Form of work (MARC 380)


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

See also 381 [3]: Other distinguishing characteristics of a work or expression | 382 [4]: Medium of performance | 383 [5]: Numeric designation of musical work | 384 [6]: Key

The 380 field is used in authority records for LCGFT indicating the class, form, genre, and/or other characteristics of the work being described.

For the use of LCGFT in bibliographic records in the 655 field, see Genre/form index term (MARC 655) [7]

Use in conjunction with Recording form of work [8] (RDA 6.3), MLA's Best practices for using LCGFT for music resources [9], Commonly used music terms in the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT) [10], and Instructions for PCC catalogers in Descriptive Cataloging Manual [11] (DCM) Z1, section on field 380.

Indicators and subfields for 655 field

General instructions:

- Prefer a controlled vocabulary, such as LCGFT (Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms), LCSH (Library of Congress Subject Headings), etc.
- Capitalize the first term in each subfield ‡a.
- When terms are not from a controlled vocabulary, use the singular form.
- Do not record in a 380 field types of composition terms that are:
  - medium of performance terms (e.g., Duet)
  - tempo markings (e.g., Allegro)
  - other generic terms that do not convey formal characteristics (e.g., Piece, Music)

Generally use the most specific appropriate term available. For example:

- "Chamber music" is a narrower term under "Art music," so both terms would not be for a chamber work.
- "Sonatas" is a narrower term under "Art music," so both terms would not be used for a sonata for a solo instrument.
- "Waltzes (Music)" is a narrower term under "Dance music," so only "Waltzes (Music)" would be used when the work is a waltz and no other dance form is present.

However, use as many terms as are needed to adequately describe the work:

- "Sonatas" and "Chamber music" for a sonata for a chamber group.
- "Waltzes (Music)" and "Chamber music" for a waltz for a chamber group.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicators and subfields for 380 field</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Subfields</th>
<th>Notes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>blank</td>
<td>‡a</td>
<td>Form of work: a term expressing the class, form, genre, and/or other characteristics of the work being described.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>blank</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Multiple forms of work may be recorded in the same field (subject to the 655 field limit).
**Form of work (MARC 380)**

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separate occurrences of subfield ‡a.

Capitalize the first term in each ‡a

Terms from different source vocabularies are recorded in separate 380 fields

When terms do not come from a controlled vocabulary, use a singular form

‡2

Source of term: MARC code that identifies the source of the term in subfield ‡a when:

- use ‡2 lcgft for LCGFT
- use ‡2 lcsh for LCSH

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**Examples**

From a controlled vocabulary:

**Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms**

380 __ Art music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Dance music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Masses ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Mazurkas (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Motets ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Operas ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Part songs ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Pastoral music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Preludes (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Suites ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Variations (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Studies (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Requiems ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Requiems ‡a Excerpts ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Preludes (Music) ‡a Canons (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Tangos (Music) ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Cantatas ‡a Sacred music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Songs ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Songs ‡a Gospel music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Dramatic music ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Ballets (Music) ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Sonatas ‡a Excerpts ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Sonatas ‡a Excerpts ‡a Variations (Music) ‡2 lcgft

**Library of Congress Subject Headings**

380 __ Solo cantatas ‡2 lcsh
380 __ Magnificat (Music) ‡2 lcsh
380 __ Mixed media (Music) ‡2 lcsh

From more than one controlled vocabulary

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380 __ Sacred music ‡a Litanies (Music) ‡2 lcgft
380 __ Kyrie eleison (Music) ‡2 lcsh

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sources: LC MARC 21 format for [authority data][12] and [DCM Z1][11]

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**Source URL:** https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC380

**Links**

[1] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music
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[7] https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC655
[8] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/formofwork
[10] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/lcgft