

Library of Congress Classification Guide

LC Call Numbers Outline

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UNIVERSITY OF MISSISSIPPI LIBRARIES



LC Call Number Outline

A	General Works
AE	Encyclopedias
B	Philosophy. Psychology. Religion
BF	Psychology
BL-BX	Religion
C	Auxiliary Sciences Of History
D	History (Except America)
DA	Great Britain
DC	France
DD	Germany
DP	Spain - Portugal
DS	Asia
E	History: America
E151-889	United States
E184.5-185.98	African Americans
F	History: America
F1-975	United States Local History
F336-350	Mississippi
F1201-3799	Latin America. Spanish America.
G	Geography. Anthropology. Recreation
GN	Anthropology
GR	Folklore
GV	Recreation. Leisure.
H	Social Sciences
HA-HJ	Business (Economics, Industries, Finance)
HF5600-5689	Accounting
HM-HX	Sociology
HQ	The Family. Marriage. Women.
HV	Social Pathology. Social and Public Welfare. Criminology.
J	Political Science
K	Law
KF	Law: U.S.
KFM6601-7199	Law: Mississippi
L	Education
LB	Teaching
M	Music
ML	Literature on Music
MT	Musical Instruction and Study
N	Fine Arts
NA	Architecture
NB	Sculpture
NC	Drawing. Design. Illustration. (Commercial Art)
ND	Painting

P	Language And Literature
PC	Romance Languages
PD	Germanic Languages
PE	English Language
PL	Chinese and Japanese Languages and Literature
PN	Literature (General)
PN1600-3307	Drama (Films, Theater, etc.)
PQ	Romantic Literature (French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese)
PR	English Literature (British)
PS	American Literature
PT	Germanic Literature
PZ	Juvenile Literature
Q	Science
QA	Mathematics. Computer Science
QB	Astronomy
QC	Physics
QD	Chemistry
QE	Geology
QH	Natural History. Biology
QK	Botany
QL	Zoology
QP	Physiology
QR	Microbiology
R	Medicine
RA	Public Aspects of Medicine (Public Health, Environmental Health)
RS	Pharmacy and Materia Medica
S	Agriculture
T	Technology (General)
TA	Engineering (General). Civil Engineering
TJ	Mechanical Engineering and Machinery
TK	Electrical Engineering. Electronics.
TX	Home Economics
TX 642-840	Cookery
TX341-641	Nutrition. Food and Food Supply
U	Military Science
V	Naval Science
Z	Bibliography. Library Science. Information Resources (General)

For a more detailed outline, please visit:

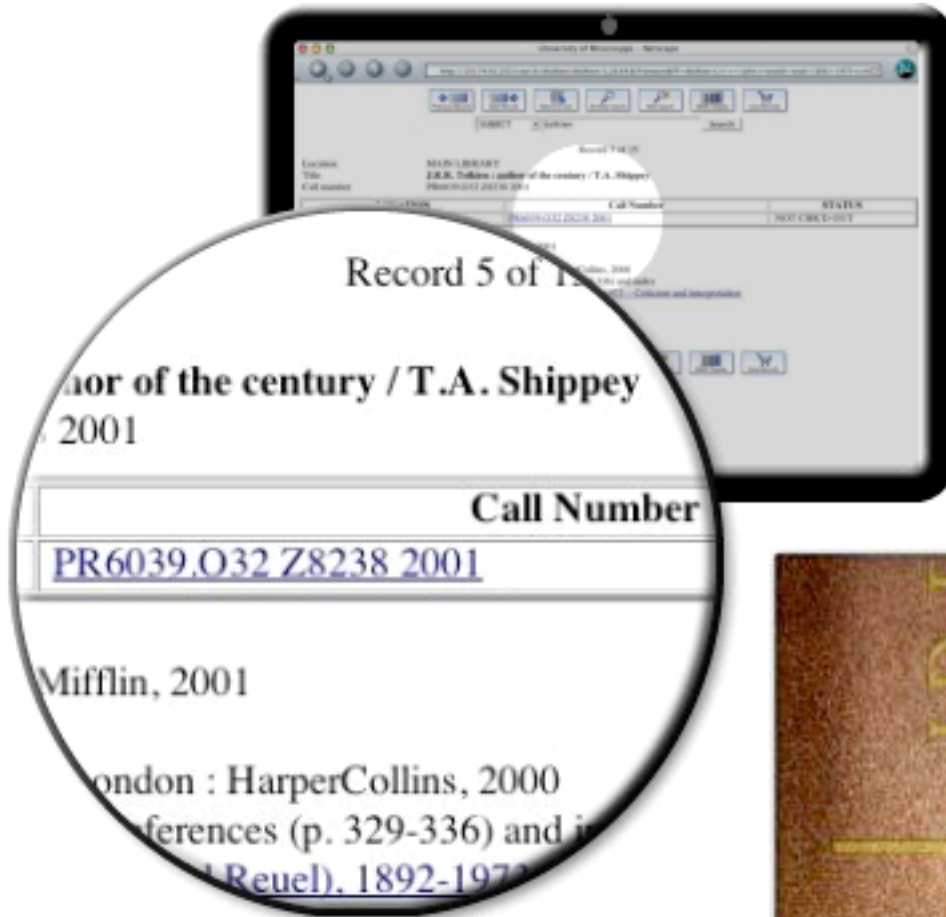
<http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/cpsolcco/lcco.html>

How to Read LC Call Numbers

The call number's appearance differs depending where it is found.

On a book's label, the parts of the call number are stacked vertically, and are read from top to bottom.

In the online catalog, the call number is written horizontally in a single line, and is read from left to right.



Understanding LC Call Numbers

Most call numbers have four parts :

- General / Broad Subject
- Narrower Topic
- Cutter Number (represents author, corporation, or title)
- Year of Publication



Title: Price control under fair trade legislation
Author: Ewald T. Grether

HF	Commerce
5415	Business → Marketing → General works
.G67	Cutter number for Grether
1939	Year of publication

But there are other forms that call numbers can take. For example:



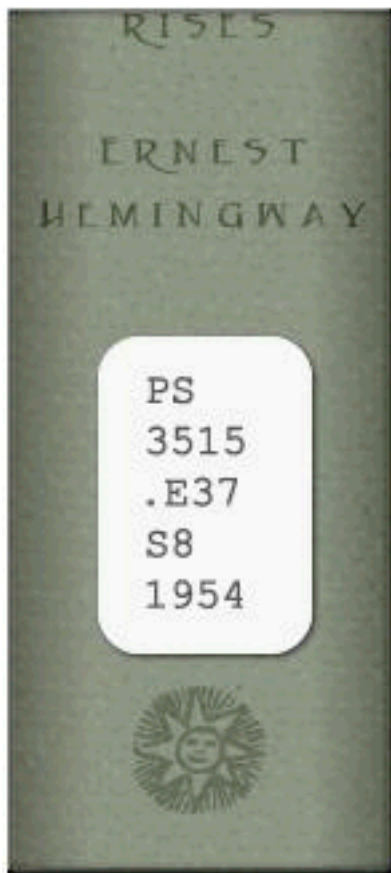
Title: More West Highland tales
Author: John Francis Campbell

PB Modern languages. Celtic languages
1645 Gaelic (Scottish Gaelic, Erse)
→ Literature → Folk literature
.C26 Cutter number for Campbell
v.1 Volume 1
v.2 Volume 2



Title: Louisbourg portraits : life in an eighteenth-century
garrison town
Author: Christopher Moore

F History : America (numbers 1001-1145.2) -
British America (including Canada)
1039 Nova Scotia. Acadia
.5 Cities, towns, etc., A-Z
.L8 Louisbourg
M66 Cutter number for Moore
1982 Year of publication



Title: The sun also rises
Author: Ernest Hemingway

PS American literature
3515 Individual authors → 1900-1960 → H
.E37 Author's cutter number, using second letter
(hEmingway)
S8 Title (sun - the, a, an ignored)
1954 Year of publication

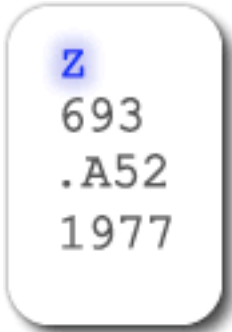


Title: Almanac of the 50 states

REF Library collections → Reference
HA Statistics
203 Statistical data → By region or country →
America → United States → Serials
.A5 Title
1996 Year of publication

How LC Call Numbers are Arranged on the Shelves

The average call number has four lines on a book label, and each of those lines are read differently.



The first line is made up of 1-3 letters, and is read in alphabetical order.

A B BC BF CJ D G GE GR H



The second line is made up of whole numbers, and is read numerically. The numbers in this line may sometimes have decimals.

1 5 25 78 126 333 790 790.5 1357 4274



This line is called the cutter number, which usually represents the author's last name, but can also stand for the name of a corporation or the book's title. It is read first alphabetically by letter, and then the numbers are read as a decimal.

.D12 .D3 .G45 .G5 .G56 .G564 .G5643 .G6 .G67 .H2

Z
693
.A52
1977

The last line is the year of publication, and is read in chronological order.

1654 1776 1796 1854 1910 1959 1959b 1978 1999 2001

Some labels, though, may have more than four lines.

AZ
513
.M7
I5
1984

This call number has two cutter numbers. The first cutter number narrows the topic; in this case .M7 stands for Mississippi. The second cutter number on this label, I5, represents the book's title. Both are read like the examples of cutter numbers above.

AE
5
.E333
2004
v.1

Ending the call number may be letters or numbers designating the book's order in a series or set. They are read either numerically (v.1, v.2, v.3, ...) or alphabetically (ser.A, ser.B, ...). Some common examples are:

v.1	Volume 1
v.193(1998)	Volume 193, year 1998
v.37, no.2	Volume 37, Number 2
no. 305	Number 305
ser.B	Series B
Suppl	Supplement

The call number may also end with a copy number (c.2, c.3, ...). This is used to tell multiple copies of the same book apart.

Physical Locations in the Library

Prefix on Label	Collection	Physical Location	Circulates?	Access
(blank)	Main Library	All floors	Yes	Open Stacks
	A-H	3rd floor		
	J-K, N-RC	2nd floor		
	L	Mezzanine A		
	RC-Z	1st floor		
(blank)	AICPA Collection	throughout stacks, primarily on 3rd floor	Yes	Open Stacks
(blank)	Current Periodicals	2nd floor, East	No	Open Stacks
Fed. Doc	Federal Government Documents	1st floor	Yes	Open Stacks
St. Doc.	State Documents			
Juv. Coll.	Juvenile	Mezzanine C	Yes	Open Stacks
Media	Media	1st floor	Yes	Open Stacks
Microform	Microforms	1st floor	No	Open Stacks
Music	Music	1st floor	Yes	Open Stacks
Ref.	Reference	1st floor	No	Open Stacks
(blank)	Reserve	1st floor, West	Yes	Ask at Circulation Desk
Spec. Coll.	Special Collections	3rd floor, East	No	Ask at Special Collection Desk
M.C.	Mississippi Collection			
Blues	Blues Archives			

Comparing LC and Dewey

The J.D. Williams Library uses the Library of Congress (LC) classification. Like the Dewey Decimal classification system, LC is used both as a unique identifier for each book in the library and as a way to group books with similar subjects together on the shelves. Note the similarities and differences in the two classification systems in the table below, using the book "A Quick Reference to Dining Etiquette" by Shelia M. Long as an example.

Library of Congress	What is it?	How it was made?
BJ	General Subject	B -Philosophy, Psychology, Religion BJ - Ethics
2041	Specific Topic	1801-2195 - Social Usage. Etiquette 2021-2078 - Etiquette of Entertaining 2041 - Table Etiquette
.L66	Author	Based on the author's last name
1993	Year	Usually the year the book was published

Dewey Decimal	What is it?	How it was made?
395	General Subject	300 - Social Sciences 390 - Customs, Etiquette, Folklore 395 - Etiquette (Manners)
.54	Specific Topic	.5 - In Specific Situations .54 - Table Manners
LON	Author	Based on the author's last name
1993	Year	Usually the year the book was published

Why use LC or Dewey?

Whether LC or Dewey is used in a library is based on the size of the collection. Dewey is divided into 10 classes, or broad subjects. This limits the number and variety of call numbers that can be assigned to books, making it better suited for libraries with smaller collections, such as school libraries or public libraries. LC, on the other hand, has 21 classes, which allows for more call numbers needed for the greater number of books owned by larger academic libraries.

Dewey Decimal Classification

000 Generalities
100 Philosophy, Paranormal
 Phenomena, Psychology
200 Religion
300 Social sciences

400 Language
500 Natural sciences and mathematics
600 Technology and Applied Sciences

700 The Arts Fine and Decorative Arts
800 Literature (Belles-Lettres)
 and Rhetoric
900 Geography, History, and
 Auxiliary Disciplines

Library of Congress Classification

A General Works
B Philosophy. Psychology.
 Religion
C Auxiliary Sciences Of History
D History (General) And History
 Of Europe
E History: America (National)
F History: America (Local)
G Geography. Anthropology.
 Recreation
H Social Sciences
J Political Science

K Law
L Education
M Music And Books On Music
N Fine Arts
P Language And Literature
Q Science
R Medicine
S Agriculture
T Technology
U Military Science
V Naval Science
Z Bibliography. Library Science.
 Information Resources
 (General)