

Contract: General Principles — The Laws of Australia

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Word and Phrases 945-946;

Bibliography 947-958

CONTRACT: *General Principles* — *The Laws of Australia* has previously been published as part of the *Laws of Australia* encyclopedia. This book usefully provides in a single volume a comprehensive guide to contemporary contract law in the Australian context.

The style of this volume follows the format of the *Laws of Australia* encyclopedia. Each chapter contains section headings that set out a summary statement of the law followed by discussion and analysis with footnotes to relevant cases and legislation at the end of each section.

The book also contains cross referencing to other relevant parts or topics found within the *Laws of Australia* encyclopedia.

The work deals with contract under the familiar headings of formation, parties, terms, performance and breach, etc.

The section dealing with vitiating factors includes discussion of the requirements of the Statute of Frauds, mistake and illegality. It should be noted that matters such as misrepresentation, duress, undue influence and unconscionable conduct are given relatively short exposition due to the coverage of these specific topics more fully elsewhere in the *Laws of Australia* encyclopedia. Similarly, special aspects of contract law such as sale of goods, guarantees and insurance contracts are not subject to detailed exposition in this text.

For ease of reference, each section is delineated by shading on the edge of the pages, and at the beginning of each part a table of contents directs the user to particular sections (i.e. Part 7.1 — Formation — sections include Negotiations, Intention, Offer and Acceptance, Options, Consideration and Sufficiency of Agreement). The text usefully contains a very comprehensive table of cases and index and a small but useful index of words and phrases.

This single volume usefully combines comprehensive and scholarly treatment of the law with ample cross-referencing to cases and articles. *Contract: General Principles* is sure to become one of the standard references for lawyers, students and others interested in Australian contract law.

P.W. Lithgow