



On Target with Lexis® HK



Frequently Asked Questions

www.lexisnexis.com/hk/legal

Why Lexis HK?

Lexis HK is the new one-stop legal research solution on Hong Kong law. It includes the following features:

- *CaseBase Hong Kong*
A comprehensive case law research tool which presents you with a roadmap of how any HK case is subsequently treated.
- *Hong Kong Cases*
Never again worry about photocopying and highlighting your favorite reports series – prints exactly like the hardcover volume with new PDF functionality for cases from 2000 onwards.
- *Hong Kong Cases Unreported*
Our database is fully upgraded with case and legislation hyperlinks and Chinese text, plus extensive back-capture of additional historically important cases.
- *Laws of Hong Kong*
Updated daily to become the most current legislation database in Hong Kong.
- *Atkin's Court Forms Hong Kong*
The classic Hong Kong contentious forms database with fully fillable and customisable word documents – for the first time in an online format.
- Major products interlinked
Hyperlinking of all major internal cross references and most case and legislation sources.
- Improved interface and functionality
New interface customized to domestic content with your essential international content available in expanded package options.
- *Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong*
With browseable tables of contents, customized search functions and hyperlinks.
- Annotated Ordinances of Hong Kong
Now with the full complement of over 100 titles, this revised set comes complete with browseable tables of contents and extensive hyperlinking.
- *Hong Kong Family Law Reports*
Previously unavailable case law for the first time in an online format, as overseen by the Family Law Association and endorsed by family law Judges.






How does Lexis HK relate to Lexis.com?

Lexis.com is a great product and was a significant step forward from an era when lawyers had access to print alone. It cut down research time by around one half. Aspects of **Lexis HK** will cut that research time by half again. A lawyer can now browse and research all important secondary content in a format which is more suited to the online environment. While the major feature of this product is its superior content, the “bells and whistles” cannot be ignored. *CaseBase* signaling is a huge time saver, as are downloadable PDFs, extensive parallel citations, advanced hyperlinking and fillable forms.

What is *CaseBase*? What do the signs mean?

CaseBase is a case law research hub covering all significant HK judgments, plus overseas cases where referred to in HK. As well as annotating cross-references between cases, it displays basic case details, catchwords and summaries, and legislation referred to. Hyperlinks to full-text judgments and legislation are offered throughout CaseBase.

CaseBase signals are a visual aid to understanding the current status of a case. They summarise its treatment by more recent cases, including direct appellate history, based on annotations determined by legally qualified editors.

Signal	Precedence	Summary	Explanation
	1	Negative treatment	Warning – Negative treatment indicated. A negative (red) signal is given to decisions which have been subsequently reversed, not followed, disapproved or overruled.
	2	Cautionary treatment	Caution – Questioning or distinguishing treatment indicated. A cautionary (yellow) signal is given to decisions which have been subsequently distinguished, explained, questioned or varied.
	3	Positive treatment	Positive treatment indicated. A positive (green) signal is given to decisions which have been subsequently applied, approved, followed or affirmed.
	4	Neutral treatment	Neutral or citing treatment indicated. A neutral signal is given to decisions which been considered, cited or otherwise referred to in passing.
	5	Case information only	Case information only. A case information signal is given to decisions for which there are no details of subsequent treatment available.

What are the package options?

- **Lexis HK – HK8**

Contains 8 Hong Kong local sources

- Hong Kong Cases
- Hong Kong Cases Unreported
- Hong Kong Family Law Reports
- Halsbury's Laws of Hong Kong
- Annotated Ordinances of Hong Kong
- Laws of Hong Kong
- Atkin's Court Forms Hong Kong
- CaseBase Hong Kong

- **Lexis HK – Gold Australasia**

Contains "HK8", plus a general research collection of Australia and New Zealand cases, legislation and journals.

- **Lexis HK – Jade UK**

Contains "HK8", plus a general research collection of UK cases, legislation and journals.

- **Lexis HK – Platinum Commonwealth**

Contains "HK8", "Jade UK", "Gold Australasia"

- **Lexis HK – Master Practitioner**

Contains "Platinum Commonwealth" plus one of seven products on a customizable add-on basis. These include forms and precedents, court forms, and Halsbury's works from UK, Australia, New Zealand.

How is the pricing determined?

It is determined on a fee earner basis. There are economies of scale to being a larger law firm but generally the objective is to make the product affordable by all law firms.

Fillable forms – how are they used?

This feature gives the solicitor the forms they need to fill in to submit to the courts in Word format. Before now, there have been no electronic means for preparing forms in Hong Kong, and a lawyer may have required a legal secretary to manually type out forms to specification. The time saving and accuracy saving benefits of this feature are clear. For clarity and ease of use, the fillable sections of forms are grey-fielded.

How will Lexis HK allow legal practitioners to work more effectively?

It is estimated that a lawyer who previously could research the future force of an important case from, say, 1990 could now identify and calculate the likelihood that a current court would follow that case in half the time it would take without the online resource.

For form filling, the time savings could be as high as 75%.

For case copying, if a case is in PDF format it will take a few seconds to print it off rather than

a partner asking his secretary or assistant to do it, which, even if they are available to work on it at that precise instant, would need to locate the case and make a copy. If a case is around 50 pages, this whole operation could take around half an hour.

In terms of cases and legislation, **Lexis HK** platform provides all of Hong Kong resources on the same site. There is no need to switch to other websites with different interfaces and enter other passwords. Lexis HK is currently the only platform that has all of this material available. Some free sites provide versions of the unreported cases and legislation, but only LexisNeix can provide *CaseBase*, annotated Ordinances, Halsbury's legal encyclopaedia, Hong Kong Cases, and Hong Kong court forms.

How can Lexis HK save this much time?

It depends on the individual lawyer and their needs at a particular time. However, for example, the *CaseBase* tool provides shortcuts through the research task of discovering which cases are linked to others by the doctrine of precedent. *Atkin's Court Forms Hong Kong* has fillable word forms which save the lawyer, paralegals and legal secretaries drafting time (and the risk of errors). *Hong Kong Cases* downloadable PDFs enable a lawyer to have a court-ready document in seconds. Also the increasing numbers of hyperlinks between products enables a lawyer to go straight to the document they need without hesitation or further research.

How will Lexis HK benefit law firms?

The base product which is the HK8 gives a law firm a base level product to research case law and legislation and encyclopedic works across their main areas of practice – company, conveyancing, general commercial, family, criminal, wills and probate. Once they have what they need, they are able to use the court forms product to submit their action to the court. Also the secondary content will assist law firms to keep their clients out of court where possible.

How often is the information updated? How accurate is it?

Several aspects of the content will be updated on a daily basis, as currency is such a vital part of the practice of law – for instance cases and legislation.

For the other components, LexisNexis commits to the **Lexis HK** online version being no less current than the existing print versions of the works.

How will Lexis HK help a lawyer to improve the chances of winning a case?

With **Lexis HK**, research on Hong Kong legal issues will never be the same again. The *CaseBase* tool enables users to enjoy a full citator product which gives a lawyer both foresight and hindsight when they are examining any case within the online service. Also with unrivalled LexisNexis proprietary content: *Annotated Ordinances of HK* – the single collection of commentaries on over 100 of the most important Hong Kong Ordinances, *Halsbury's Laws of HK* – the Hong Kong edition of the world's most famous encyclopedia on law, and *Atkin's Court Forms – Hong Kong* which enables lawyers to have fillable word files of all the major litigation

topics to present to the court.

What customer support is available for Lexis HK?

The Customer Service Team in Hong Kong operates with a dedicated hotline (852) 2179 7888 running from Monday to Friday (9am to 5:30pm). We can be contacted through hotmail Help.HK@lexisnexis.com or hotfax (852) 2169 0070.