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Price: Based on population served or FTE (i.e., \$3195 for a standalone large public library w/o remote access). Morningstar publications are purchased by most libraries to serve business clientele and individual investors. Its products are increasingly popular with library patrons as more and more of them are investing in mutual funds. As the name suggests, Morningstar Library Edition is marketed to libraries, and a lot of attention has been paid to make the product librarian-friendly. Of course, easy authentication, clear terms, usage statistics, and good product support are small consolation if a product is a dog—but happily this is not the case with **Morningstar.com Library Edition**.

Library Edition covers both equities and mutual funds. Although sophisticated screening and analytical tools are available, one can simply enter a ticker or name and retrieve a Morningstar report on a given investment. Considering the concern that investment bank analysts' reports are influenced as much or more by their business interests than clear judgment, Morningstar reports may be an attractive alternative.

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well as view the current investments that pass the screen.

Many investors assume they are properly diversified because they have several different mutual funds, little realizing that they all may be invested in the same instruments. The Morningstar X-Ray feature can be used to test against this and other pitfalls such as high expense ratios.

Library Edition is easy enough to use for most individual investors. By contrast, Morningstar's CD-ROM product Principia Pro is suitable for financial advisors and may be better suited to some special libraries or libraries serving MBA or graduate students.

The Bottom Line: Morningstar.com Library Edition is a happy blend of sophisticated capabilities and useful information in an easy-to-use product. Highly recommended for libraries serving individual investors.—*Andrea Schulman, Baker Lib., Harvard Business Sch.*

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