

A brief overview of some of the changes from AACR2 to RDA

[Music Cataloging at Yale](#) [1] ? [RDA](#) [2]

Note: this page was created with music cataloging in mind.

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Sources:

[RDA and sound recordings—a cataloging workshop](#) [3] by Kathy Glennan

[A brief introduction to RDA for scores & sound recordings](#) [4] by Nancy Lorimer

[Changes from AACR2 to RDA: a comparison of examples](#) [5] by Adam L. Schiff, Principal Cataloger, University of Washington Libraries

[Significant changes for cataloging music: AACR2 vs. RDA](#) [6] by Daniel Paradis, Concordia University

[Terminology:](#)

Some RDA terminology differs from that of AACR2:

AACR2	RDA
heading	authorized access point (AAP)
uniform title	preferred title [7]; conventional collective title
physical description	carrier [8]
sound disc, etc.	audio disc, etc.
author	creator (includes composers, librettists, lyricists)
performer	contributor
chief source	preferred sources [9]
general material designator	content, media, and carrier type

[Abbreviations:](#) [10]

From Kathy Glennan, MLA-L, 1/17/2014

- RDA generally eschews abbreviations. The primary exceptions are for:
 - Units of measurement
 - Abbreviations that are regularly used in resources and are commonly understood by users (e.g., "SATB", "op.")
 - Abbreviations that a resource uses to identify itself (e.g., "BWV" instead of "Bach-Werke-Verzeichnis")

Abbreviations are used only when they appear on the resource. The exceptions are **no.** and **op.** (which will be used the same title area, abbreviate only when abbreviated on the item; abbreviate in access points), thematic index numbers, voice range (measurements).

Use "in." for inches; however, "cm" is no longer considered to be an abbreviation

Use "stereo" and "mono" (also no longer considered to be abbreviations), but spell out other terms ("quadrophonic," etc.)

AACR2	RDA
p.	pages
ca.	approximately
i.e.	that is
acc.	accompanied
unacc.	unaccompanied
arr.	arranged
ill.	illustrations
col.	color
facsim.	facsimile
ed.	edition

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S.l.	[place of publication not identified]
s.n.	[publisher not identified]
n.d.	[date of publication not identified]

Examples of *some* of changes to abbreviations used in the physical description (extent of item)

AACR2	RDA
3 vol.	3 volumes
ca. 200 p.	approximately 200 pages
48 [i.e. 96] p.	48, that is, 96 pages
[16] p. of plates	16 unnumbered pages [11] of plates

[Dimensions \[12\]:](#)

AACR2: the system of measurement used to record dimensions varies depending on the type of resource.

RDA: metric units are used. (LCPS 3.5.1.3 allows for using inches for discs (RDA 3.5.1.4.4))

Metric units:

AACR2: they are considered abbreviations and are followed by a full stop (e.g., cm.)

RDA: they are treated as symbols and are not followed by a full stop (e.g., cm).

Examples of changes to abbreviations used in [dates \[13\]](#) in authorized access points representing persons (formerly known as

AACR2	RDA	LC practice (when it varies from RDA)
b. 1825	born 1825	1825-
d. 1859	died 1859	-1859
fl.	flourished	active
ca. 1837	approximately 1837	----
1836 or 7	1836 or 1837	----
18th cent.	18th century	----
16th/17th cent.	active 16th century-17th century	----

[Recording and transcribing:](#)

RDA differentiates between *recording* and [transcribing \[14\]](#) elements.

- Recorded elements: the found information is often adjusted
- Transcribed elements: the data is accepted as found on the resource
- The transcribed elements are:

Element	Associated MARC field
title	245 †a, †b
statement of responsibility	245 †c
edition statement	250 †a, †b
numbering of serials	490 †v
production statement	264 _0 †a, †b, †c
publication statement	264 _1 †a, †b, †c
distribution statement	264 _2 †a, †b, †c
manufacture statement	264 _3 †a, †b, †c
series statement	490 †a

New to RDA:

[Capitalization \[15\]](#): RDA Appendix A: LC policy is to follow the capitalization on the resource or follow the instructions in Appendix A.

[Diacritics \[16\]](#): Transcribe when they appear; not necessary to add them when they are omitted from the resource.

[Abbreviations \[10\]](#): RDA Appendix B: Transcribe as found on the RDA preferred source; otherwise do not use abbreviations

Other things:

[Parallel titles \[17\]](#) may be taken from anywhere on the resource, and are not enclosed in brackets

- However, [other title information \[18\]](#) must be taken from the same source as the title proper

[Statement of responsibility \[19\]](#) may be taken from anywhere on the resource

- Transcribe title, terms of address, etc.
- Transcribe all persons named, even when there are four or more

[Edition statement:](#)

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- Abbreviations are used only when they appear on the resource
- Use the form of numbering (e.g., Arabic, roman, etc.) that appear on the resource

[Inaccuracies, omissions](#) [20]:

AACR2: Inaccuracies are transcribed followed either by *[sic]* or by "i.e." and the correction in square brackets. Missing letters are supplied in square brackets.

RDA: Inaccuracies are transcribed as they appear on the source of information. If necessary, a note may be made correcting the inaccuracy, and the title as corrected may be recorded as a variant title if it is considered important for access.

Examples

AACR2 1.0F

245 10 ‡a Morton Feldmans Untiteled *[sic]* composition für Cello und Klavier

246 3 ‡a Morton Feldmans Untitled composition für Cello und Klavier

RDA 1.7.9, 2.3.1.4

245 10 ‡a Morton Feldmans Untiteled composition für Cello und Klavier

246 3 ‡i Title should read: ‡a Morton Feldmans Untitled composition für Cello und Klavier

AACR2 1.0F

245 00 ‡a Horn sonat[a]s

246 3 ‡a Horn sonats

RDA 1.7.9, 2.3.1.4

245 00 ‡a Horn sonats

246 3 ‡i Title should read: ‡a Horn sonatas

[Dashes, brackets](#)

AACR2: ... (ellipses) and [] square brackets are replaced by — and ().

RDA: The punctuation is transcribed as it appears on the source.

Example

Title appears on the resource as

...Huésped de las nieblas...

...Guest from the mists...

for flute and piano

AACR2 1.1B1F

245 10 ‡a --Huésped de las nieblas-- = ‡b --Guest from the mists-- : for flute and piano

RDA 1.7.3

245 10 ‡a ...Huésped de las nieblas... = ‡b ...Guest from the mists... : for flute and piano

[Chief/preferred source](#) [9]:

Title:

Scores

Sound recordings

AACR2	RDA (2.2.2.2)	AACR2	RDA (2.2.2.4)
caption	cover		label*
cover	caption		embedded textual
colophon	masthead		material
other	colophon		elsewhere on the
preliminaries			resource
other sources			(container, insert, etc.)

*Use the label:

- even when there is a collective title elsewhere on the resource
- only if the information found there represents the resource as a whole

For multi-disc sets, use the labels collectively

[Edition statement](#) [21]: (250 field) will now encompass elements relating to the format of music that were scattered over various

- Musical presentation statement (e.g., Score and parts), an AACR2 element tagged in the 254 field
- Statements of responsibility relating to the format of music (e.g., vocal score by [name]), currently tagged in 245/‡c
- Voice range statements (e.g., High voice)

[Publication statement](#) [22]: A new, repeatable MARC field (264) is used for production, publication, distribution, printing, and

[Abbreviations](#) [10] are not used unless they appear on the resource.

Place of publication: if more than one, only the first is required (2.8.2)

- Include all hierarchies of place, e.g., New Haven, CT, USA
- No requirement to include place in the US if the publisher is not in the US

Publisher name: if more than one, on the first is required (2.8.4)

- Use the full name as found on the resource, e.g., Theodore Presser Company, Hildegard Publishing Company
- Include all corporate hierarchies of the name of publisher

Date of publication: record the date as found on the resource

- LCPS 1.8.2 (first alternative) says to transcribe roman numerals and not convert to Arabic

[Place](#), name, and/or date of publication not identified on resource:

- AACR2: [S.l.], [s.n.], [n.d.]
- RDA: [place of publication not identified], [publisher not identified], [date of publication not identified]
- LCPS instruction **strongly** encourages: supply a place of publication in brackets or date in brackets
- Each subfield is separately bracketed: D1.2.1: When adjacent elements within one area are to be enclosed in square brackets

from: [RDA Basics](#) [23] (PPT)

[Publication dates and copyright \(©\)/phonogram \(P\) dates](#) [24] are different elements in RDA and the copyright date may not be used if the date of publication is known. If the date of publication is unknown, use [Date of publication not identified] or an estimated date in brackets, with a question mark. Copyright/phonogram date is not required if a publication date is known. However, for music materials, it is strongly suggested to include it, even when they are the same as the publication date.

- Record the latest copyright date; for recordings, prefer P dates over © dates.

[Extent](#) [25] (RDA 3.4)/Physical description (AACR2):

The number and type of units (a physical or logical constituent of a resource; e.g., a volume, audiocassette, film reel, a map, a page of a volume, a frame of a microfiche, a record in a digital file)

Give the extent if the resource is complete or if the total extent is known

Use the appropriate term, which may be a term from the carrier type list ([3.3.1.3](#) [8]) or a general term (3.4.1.3)

Notated music:

Some terms are no longer used.

AACR2

v. of music, p. of music, leaves of music
close score
miniature score

Examples

AACR2

16 p. of music
1 miniature score
1 close score
1 sound disc
1 sound cassette

RDA

(see 7.20.13 or [metadata registry](#) [26] for a full list of terms)

score
condensed score (now used for both vocal and instrumental scores)
study score

RDA

1 score (16 pages)
1 study score
1 condensed score
1 audio disc
1 audiocassette

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Physical description of sound recordings:

Most terms for types of carriers used in the extent are modified. The word "sound" is discontinued to avoid confusion with con

AACR2	RDA
sound cartridge	audio cartridge
sound disc	audio disc
piano, [etc.] roll	audio roll
sound cassette	audiocassette
sound tape reel	audio tape
sound track film reel, [cassette, etc.]	sound-track reel

Additionally, some details are given even if they are standard for the type of resource:

- type of recording: analog, digital (3.16.2.3)
- recording medium (3.16.3.3)
- playing speed (3.16.4.3)
- groove characteristic (3.16.5.3) (e.g., microgroove)
- track configuration (3.16.6.3)
- tape configure (number of tracks on an audiotape) (3.16.7.3) (e.g., 12 track)
- playback (3.16.8.3) (e.g., mono, stereo)
- special playback characteristics (3.16.9.3) (e.g., Dolby, CD audio, DVD audio, MP3, SACD)
- tape configuration (number of tracks on an audiotape)
- dimensions of cartridges and cassettes, including the width of the tape
 - metric units are used for dimensions, but RDA allows for the use of another system of measure (e.g., inches: 4 3/4 in.)

General material designation:

Three new fields (336, 337, 338) collectively replace the General material designation (245 ‡h)

See [Content, Media, and Carrier](#) [27] (RDA 6.9, 3.2, 3.3 & MARC 336-338)

Notation [28]: indicating type of notation, even with it is staff notation, is required in RDA (7.13; see also [metadata registry](#) [2], [notation](#) [32], [neumatic notation](#) [33], [number notation](#) [34], [solmization](#) [35], staff notation, [tablature](#) [36], [tonic sol-fa](#) [37].

Uniform titles/Preferred titles (See also [A comparison of uniform titles \(AACR2\) and preferred titles \(RDA\)](#) [38] *In progress*)

Two separate steps in RDA

1. record attributes (6.2-6.26)
2. determine which attributes to use in the authorized access point (6.27-6.31)

Authorized access points comprise

- preferred name of the creator (if applicable)
- preferred title of work ([6.2.1](#) [39], [6.14](#) [40], [6.28.1.1-6.28.1.8](#) [41])
- additional elements to differentiate among other works/expressions ([6.28.1.9-6.28.1.11](#) [42])

Differences from AACR2:

- no equivalent to AACR2's "works of mixed responsibility"
- "work(s)" in RDA refers to both individual works and compilations
- medium of performance in access point can contain more than three elements
- standard chamber combinations (e.g., string quartet, piano trio, etc.) are no longer used
- use "cello" not "violoncello"
- spell out "acc." "arr." and "unacc."
- fewer restrictions on recording key
- librettos and operas are considered separate works

Source: [RDA and Sound Recordings—A Cataloging Workshop: Cataloging with RDA—Sound Recordings](#) [3]

RDA open metadata registry [43] (controlled lists of vocabulary to be used in RDA) related to music:

- [carrier type](#) [44] (includes all, not just music)
- content type: [notated music](#) [45], [tactile notated music](#) [46], [performed music](#) [47]
- format: [notated music](#) [48]
- extent: [notated music](#) [26], [performed music](#) [49] (includes non-audio carriers that may or may not apply to performed music)

Specific to sound recordings:

- [type of recording](#) [50], [configuration of playback channels](#) [51], [special playback characteristics](#) [52], [generation of audio recording](#) [53]

Specific to notated music:

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- [other distinguishing characteristics of the expression of a musical work](#) [54]

Medium of performance:

- [medium of performance](#) [55], [instrumental music for orchestra, string orchestra, or band](#) [56], [standard combinations of instruments](#) [57], [solo voices](#) [58], [choruses](#) [59]

See also [Library of Congress Medium of Performance Thesaurus for Music](#) [60] (*not RDA*)

Source URL: <https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/rdaoverview>

Links

- [1] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music>
- [2] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/rda>
- [3] <http://libguides.princeton.edu/content.php?pid=317212&sid=2970453>
- [4] <http://www.slideshare.net/tls224/rda-for-music>
- [5] <http://faculty.washington.edu/aschiff/BCLAPresentationWithNotes-RevMay2011.pdf>
- [6] http://www.rda-jsc.org/docs/10_3_24_MLAannmtg_SignificantchangesforcataloguingmusicAACR2vsRDA.pdf
- [7] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/preferred-titles>
- [8] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC336338#3.3>
- [9] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/prefsource>
- [10] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/transcription#1.7.8>
- [11] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/extent#3.4.5.3>
- [12] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/extent#3.5>
- [13] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/accpointspersons#9.19.1.3>
- [14] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/transcription>
- [15] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/transcription#1.7.2>
- [16] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/transcription#1.7.4>
- [17] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/paralleltitle>
- [18] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/othertitle>
- [19] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/responsibility>
- [20] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/transcription#1.7.9>
- [21] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/edition>
- [22] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/publication>
- [23] <http://tinyurl.com/aoxm9oz>
- [24] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/publication#copyright>
- [25] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/extent>
- [26] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/59.html
- [27] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC336338>
- [28] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/content#7.13.3>
- [29] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/55.html
- [30] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Graphic_notation
- [31] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Letter_notation
- [32] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mensural_notation
- [33] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neume>
- [34] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Numbered_musical_notation
- [35] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Solmization>
- [36] <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tablature>
- [37] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tonic_sol-fa
- [38] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/comparison-of-uniform-titles-and-preferred-titles>
- [39] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/recordprefitles>
- [40] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/prefitles>
- [41] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/accpointsworks>
- [42] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/accpointsadd>
- [43] <http://rdvocab.info/>
- [44] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/46.html
- [45] <http://metadataregistry.org/concept/show/id/519.html>
- [46] <http://metadataregistry.org/concept/show/id/525.html>
- [47] <http://metadataregistry.org/concept/show/id/520.html>
- [48] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/109.html

- [49] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/169.html
- [50] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/78.html
- [51] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/82.html
- [52] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/83.html
- [53] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/69.html
- [54] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/91.html
- [55] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/88.html
- [56] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/52.html
- [57] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/50.html
- [58] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/53.html
- [59] http://metadataregistry.org/concept/list/vocabulary_id/54.html
- [60] <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/performanceMediums.html>