

## Commonly used music terms in the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT)

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

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

This is a list of commonly used names of genre and form terms selected from the Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms (LCGFT).

**This list is *not* complete. It includes most, but not all, terms for western art music and some popular genres.**

**It does not show the hierarchy.** For the complete list and the hierarchical structure, please see [Music Genre/Form Terms in LCGFT](#) [3] (scroll down to the top music term "music"). To search individual terms, please see [Classification Web](#) [4] (subscription required) or the [Library of Congress Genre/Form Terms](#) [5] website.

About **vocal works with sacred texts**: while LCGFT includes terms for forms of sacred music, e.g., Masses, Requiems, Vespers (Music), Psalms (Music) (but not specific psalms), Litanies (Music), etc., terms for settings of specific texts are not included in LCGFT, e.g., Magnificat, Kyrie, Agnus Dei, etc. (For a setting of a specific text, an added entry (730) may be made.) (source: Library of Congress, NMP-L, Mon 11/22/2021)

These terms are used in conjunction with [Recording form of work](#) [6] (RDA 6.3), MLA's [Best practices for using LCGFT for music resources](#) [7] (version 1.2 (July 8, 2019)), and [MARC 380](#) [8] (Form of work) and/or [MARC 655](#) [9] (Index term–genre/form).

[A](#) | [B](#) | [C](#) | [D](#) | [E](#) | [F](#) | [G](#) | [H](#) | [I](#) | [J](#) | [K](#) | [L](#) | [M](#) | [N](#) | [O](#) | [P](#) | [Q](#) | [R](#) | [S](#) | [T](#) | [U](#) | [V](#) | [W](#) | [XYZ](#)

### A

Accompaniments (Music)  
Advent music  
Airs de cour  
Aleatory music  
All Saints' Day music  
Alleluias (Chants)  
Allemandes (Music)  
Alma mater songs  
Animated film music  
Animated television music  
Anthems  
Antiphonaries (Service books)  
Antiphons (Music)  
Arabesques (Art music)  
Arrangements (Music)  
Ascension Day music  
Ayres

### B

Background music  
Bagatelles (Music)  
Ballad operas  
Ballades (Formes fixes)  
Ballades (Instrumental music)  
Ballads  
Ballate  
Ballets (Music)  
Balletti (Part songs)

Barbershop (Music)  
Barcaroles  
Bawdy songs  
Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament (Music)  
Berceuses (  
Blues (Music)  
Blues-rock music  
Boleros (Music)  
Boogaloos (Music)  
Boogie woogie (Music)  
Bop (Music)  
Bossa nova (Music)  
Bourrées (Music)

### C

Cadenzas  
Cajun music  
Calypso (Music)  
Camp songs  
Campaign songs  
Cancans (Music)  
Candlemas music  
Canons (Music)  
Cantatas  
Canticles  
Cantillations  
Cantorial music  
Canzonas (Instrumental music)  
Canzonets (Part songs)  
Capriccios (Music)  
Carnival music  
Carols  
Celtic music  
Chamber music  
Chaconnes (Music)  
Chants  
Chorale preludes  
Chorales  
Choros  
Chorus scores  
Christmas music  
Circus music  
Clausulas (Songs)  
Clog dance music  
Compline music  
Communion service music  
Concert etudes  
Concertos  
Concerti grossi  
Conductus  
Congadas (Music)  
Contrafacta  
Coronation music  
Corpus Christi Festival music  
Cotillions (Music)  
Country-dances (Music)  
Courantes (Music)  
Court dances (Music)  
Csárdás (Music)  
Cumulative songs

## **D**

Dance music  
Dialogues (Music)  
Dirges (Music)  
Divine Office (Music)  
Dixieland music  
Dramatic music  
Drinking songs  
Drum circles  
Dumky (Art music)

## **E**

Easter music  
Ecossaises (Music)  
Elegies (Music)  
Ensaladas  
Enumerative songs  
Epic songs  
Epiphany music  
Erotic songs  
Estampies (Music)  
Evening service music  
Event music  
Exercise music

## **F**

Falsobordone  
Fakebooks (Music)  
Fandangos (Music)  
Fanfares  
Fantasias (Music)  
Feast of the Transfiguration music  
Fight songs  
Finales (Music)  
Flamenco music  
Folias (Music)  
Folk dance music  
Folk music  
Folk-rock music  
Folk songs  
Foxtrots (Music)  
Fraternity and sorority songs  
Frottole (Music)  
Fugues  
Functional music  
Funeral music  
Furians (Music)

## **G**

Galliards (Music)  
Galops (Music)  
Gavottes (Music)  
Glees (Music)  
Glitch music  
Gospel music  
Graduals (Chants)  
Graduals (Service books)  
Gregorian chants  
Giustiniane (Villanelle)  
Guarachas (Music)

## **H**

Habaneras (Music)

High Holiday music  
Hobo songs  
Holy Week music  
Hornpipes (Music)  
Humorous music  
Humorous songs  
Hunting music  
Hymn tunes  
Hymnals  
Hymns

### I

Impromptus (Music)  
Improvisations (Music)  
In nomines (Music)  
Incidental music  
Instrumental settings  
Intabulations  
Interludes (Music)  
Intermezzos (Instrumental music)  
Introits (Music)

### J

Jazz  
Jigs (Dance music)  
Jingles (Advertising songs)  
Jotas (Music)  
Juvenilia (*use for* works created during a person's childhood or youth)

### K

Karaoke  
Klezmer music  
Krakowiaks (Music)  
Kyriales

### L

Ländler (Music)  
Laude  
Lauds (Music)  
Lead sheets  
Lenten music  
Litanies (Music)  
Lounge music  
Love songs  
Lullabies (Songs)

### M

Madrigals (Music)  
Mambos (Music)  
Marches (Music)  
Mariachi (Music)  
Mashups (Music)  
Masses  
Mazurkas (Music)  
Medleys (Music)  
Methods (Music)  
Merengues (Music)  
Michaelmas music  
Microtonal music  
Military music  
Milongas (Music)  
Minnesang  
Minstrel music  
Minuets (Music)

Missals (Service books)  
Mission music  
Modern dance music  
Monologues (Music)  
Monophonic chansons  
Motets  
Motion picture music  
Morning service music  
Morris dances (Music)  
Mouth music  
Musical games  
Musical parodies  
Musical sketches  
Musicals  
Musique concrète

### N

Narrative songs  
Nocturnes (Music)  
Nonsense songs  
Notated music  
Novelty songs

### O

Obereks (Music)  
Offertories (Music)  
Old-time music  
Open form music (musical compositions in which the sections are played in an order that is determined by the performers)  
Operas  
Oratorios  
Organ masses  
Organa  
Orthros (Music)  
Overtures

### P

Pachangas (Music)  
Pantomimes (Music)  
Part books  
Part songs  
Parts (Music)  
Pasillos (Music)  
Paso dobles (Music)  
Passacaglias  
Passamezzos (Music)  
Passepieds (Music)  
Passover music  
Pasticcios (Music)  
Pastoral music  
Pavans (Music)  
Penitential psalms (Music)  
Pentecost Festival music  
Peyote songs  
Piano scores  
Pilgrimage music  
Polkabilly music  
Polka-mazurkas (Music)  
Polkas (Music)  
Polonaises (Music)  
Polskas (Music)  
Polyphonic chansons

Polyphonic Lieder  
Popular music  
Postludes (Music)  
Powwow songs  
Preludes (Music)  
Processionals (Service books)  
Production music  
Program music  
Propers (Music)  
Prosulas (Music)  
Protest songs  
Psalms (Music)

### Q

Quadrilles (Music)  
Quicksteps (Marches)  
Quodlibets (Music)

### R

Radio music  
Radio operas  
Ragtime music  
Rappresentazioni sacre (Music)  
Recorded accompaniments  
Reels (Music)  
Remixes (Music)  
Reproaches (Chants)  
Requiems  
Responses (Music)  
Revues  
Rhapsodies (Music)  
Ricercars  
Rigaudons (Music)  
Rockabilly music  
Romances (Music)  
Rondos  
Rounds (Music)  
Rumbas (Music)

### S

Sabbath music  
Sacred music  
Salsa (Music)  
Saltarellos (Music)  
Sambas (Music)  
Sarabandes (Music)  
Sardanas (Music)  
Satirical songs  
Scat singing  
Scherzos  
Schottisches (Music)  
Scores  
Sea shanties  
Seguidillas (Music)  
Sequences (Music)  
Sequentiaries (Service books)  
Serenatas  
Service books (Music)  
Sevillanas (Music)  
Shape-note hymnals  
Sicilianas (Music)  
Silent film music

Simplified editions (Music)  
Singing commercials  
Singing games  
Sonatas  
Song cycles  
Song parodies  
Songbooks  
Songs  
Songs without words (Instrumental music)  
Sound effects recordings  
Soundscapes (Music)  
Spirituals (Songs)  
Square dance music  
State songs  
Strathspeys (Music)  
Studies (Music)  
Suites  
Swing (Music)  
Symphonic poems  
Symphonies

## **T**

Tangos (Music)  
Tap dance music  
Tarantellas (Music)  
Teaching pieces (Music)  
Television music  
Television operas  
Tientos (Art music)  
Toccatas  
Tonadillas  
Trinity Sunday music  
Tropes (Music)  
Tune books  
Tyroliennes (Music)

## **U**

## **V**

Variations (Music)  
Vaudeville songs  
Vespers (Music)  
Villanelle (Songs)  
Villotte  
Virelais (Formes fixes)  
Vocal scores  
Vocalises

## **W**

Waulking songs  
Waltzes (Music)  
Wedding music  
Western swing (Music)  
Work songs

## **XYZ**

Yodels  
Yom Kippur music  
Zamba (Music)  
Zortzikos (Music)

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### Links

[1] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music> [2] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/marc-tagging> [3] [http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/resource/resmgr/BCC\\_Genre\\_Form\\_Task\\_Force/Hierarchy1506.pdf](http://www.musiclibraryassoc.org/resource/resmgr/BCC_Genre_Form_Task_Force/Hierarchy1506.pdf) [4] <http://classificationweb.net/> [5] <http://id.loc.gov/authorities/genreForms.html> [6] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/formofwork> [7] <https://cmc.blog.musiclibraryassoc.org/documents/best-practices-for-using-lcgft-for-music-resources/> [8] <http://web.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/MARC380> [9] <http://www.oclc.org/bibformats/en/6xx/655.html>