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>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>blank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subfields</td>
<td>‡a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Form of work: a term expressing the class or genre of the work.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Multiple forms of work vocabulary may be recorded in 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.

**Source of term:** MARC code that identifies the source of the term in subfield ‡a when the term is from a controlled list.

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

### Examples

**From a controlled vocabulary:**

#### Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>380</th>
<th>Art music ‡2 lcgft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Dance music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Masses ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Mazurkas (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Motets ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Operas ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Part songs ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Pastoral music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Preludes (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Suites ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Variations (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Studies (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Requiems ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Requiems ‡a Excerpts ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Preludes (Music) ‡a Canons (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Tangos (Music) ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Cantatas ‡a Sacred music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Songs ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Songs ‡a Gospel music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Dramatic music ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Ballets (Music) ‡a Art music ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Sonatas ‡a Excerpts ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Sonatas ‡a Excerpts ‡a Variations (Music) ‡2 lcgft</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Library of Congress Subject Headings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>380</th>
<th>Solo cantatas ‡2 lcsh</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Magnificat (Music) ‡2 lcsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Mixed media (Music) ‡2 lcsh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**From more than one controlled vocabulary**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>n 2016011498</th>
<th>380</th>
<th>Sacred music ‡a Litanies (Music) ‡2 lcgft</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>380</td>
<td>Kyrie eleison (Music) ‡2 lcsh</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sources: LC MARC 21 format for [authority data](https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC380) and [DCM Z1](https://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC380)
Form of work (MARC 380)
Published on Yale University Library (https://web.library.yale.edu)

Links
[1] http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music
[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