

This system is used by academic and public libraries in many areas. While Library Congress Classification has a totally different way of arranging sound records, we cannot depend on LOC for call numbers on all of our materials. This is not an exhaustive list. If needed, we can add refinements. With this system we can classify and assign call numbers for easy retrieval.

The ANSCR Classification System for Sound Recordings

ANSCR categories

The Alpha-Numeric System for Classification of Recordings (ANSCR) is composed of 46 major categories into which all sound recordings are organized.

A	Music Appreciation: History and Commentary
B	Operas: Complete and Highlights
C	Choral Music
D	Vocal Music
(E)	Orchestral music
EA	Orchestral music: General Orchestral
EB	Orchestral music: Ballet Music
EC	Orchestral music: Concertos
ES	Orchestral music: Symphonies
F	Chamber Music
(G)	Solo Instrumental Music
GG	Solo Instrumental Music: Guitar
GO	Solo Instrumental Music: Organ
GP	Solo Instrumental Music: Piano
GS	Solo Instrumental Music: Stringed Instruments
GV	Solo Instrumental Music: Violin
GW	Solo Instrumental Music: Wind Instruments
GX	Solo Instrumental Music: Percussion Instruments
H	Band Music
J	Electronic, Mechanical Music

K	Musical Shows and Operettas: Complete and Excerpts
L	Soundtrack Music: Motion Pictures and Television
MA	Popular Music
MC	Country/Western
MG	Contemporary Christian/Gospel
MJ	Jazz
MN	New Age
MR	Rock, Rhythm and Blues, Hip-Hop, etc.
P	Folk and Ethnic Music (National)
O	Jewish music
Q	Folk and Ethnic Music (International)
R	Holiday Music
RC	Christmas Music
S	Varieties and Humor
SR	Varieties and Humor: Radio Transcriptions
ST	Varieties and Humor: Television Transcriptions
T	Plays
U	Poetry
V	Prose (Fiction)
VN	Prose (Nonfiction)
W	Documentary: History and Commentary
X	Instructional or Informational Spoken Recordings
Y	Sounds and Special Effects
(Z)	Children's Recordings
ZI	Children's Recordings: Instructional
ZM	Children's Recordings: Music
ZR	Children's Recordings: Holiday Music
ZRC	Children's Recordings: Christmas Music
ZS	Children's Recordings: Spoken

ANSCR call number composition

ANSCR call number composition consists of four lines of information. Each item of information is explained below.

Term One

Term Two

Term Three

Term Four

Term One

Letter or letters representing one of the ANSCR categories

Term Two

Based on the ANSCR category specified in Term One, Term Two will be the first four consecutive letters of the composer's surname, performer's surname, author's surname, title, or topic

Term Three

Initial letters of the first three significant words of the title, or the first three consecutive letters of a one-word title

Term Four

First letter of the performer's surname (or production company if a children's recording) followed by the last two digits of the recording company's production number

ANSCR call number examples

In the following examples, the description of a sound recording is shown on the left and the resultant ANSCR call number is shown on the right. Recording descriptions include the ANSCR call number coding in parentheses following each item of information.

Example 1:

Term One: Opera (B)	B
Term Two: Puccini (PUCC)	PUCC
Term Three: La Boheme (BOH)	BOH
Term Four: Tullio Serafin, Decca 0082 (S82)	S82

Example 2:

Term One: Orchestral music: Symphonies (ES)	ES
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Term Two: Beethoven (BEET)	BEET
Term Three: Symphony No. 9 (9)	9
Term Four: Christoph von Dohn'nyi, Columbia MS 0020 (D20)	D20

Example 3:

Term One: Jazz Music (MJ)	MJ
Term Two: Miles Davis (DAVI)	DAVI
Term Three: E.S.P. (ESP)	ESP
Term Four: Miles Davis, Verve 0083 (D83)	D83

Above term one, add a media designation from the list below.

LP == long playing vinyl disc

D7 == 78 r.p.m.

D4 == 45 r.p.m

CD == Compact disc

CS == Cassette tape

OR == Open reel tape

MP3 == MP3 recording on digital media or in a computer file

From: California State University, Los Angeles

Music Cataloging at Yale University

<http://www.library.yale.edu/cataloging/music/musicat.htm#srcat>

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