxPlus is an index, and provides the journal citation only. Search for the article separately, eg using Library Search. **Tip: Find the journal title first, then drill down to the article level.**

The Journals link refers to those published by Lexis, eg NZ Law Journal.
Option 2: Find the case first (this way is easier)

Utilise the database connectivity to link to the analysis, e.g. the Related Documents tab in WestlawNZ, and the Analysis link in (big) Westlaw, and the Analytical Materials link in Lexis Advance.

**e.g. WestlawNZ**

Find the case > Related Documents > scroll down to journals > re-search the journal articles list until you find a case note.

**e.g. Westlaw**

1. Select International Materials > Jurisdiction > United Kingdom > All United Kingdom Cases
2. Search using keywords from the case name, or the citation
3. Select the blue Analysis link
   This will provide analysis of the case produced in-house by the Westlaw team.
4. Scroll down to find articles and good quality case notes about the case. You may have to re-search for the articles separately.

**How do you find the article?** See [Legal research Skills at Otago: Secondary Sources (the cancellation problem)](#)