Dewey® Services

Make your materials easier to find.

The **Dewey Decimal Classification**® (DDC) system is the world's most widely used way to organize library collections. OCLC constantly updates the DDC to enable better discovery across any topic in multiple languages. Because the DDC is easy to use, you can increase the visibility of your materials quickly and efficiently.

OCLC®

Make sense of your complex collection.

Libraries want to meet the information needs of their communities on a wide variety of topics. But many casual library users are not skilled catalog searchers, and they may not know what keywords will return the best results. They need your materials and e-resources to be organized in a way that allows them to browse for the information they need to **make breakthroughs possible**.

Organize your collection in multiple languages. The Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) system has been translated into numerous languages and serves library users worldwide, making it the world's most widely used library classification system.

Include resources on even the most recent subjects. The ten members of the international Dewey Editorial Policy Committee and the DDC editorial team work to keep the DDC relevant and meaningful through frequent updates. These changes, additions, and improvements ensure that the DDC will continue to work for your collection and your patrons.

Minimize volunteer and staff training time. Many libraries rely on volunteers and temporary staff to manage day-to-day tasks such as re-shelving books. The DDC's simple, number-based format makes it easy for these helpers to know exactly where a book should fit on the shelf. They can re-shelve books quickly and have confidence they're doing it correctly.

Help patrons feel more comfortable in the library. Non-regular library users can be intimidated by the rows and rows of shelves, searching the catalog, and even asking a librarian for help. With its subject-based classification system, the DDC encourages patrons to independently browse the catalog and stacks to find what they need. Once they find the topic area they want, patrons can comfortably browse the items to get a better understanding of your collection.

Empower discovery. Uniform resource identifiers (URIs) have been created for Dewey numbers. As the foundation for our Concept entities, this Dewey linked data (oc.lc/dewey-linked-data) provides subject classifications to Works entities in WorldCat® Entities, creating a layer of new relationships for knowledge graphs that power discovery.

The right tool to organize your collection

WebDewey® is the electronic version of the DDC system. It is a full representation of all published numbers, plus other mappings and new terms that have been approved by the Dewey Editorial Policy Committee. It puts the power of the world's most widely used library classification system in your hands so you can efficiently organize your collections.
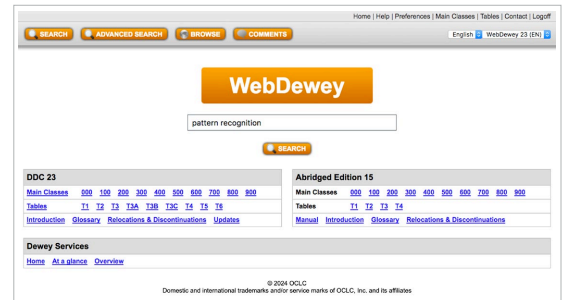
WebDewey is the easiest way to use the DDC to organize and classify library collections. With WebDewey, you have the most up-to-date DDC numbers available, based on an array of continually evolving topics and languages.

WebDewey also includes:

• Searching or browsing DDC numbers, Relative Index terms, and mapped Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH) and MeSH headings

• Adding your own notes and displaying them in context

• An easy-to-navigate, simple user interface that is suitable for the novice as well as the power user

• Access to the full range of Dewey linked data URIs and associated metadata, available by logging in using your WebDewey credentials at oc.lc/dewey-linked-data

• Access to two Dewey linked data APIs (oc.lc/dewey-services-apis) that enable you to easily integrate Dewey linked data into other systems and services

The Dewey Cutter Program software automatically provides cutter numbers from the OCLC Four-Figure Cutter Tables when you input text, which helps you classify materials more efficiently. The Dewey Cutter Program is available at no additional charge.

If you prefer offline access to the DDC, we have you covered there, too. Since 2018, we've offered **Dewey Print-on-Demand**. This four-volume set, which is updated every January, includes the latest changes and topics available in the DDC.

Increase visibility of your materials with a regularly updated, easy-to-use classification system that supports multiple languages.

"Delaware Libraries use the Dewey Decimal Classification system as a match point across all library services—including reference, programs, and circulation—to get a sense of how Delawareans are using libraries and what they are trying to accomplish."

Annie Norman
State Librarian/Director,
Delaware Division of Libraries
Delaware, United States

Optimize library outcomes in your community

The Delaware Division of Libraries relies on the DDC not only for collection organization, but also for understanding the needs and interests of all Delawareans. Using a business model created by Dr. Annie Norman, the library system maps DDC subjects against a modified version of Maslow's hierarchy of needs to identify what their customers need and want. They use this information to plan programming, professional development, community partnerships, and more.

With the information acquired from their Dewey/ Maslow framework, Delaware libraries have gained increased support from the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services and even the state's first lady. Their goal is to more efficiently help individuals and communities learn and innovate, and they hope that other libraries will follow.

Read other members' experiences at oc.lc/stories.

Visit oc.lc/dewey to learn more.

Keep up with changes and additions to the DDC, get resources for teachers and librarians, view a demo of WebDewey, and more.

Because what is known must be shared.®

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