

DATES IN BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORDS

Dates are one of the most complex aspects of descriptive cataloging. Dates may appear as publication dates, copyright dates, printing dates, manufacture dates, etc. Often many different dates appear on an item. It can be a challenge to determine which date or dates should be used in the bibliographic record.

General Note: In the examples below, fixed field data is shown in { }

AACR 1.4F - Date of publication – 260 |c

For published items, give the publication date of the edition, revision, etc. named in the edition area.

If there is no edition statement give the publication date of the item being described.

Dates on title pages are usually given preference to dates found in other sources.

Give dates in arabic numerals. Give the year only; do not give months or days.

Second revised edition May 1990

250 2nd rev. ed.

260 New York :|bBantam,|c1990. {s 1990 }

AACR 1.4F1 – LCRI 1.4F1 – Later publication dates

LC practice: If a U.S. trade publication has a publication date that is in the year following the year in which the publication is received, accept the later publication date as the date of the edition being cataloged. For example, if “2011” appears as the publication date on an item received in 2010, give 2011 in the 260 |c.

On t.p. verso: Published 2011 Received in library July 2010

260 New York :|bBantam,|c2011. {s 2011 }

AACR 1.4F6 – Copyright dates – 260 |c

If there is a copyright date, but no publication date, record the copyright date in the 260 as cYYYY.

©1990

260 New York :|bBantam,|cc1990. {s 1990 }

If there is a publication date and a copyright date:

- If they are the same, record only the publication date

- If they are different, record the publication date and the latest copyright date

Published December 1990 ©1987
260 New York :|bBantam,|c1990, c1987. {t 1990, 1987}

Ignore copyright dates for parts of the contents (i.e. a copyright date for cover art) unless they provide a clue to a change in the actual text.

Copyright renewal dates: For works first copyrighted before 1978, ignore the copyright renewal date. Use only the original copyright date.

For works copyrighted after 1977, give the copyright renewal date.

©1930, ©renewed1979
260 Los Angeles :|bCollier,|cc1930. {s 1930 }

©1978, ©renewed1995
260 Los Angeles :|bCollier,|cc1995. {s 1995 }

LCRI 1.4F6 – Later copyright dates

LC practice: If a U.S. trade publication lacking a publication date has a copyright date that is in the year following the year in which the publication is received, accept the later copyright date as a substitute for the publication date. For example, if ©2011 appears on a publication received in 2010, give c2011 as the publication date.

260 New York :|bBantam,|cc2011. {s 2011 }

AACR 1.4F6 -Printing dates

Usually ignore printing dates. Exceptions:

If the item lacks a publication date and the first printing date is later than the copyright date, use the printing date as an implied publication date.

©1978 1st Bantam paperback printing 1980
260 New York :|bBantam,|c[1980], c1978. {t 1980, 1978}

If item lacks a publication and a copyright date use a first printing date as an implied publication date.

1st printing March 1999

260 New York :|bBantam,|c[1999] {s 1999 }

If the printing statement implies it is a new publication or there is evidence that it is a new publication, use the printing date as an implied publication date. Include an edition statement if appropriate.

7th revised printing 1990

250 [7th rev. ed.]

260 New York :|bBantam,|c[1990] {s 1990 }

AACR 1.4F7 – Lack of a publication, copyright or distribution date

If the item lacks a date, supply an approximate date in brackets

260|c[1971?] probable date {s 1971 }

260|c[ca. 1971] approximate date {s 1971 }

260|c[197-] decade certain {s 197u }

260|c[197-?] probable decade {s 197u }

260|c[19--] century certain {s 19uu }

260|c[19--?] probable century {s 19uu }

Fixed field codes: Type of Date/Publication status

If more than one code applies, use the following chart to determine precedence.

Single or multipart items complete in 1 year

- r Reprint/original date
- s Single date
- p Distribution and production date
- t Publication and copyright date
- q Range of dates for single item with questionable date
- n Unknown date

r Reprint/reissue date and original date

Enter reprint/reissue date in Date One and date of original in Date Two

Use for re-releases of motion pictures and videorecordings in the same medium. Do not use for a change in form (a motion picture re-released as a videorecording).

Use for reissues of sound recordings in the same medium or different medium.

Use for previously published items. Do not use for items that have changed enough to be published as new editions.

The second date may come from the 260 or from a 500 note.

Dat type: r

Date One: 2000 Date Two: 1970

260|c2000, c1993.

500 Originally published: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1970.

Dat type: r

Date One: 1999 Date Two: 1954

260|c1999.

500 Reprint of 1954 edition published by Simon and Schuster.

[The original date is 1954, this is a reprint with a 1999 date.]

s Single date

A single year as the date of publication, copyright, etc.

Enter the year in Date One, leave Date Two blank.

Dat type: s

Date One: 198u

260|c[198-]

Dat type: s

Date One: 19uu

260c[19--?]

Dat type: s

Date One: 1999

260|cc1999.

p Distribution and production date

If the date of distribution/release/issue and the date of production differ by at least a year, use p.
Use Date One for the year of distribution (the date the material became available)
Use Date Two for the year of production/recording (the date the material was made)

Dat type: p
Date One: 1995 Date Two: 1964
260|c[1995]
500 Recorded in 1964.

Dat type: p
Date One: 1981 Date Two: 1964
260|cc1981.
500 Originally produced as a motion picture in 1964.

t Publication date and copyright date

Use t if the item has a publication date and a copyright date.
Date One is the year of publication, Date Two is the copyright date.

Dat type: t
Date One: 2000 Date Two : 1999
260|c2000, c1999.

q Range of dates for single item of questionable date

If a range of dates is listed in the 260, use q and list the earliest year in Date One and the latest in Date Two.

Dat type: q
Date One: 1969 Date Two: 1977
260|c[between 1969 and 1977]

n Dates unknown

Use for naturally occurring objects.

Dat type: n
Date One: uuuu Date Two: uuuu
[Naturally occurring object, no 260 present.]

Do not use code n for published items. Some kind of a guess should be made.

Sound recordings

- Many dates appear on sound recordings, including:
 - Date of performance
 - Date of composition
 - Release as a recording
 - Re-release in a new recording medium
 - Copyright of design of packaging or accompanying material
- The dates can come from several sources
 - Sound recording label
 - Container
 - Accompanying material

Dates from the chief source (recording and label) are usually the most important

Dates to keep in mind

- LPs first available in 1948
- Pre-recorded reel-to-reel first available in 1954
- Pre-recorded audio cassettes first available in 1965
- Audio compact discs first available in 1982
- MP3-CDs first available in 1994
- Playaways first available in 2005

A date on a compact disc earlier than 1982 should not be considered a publication date. A later date from a container or accompanying material may be more important.

Since 1971 the symbol p has been used to indicate the copyright date of recorded sound.

Various © dates might also be present indicating copyright protection for the work performed or for accompanying material, etc.

- When a single p date is present it should be transcribed as the date of copyright of the recorded sound.
- When various p dates appear on a single recording, the cataloger must determine if they represent a reissue. If that is the case, the latest p date should be transcribed.
- If various p dates represent different parts of the recording, no p date should be transcribed, because none applies to the recording as a whole.
- For items lacking a p date, a © before 1971 should be transcribed as the copyright date.
- For items lacking a p date, a © after 1970 should be transcribed as an inferred date of publication.

- For digitally remastered analog recordings that have been released on compact disc, the © date for textual material on the container may be used to infer the date of publication, but the p date should also be transcribed (see 1.4F5.)
- For items lacking a p date and a © date the cataloger should estimate a date of publication. Usually a recent recording is released within one year of the date it is recorded, but this is not always accurate.

Audiobooks

Audiobooks often have “p” and “c” dates. For an audiobook the “c” date is usually the date of the copyright of the book. With musical sound recordings, a “c” date can sometimes be used as an implied date of publication. This should not usually be done with audiobooks. Use the p date in the 260 subfield c. Give the c date of the book in a note.

Playaways

(excerpt from *Guide to Cataloging Playaway Devices based on AACR2 chapters 6 and 9*)

The date(s) entered in the 260 field should always include the publication/distribution date for the sound recording that is held on the Playaway device. As Playaways were first commercially available in the second half of 2005, the publication/distribution date entered in the catalog record for the Playaway (i.e., Date1 in the fixed field and the first date listed in the 260 ≠c) may NOT be dated earlier than 2005.

As is the practice for other sound recordings, if the recording has been previously released, such as in a different format, the original publication/distribution date of the sound recording should be noted in the 008 fixed field (Date2) and in a 500 general note. The dates of the print publication should be included in a note. Refer to AACR2 1.4F2 and 6.4F2 for further details.

Videorecordings

The copyright date of the original film is usually given at the end of the film. For a videorecording, if no publication date is present, use copyright date. Give original date of film (if applicable) in a note.

Must be careful with dates for films. When viewing a videorecording, the date on the screen will usually be the date of the original film, not the videorecording. Often the date for the videorecording will be on the container with the date for the original film.

For copy cataloging can ignore copyright dates that are just for the packaging.

Dat tp: p Dates: 1981, 1964

260; ;a New York : \$b MGM/CBS Home Video, \$c c1981.

500; ;a Originally produced as a motion picture in 1964.

Identical content, but different medium (i.e. a videorecording of a motion picture) with a new date for the publication of the videorecording.

Dat tp: s Dates: 2001

260; ;a New York : \$b Turner Home Classics, \$c c2001.

500; ;a Originally released as a motion picture in 1988.

DVD release of the motion picture with additional footage and subtitles.

Electronic resources

Consider all remote access electronic resources to be published. For remote access items this information is often listed at the bottom of the page, or at a button like "About us."

If the website has a copyright date use it. If it has multiple dates such as c1999-2002(usually the current year) use the latest year only. If a date is not listed, make a guess based on the contents.

Realia

Realia includes, but is not limited to: naturally occurring objects, machines, stitchery, clothing, sculpture, puppets, models, games, toys, rubber stamps, stencils, jewelry, pottery, etc.

Dates can come from anywhere on the object itself, a permanently attached label, any accompanying textual material, or a container. Prefer information found on the object itself or an attached label. For commercially produced objects, there will often be a copyright date on the label or container. If no date is available or the object is not commercially produced, make a guess and put the date in brackets.