Western Libraries’ Zotero or Mendeley Decision Tree

Answer the questions below to help decide between using Zotero or Mendeley as your citation manager. There’s no wrong answer, so not to worry! Both products are great and it’s easy to switch later.

1. Are you collaborating with more than 25 people?
   a. Yes = Zotero
   b. No = Either

2. Do you regularly work from multiple computers?
   a. Yes = Mendeley
   b. No = Either

3. Will you need to collect webpages, videos, or images?
   a. Yes = Zotero
   b. No = Either

4. What internet browser do you use?
   a. Firefox = Zotero
   b. Microsoft Edge or Internet Explorer = Mendeley
   c. Safari or Chrome = Either

5. Do you regularly search for sources on a mobile device?
   a. Yes, Apple device = Mendeley
   b. Yes, Android device = Neither are compatible
   c. No = Either

6. Which word processor do you use?
   a. Microsoft Word = Either
   b. Google Docs = Zotero
   c. Pages = Neither are compatible

7. Do you back up your hard drive or use the cloud?
   a. Yes = Either
   b. No = Mendeley

8. Do you have a preferred business model?
   a. Open, Not for Profit = Zotero
   b. No = Mendeley