



## Introducing the RAPT: A tool for assessing and enhancing the quality of practical resources

Want to learn more about Pathways in Place?

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Sifting through the vast amount of online information to find credible practical resources such as reports and guidelines can be challenging. In this snapshot, we introduce the Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool (RAPT), designed to assess resources currently available and enhance the quality of resources in the future.

### Why do we need it?

In the digital era, searching the Internet has become our main strategy for finding answers. While the 'world's largest library' offers incredible opportunities, it also presents a daunting challenge due to the sheer number of resources available, including some of poor quality. Practitioners, decision-makers, and community members rely on various practical resources, such

as reports, guidelines and implementation plans, to inform their work. Despite the potential of these resources to influence decision-making and practice, there is currently no tool to examine their attributes or assess their usefulness to practitioners and decision-makers. This prompted us to develop the Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool (RAPT).<sup>[1]</sup>





## What is the Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool (RAPT)?

The tool has two main purposes:

- To allow practitioners and decision-makers to investigate the attributes of existing resources designed to guide practice and decision-making, and
- To guide those who develop resources in developing high-quality, practical resources relevant to practitioners and decision-makers.

The RAPT has four key sections, each containing several items – usually presented as a close-ended questions – to guide the assessment of resources (Table 1).

Table 1. Structure of RAPT

Section name		Items in this section
	General information about the resource	Date, author, funding/commissioning body, publisher, description, aim/purpose, and target audience
	References, evidence and citations	Referencing, inclusion of evidence, and citation by others
	Implementation strategies	Aspects of 'how to' guidelines to support implementation of a specific approach/activity and characteristics of implementation strategies
	Usability, user friendliness, and recommendations for use	Practical examples of how a specific approach has been applied/trialled in practice, overall user-friendliness of the resource, considerations and recommendations for the use of the resource

## How can RAPT be accessed?

You can find a MS Excel version of the tool [here](#).

- If you want to see the full list of items in the tool, you can access the MS Word version [here](#) (under: Supporting Information File S2).
- To find out more details about the tool, its structure, quality, use and development process, read our [Brief Report](#).<sup>[2]</sup>

## How was the RAPT used?

We reviewed practical resources (e.g. reports, guides, websites) that support the implementation of place-based approaches.<sup>[3]</sup> Researchers and community practitioners used the RAPT to assess the characteristics and key attributes of some of resources. If you want to know in detail what we found, you can read our full peer-reviewed publication by following this [link<sup>\[3\]</sup>](#) or you can access this [Findings Snapshot<sup>\[4\]</sup>](#) in which we summarise the main findings.

## What next?

We are planning to further refine and test the tool, but we also invite you and your colleagues (e.g. researchers, practitioners and community members) to:

1. Use the existing version of RAPT and cite it as:  

Klepac, B., Mowle, A., Riley, T., Craike, M (2023) Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool (RAPT). Pathways in Place-Victoria University. Available at: [https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPTool\\_Pathways-in-Place-VU\\_Final.xlsx](https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPTool_Pathways-in-Place-VU_Final.xlsx)
2. Provide feedback to the existing version of RAPT (so we can improve it!) at [pathwaysinplace@vu.edu.au](mailto:pathwaysinplace@vu.edu.au)
3. Modify or further test RAPT. If you do so, we would love to know, so please get in touch with us at [pathwaysinplace@vu.edu.au](mailto:pathwaysinplace@vu.edu.au)

### Related resources:

#### Peer-reviewed publication:

[Scoping review of resources to support the implementation of place-based approaches](#)

#### Snapshot:

[Navigating resources for the implementation of place-based approaches: Insights from a review](#)

#### Brief report:

[Development, structure and use of the Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool \(RAPT\)](#)

#### The tool:

[Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool \(RAPT\)](#)





## References

- [1] Klepac, B., Mowle, A., Riley, T., Craike, M (2023) Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool (RAPT). Pathways in Place-Victoria University. Available at: [https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPTool\\_Pathways-in-Place-VU\\_Final.xlsx](https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPTool_Pathways-in-Place-VU_Final.xlsx)
- [2] Klepac, B., Mowle, A., Riley, T., Craike, M (2023) Resources' Attributes for evidence-informed Practice Tool. Brief report. Pathways in Place-Victoria University. Available at: [https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPT\\_Brief\\_Report.pdf](https://www.pathwaysinplace.com.au/s/RAPT_Brief_Report.pdf)
- [3] Klepac, B., Branch, S., McVey, L., Mowle, A., Riley, T., Craike, M. (2023) Scoping review of resources to support the implementation of place-based approaches. Health Promotion Journal of Australia. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/hpja.809>
- [4] Klepac, B., Branch, S., McVey, L., Mowle, A., Riley, T., Craike, M. (2023) Navigating resources for the implementation of place-based approaches: Insights from a review. Findings snapshot. Pathways in Place-Victoria University. <https://doi.org/10.26196/cxjz-8v84>

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## About Pathways in Place

**Pathways in Place: Co-Creating Community Capabilities** is an innovative program of research and action that supports flourishing of children and young people. This Program is jointly delivered by Victoria University (Victoria, Australia) and Griffith University (Queensland, Australia) with funding generously provided by the Paul Ramsay Foundation.

The Program teams are each leading one of two complementary streams:

1. Early learning and development pathways (children and youth 0-15 y.o.), led by Griffith University in Logan (Queensland, Australia).
2. Pathways through education to employment (youth 15-24 y.o.), led by Victoria University in Brimbank (Victoria, Australia).



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