

DCMI - Dublin Core Metadata Initiative

https://www.dublincore.org/resources/userguide/creating_metadata/

Creating Metadata

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Go to [Publishing Metadata](#)

Contents

- [1 About the examples](#)
- [2 Titles](#)
 - [2.1 Title](#)
 - [2.2 Alternative](#)
 - [2.3 Guidelines for the creation of title content](#)
- [3 Relationships between Resource and Agents](#)
 - [3.1 Using agent properties in Dublin Core](#)
 - [3.2 Contributor](#)
 - [3.3 Creator](#)
 - [3.4 Publisher](#)
 - [3.5 RightsHolder](#)
 - [3.6 Guidelines for the creation of content for agents](#)
- [4 Type](#)
 - [4.1 Guidelines for the creation of type content](#)
- [5 Format](#)
 - [5.1 Guidelines for the creation of format content](#)
- [6 Extent](#)
 - [6.1 Guidelines for the creation of extent content](#)
- [7 Medium](#)
 - [7.1 Guidelines for the creation of medium content](#)
- [8 Language](#)
 - [8.1 Guidelines for the creation of language content](#)
- [9 Identifiers](#)
 - [9.1 Identifier](#)
 - [9.2 BibliographicCitation](#)
 - [9.3 Guidelines for the creation of identifier content](#)
- [10 Descriptions](#)
 - [10.1 Description](#)
 - [10.2 Abstract](#)
 - [10.3 TableOfContent](#)
 - [10.4 Guidelines for the creation of descriptions](#)
- [11 Subject](#)
 - [11.1 Guidelines for describing the subject of a resource](#)
- [12 Coverage](#)
 - [12.1 Coverage](#)
 - [12.2 Temporal](#)

- [12.3 Spatial](#)
- [12.4 Guidelines for describing the coverage, spatial or temporal character of a resource](#)
- [13 Dates](#)
 - [13.1 Date](#)
 - [13.2 Created](#)
 - [13.3 Issued](#)
 - [13.4 Available](#)
 - [13.5 Modified](#)
 - [13.6 Valid](#)
 - [13.7 DateCopyrighted](#)
 - [13.8 DateSubmitted](#)
 - [13.9 DateAccepted](#)
 - [13.10 Guidelines for the creation of content for dates](#)
- [14 Source and Relations](#)
 - [14.1 Relation](#)
 - [14.2 Source](#)
 - [14.3 IsPartOf](#)
 - [14.4 HasPart](#)
 - [14.5 IsVersionOf](#)
 - [14.6 HasVersion](#)
 - [14.7 IsFormatOf](#)
 - [14.8 HasFormat](#)
 - [14.9 Replaces](#)
 - [14.10 IsReplacedBy](#)
 - [14.11 Requires](#)
 - [14.12 IsRequiredBy](#)
 - [14.13 References](#)
 - [14.14 IsReferencedBy](#)
 - [14.15 ConformsTo](#)
 - [14.16 Guidelines for the creation of content for relations and source](#)
- [15 Rights](#)
 - [15.1 Rights](#)
 - [15.2 AccessRights](#)
 - [15.3 License](#)
 - [15.4 Guidelines for the creation of rights content](#)
- [16 Special properties for the description of education material](#)
 - [16.1 Audience](#)
 - [16.2 Mediator](#)
 - [16.3 EducationLevel](#)
 - [16.4 InstructionalMethod](#)
 - [16.5 Guidelines for the creation of content for properties describing education material](#)
- [17 Special properties for the description of collections](#)
 - [17.1 AccrualMethod](#)
 - [17.2 AccrualPeriodicity](#)
 - [17.3 AccrualPolicy](#)
 - [17.4 Guidelines for the creation of content for properties describing collections](#)
- [18 Provenance](#)
 - [18.1 Guidelines for the creation of content for provenance](#)

How to create content for DCMI Metadata

About the examples

We are presenting the examples in tables. To interpret these tables please consider that:

- **yellow rows** are standing for statements describing a resource,
- **white rows** are standing for statements describing a resource that is the value of another statement but is not described by another record,
- **bold** strings are standing for properties,
- **italicized** strings are standing for values,
- **red strings** are standing for values linking to records.

example (see turtle explanation)

Titles

Title

Title is a property that refers to the name or names by which a resource is formally known.

Alternative

Alternative is a property that refers to a name or names of a resource used as a substitute or alternative to the formal title. These are secondary titles, abbreviations, translations of a title, etc.

Guidelines for the creation of title content

For the title use the name given to the resource.

title	<i>Alvar Aalto Chair No. 66</i>
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[as linked data](#)

In most databases title is one of the main criteria to identify search results. So **if there is no formal title resp. name** you should formulate an adequate one by yourself.

title	<i>Data from a survey about the usage of metadata</i>
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[as linked data](#)

If there is **more than one title resp. name** you should repeat the title property

title	<i>Autumn Leaves</i>
title	<i>The Dead Leaves</i>

[as linked data](#)

or use the alternative property.

Typically alternative is used for **secondary titles**,

title	<i>Passion for Pulses</i>
alternative	<i>A Feast of Beans, Peas and Lentils from Around the World</i>

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or for **abbreviations**.

title	<i>American Meteorological Association Newsletter</i>
alternative	<i>AMA Newsletter</i>

[as linked data](#)

If the title resp. name is expressed in **different languages** you should use language tags.

title	<i>La Joconde</i>	fre
title	<i>Mona Lisa</i>	eng
title	<i>La Gioconda</i>	ita

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the same is true for alternative

title	<i>EU Stability Programm of Belgium</i>	eng
alternative	<i>Council Opinion on the Updated Stability Programm of Belgium 2009 - 2010</i>	eng
alternative	<i>Stellungnahme des Rates zum aktualisierten Stabilitätsprogramm Belgiens für 2009 - 2012</i>	ger

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It is recommended to describe titles with plain text (as done in the examples above). But sometimes it is necessary to **create a relationship between the described resource and a more detailed title description**.

This should be used to refer to **a title with different transliterations**,

title		
	in greek	<i>Οιδίπους Τύραννος</i>
	in latin	<i>Oidipous Tyrannos</i>

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or to refer to a **title authority**.

title	<i>Nibelungenlied Handschrift B</i>
title	<i>nibelungenlied</i>

title	<i>Nibelungenlied Handschrift C</i>
title	<code><nibelungenlied i=""> </nibelungenlied<></code>

identifier	<i>nibelungenlied</i>
label	<i>Der Nibelunge Not</i>
alternative label	<i>Nibelungenlied</i>
alternative label	<i>Nibelungenklage</i>
alternative label	<i>Nibelungensage</i>
description	<i>The Nibelungenlied exists of 39 aventiuren created between 1180 and 1210</i>

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Relationships between Resource and Agents

Using agent properties in Dublin Core

Persons, organizations and services can relate to resources in various ways. DCMI defined only a few common properties to describe the relationship between resources and agents. So when necessary other vocabularies should be used describing these relationships more detailed. In these cases we recommend to use the [marcrelator codes](#). How to use them is described in

- [MARC Relator terms and Dublin Core](#)
- [MARC Relator properties in Dublin Core metadata](#)

Contributor

The contributor property represents a relationship between the resource and a person, an organization, or a service making a contribution to a resource.

Creator

The creator property represents a relationship between the resource and a person, an organization, or a service primarily responsible for making the content of a resource.

Publisher

The publisher property represents a relationship between the resource and a person, an organization, or a service responsible for making the resource available and provide access to the resource.

RightsHolder

This property represents a relationship between the resource and a person or an organization owning or managing rights over this resource.

Guidelines for the creation of content for agents

If you know there is a **URI standing for a person or organization** you should use it. For further information you should handle the person or organization like another resource.

Example with an **organization**:

rights holder	gnd	<i>39454-3</i>
	name	<i>Bundesarchiv Koblenz</i>
	homepage	http://www.bundesarchiv.de/index.html.de

[as linked data](#)

Example with a **person**:

contributor	gnd	<i>135066719</i>
	family name	<i>Elliott</i>
	given name	<i>Missy</i>
	nick name	<i>Missy E</i>

[as linked data](#)

Regardless of the existence of a URI **personal names** should be grouped in family name resp. surname as one part of the name and forename resp. given name as the other part .

You should handle the person name like **another resource**,

creator		
	family name	<i>Shakespeare</i>

	given name	<i>William</i>
--	-------------------	----------------

[as linked data](#)

or you could divide these names **by comma**.

creator	<i>Shakespeare, William</i>
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[as linked data](#)

When you **in doubt about family name and given name** give the name as it appears.

contributor	<i>Snoop Dogg</i>
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[as linked data](#)

If there is **more than one contributor/creator/publisher/rightsHolder**, each should be listed separately,

like another resource,

publisher	gnd	<i>2125990-2</i>
	name	<i>Rossijskaja Gosudarstvennaja Biblioteka</i>
	homepage	http://www.rsl.ru/
publisher		
	name	<i>Knižnaja Palata</i>

[as linked data](#)

or with plain text.

creator	<i>Hubble Telescope</i>
publisher	<i>University of Nowhere</i>
publisher	<i>All Your Data Inc.</i>

[as linked data](#)

Type

The type property refers to a description of the nature or genre of the content of a resource (e.g. a stylistic category, a function or an aggregation level). To describe the physical or digital manifestation, use format.

Guidelines for the creation of type content

We recommend to **select a value from a controlled vocabulary** (e. g. [DCMI Type Vocabulary](#)).

type	dctype	
		<i>Still Image</i>

[as linked data](#)

But you may also use **plain text**.

type	<i>Conference</i>
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[as linked data](#)

If **no formal controlled vocabulary** exists, you could create a domain specific one.

type	<i>conference</i>
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identifier	<i>conference</i>	
label	<i>Conference</i>	eng
label	<i>Tagung</i>	ger
label	<i>съезд</i>	rus

[as linked data](#)

Is the resource composed of **multiple components of different types** the property should be repeated.

type	dctype	
		<i>Interactive Resource</i>
type	dctype	
		<i>Text</i>

[as linked data](#)

Different communities use a variety of type vocabularies. To ensure interoperability you can use terms from different vocabularies side by side - e.g. a type of the DCMI Type vocabulary in addition to **a non-controlled or domain specific type term**.

type		
		<i>PC Game</i>

type	dctype	
		<i>Software</i>

[as linked data](#)

Format

The property format refers to the file format, the physical medium (e.g. the data storage medium), or the dimension (the size or duration) of a resource. The information can be relevant to determine the equipment needed to display or operate a resource (e.g. if the described resource has format pdf you need a pdf reader to use it). To specify the different categories of format you should use extent and/or medium. To reference to the nature or genre of the content use type.

Guidelines for the creation of format content

For the description of the **file format** we recommend to use a controlled vocabulary - e.g. the list of [Internet Media Types](#)(MIME).

format	mime	<i>jpeg</i>
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[as linked data](#)

You should repeat the properties when **more than one type of value exists**.

format	mime	<i>jpeg</i>
format		<i>40 x 512 pixels</i>

[as linked data](#)

Extent

This property refers to the size (e.g. bytes, pages, inches, etc.) or duration (e.g. hours, minutes, days, etc.) of a resource.

Guidelines for the creation of extent content

Typically the value used for the description of the extent consists of a **numeric value and a caption** to specify it. You may use a text string to present it

extent	
	<i>21 minutes</i>

[as linked data](#)

or use controlled values for the caption.

extent		
	minutes	21

[as linked data](#)

Medium

This property refers to the physical carrier of the resource and may only be used if the resource is of physical nature (e.g. a painting, a sculpture, etc.)

Guidelines for the creation of medium content

Note that the **media types must not be used with the property medium** because medium describes only physical objects.

We recommend to **use a controlled vocabulary**. If no formal controlled vocabulary exist you should nonetheless handle the media type like another resource.

medium	
	<i>oil on wood</i>
	<i>oil</i>
	<i>wood</i>

[as linked data](#)

Language

This properties refers to the language of the intellectual content of the resource.

Guidelines for the creation of language content

For the identification of languages please follow [RFC 4646](#). Best practice would be to **select a value from the three letter language tags of ISO 639** (e.g. <http://www.sil.org/iso639-3/codes.asp>).

title	<i>A great deliverance</i>	
language	ISO 639-3	<i>eng</i>

[as linked data](#)

or

title	<i>A great deliverance</i>	
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language		
	RFC 4646	<i>eng</i>

[as linked data](#)

If the content is in **more than one language**, the property should be repeated.

title	<i>Charlie Wilson's War</i>	
language	ISO 639-3	<i>eng</i>
language	ISO 639-3	<i>hun</i>
language	ISO 639-3	<i>tur</i>

[as linked data](#)

But if **every language version has it's own identifier**, they have to be treated like single resources.

Video1

title	<i>Medieval helpdesk with English subtitles</i>	
identifier	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pOHX-SjgOvQ&feature=player_embedded	
isVersionOf	<i>Video2</i>	
language	ISO 639-3	<i>nor</i>
language	ISO 639-3	<i>eng</i>

Video2

title	<i>Book help (better verson)</i>	
identifier	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UOorZQLsmuA&feature=related	
isVersionOf	<i>Video1</i>	
language	ISO 639-3	<i>nor</i>

[as linked data](#)

You could also use plain text

title	<i>The Power of Orange Knickers</i>
language	<i>English</i>

[as linked data](#)

or create your own language vocabulary.

title	<i>The Power of Orange Knickers</i>
language	<i>english</i>

identifier	<i>english</i>
label	<i>English</i>
ISO 639-1	<i>en</i>
ISO 639-3	<i>eng</i>

[as linked data](#)

Identifiers

Identifier

An identifier is an unambiguous reference to a resource. Examples of formal identification systems include the Uniform Resource Identifier (URI) - including the Uniform Resource Locator (URL), the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) or the International Standard Book Number (ISBN).

BibliographicCitation

- `dcterms:bibliographicCitation`

BibliographicCitation is a bibliographic reference to a resource identifying the resource by bibliographic details. Typically the described resource is the child in a parent/child relationship where the bibliographicCitation is not describing the relationship but the location of the described resource within the parent resource (e.g. the bibliographic citation of an article consists of the name of a journal as well as the number of volume, issues and even page references). For the description of parent/child relations see `hasPart` or `isPartOf`. BibliographicCitation may only be used to describe bibliographic resources like books, articles or other documentary resource.

Guidelines for the creation of identifier content

Best practice is to **declare the identification system** from which an identifier is selected.

title	<i>What's a URI and why does it matter?</i>	
identifier	http://www.ltg.ed.ac.uk/~ht/WhatAreURIs/	URI

[as linked data](#)

Identifiers should be selected from formal identification systems as above but can also be **local identifiers** as long as there is a proper declaration of these.

title	<i>Small and medium sized companies in Kathmandu</i>	
identifier	03KTM147	local ID

[as linked data](#)

Note that the identifier of the description of a resource (e. g. of the metadata record) is not the same as the identifier of the resource itself.

metadata record		
created	2010	W3CDTF
identifier	013234098	database ID
my Video		
title	<i>Medieval helpdesk with English subtitles</i>	
created	2007	W3CDTF
identifier	http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQHX-SjgQvQ&feature=player_embedded	URI

[as linked data](#)

If no identifier from a formal identification system exist, the identifier can be generated by a **bibliographic citation**. The bibliographic citation can be created as **text citation**,

title	<i>Prototyping Digital Library Technologies in zetoc</i>
bibliographicCitation	<i>Lecture Notes in Computer Science 2458, 309-323 (2002)</i>

[as linked data](#)

or as **machine readable citations**.

title	<i>Prototyping Digital Library Technologies in zetoc</i>
bibliographicCitation	<i>&ctx_ver=Z39.88-2004&rft_val_fmt=info:ofi/fmt:kev:mtx:journal&rft.jtitle=Lecture Notes in Computer Science&rft.volume=2458&rft.spage=309"^^info:ofi/fmt:kev:mtx:ctx</i>

[as linked data](#)

You can also **structure the bibliographic information**.

title	<i>My first article about metadata</i>	
identifier		

	journal title	<i>My Favorite Journal</i>
	volume	3
	issue	2
	start page	14
	date	2010

[as linked data](#)

For additional information on bibliographicCitation see "[Guidelines for Encoding Bibliographic Citation Information in Dublin Core Metadata](#)".

Descriptions

Description

This property refers to the description of the content of a resource. The description is a potentially rich source of indexable terms and assist the users in their selection of an appropriate resource. To refine the character of a description use abstract or tableOfContent.

Abstract

This property is used when the description of a resource is a formal abstract.

TableOfContent

This property is used when the description of a resource is a structured list of the contents of a resource.

Guidelines for the creation of descriptions

A description may be a **free text account**,

title	<i>Bugs from New Zealand</i>
description	<i>A box of ten bugs collected in New Zealand between 1845 and 1846</i>

[as linked data](#)

an **abstract**,

title	<i>The Foundations of Programm Verification</i>
abstract	<i>This revised edition provides a precise mathematical background to several program verification techniques. It concentrates on those verification methods that have now become classic, such as the inductive assertions method of Floyd, the axiomatic method of Hoare, and Scott's fixpoint induction. The aim of the book is to present these different</i>

	<i>verification methods in a simple setting and to explain their mathematical background. In particular the problems of correctness and completeness of the different methods are discussed in some detail and many helpful examples are included.</i>
--	--

[as linked data](#)

a **table of contents**,

title	<i>Remains of Claire Klawitter</i>
table of content	<i>Diary 1822 - 1824 -- 20 pictures of Indian farmers -- 5 letters to Rudi Ratlos -- 1 map of North India</i>

[as linked data](#)

or a **reference to a description**.

title	<i>Thriller</i>
description	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thriller_(album)

[as linked data](#)

You can give some **information about the description you refer to**.

title	<i>Coriandrum sativum</i>	
description	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coriander	
	title	<i>Coriander</i>
	contributor	<i>Wikipedia</i>

[as linked data](#)

If **descriptions in different languages** exist, the property should be repeated with language tags.

title	<i>Delvig and Kjuchelbeker</i>	
abstract	<i>The book is a collection of works of two poets - contemporaries and friends of Pushkin - A. A. Delvig and V. K. Kjuchelbeker. It includes poems and prosa by Kjuchelbeker, parts of his diary, the poem Jurij and Xenia and reviews by Delvig. The attachment presents some retrospections to Delvig and Kjuchelbeker. A detailed biographic description tells us something about the life of the poets.</i>	eng
abstract	<i>Сборник впервые объединяет произведения двух поэтов - современников и друзей Пушкина - А. А. Дельвига и В. К. Кюхельбекера. Наряду со стихотворениями в книгу включены проза Кюхельбекера, фрагменты из его дневника, поэма "Юрий и Ксения", а также рецензии Дельвига. В "Приложении" печатаются воспоминания о Дельвиге и Кюхельбекерею. Подробные биографические очерки рассказывают о жизненном пути поэтов.</i>	rus

[as linked data](#)

Subject

The property subject represents a relationship between a resource and another resource which is a topic of the first resource resp. describes the intellectual content of the first resource. If the topic of the resource has a spatial or temporal character, use coverage, spatial or temporal.

Guidelines for describing the subject of a resource

To express the topic of a resource we recommend to **use a URI representing another resource describing this topic**,

title	<i>Inviato alla Biennale : Venezia, 1949 - 2009</i>	
subject	http://www.labiennale.org/en/Home.html	
	title	<i>La Biennale di Venezia</i>

[as linked data](#)

or a URI representing the value of a controlled vocabulary,

- like **entries from authority file systems** (e.g. [the Library of Congress Subject Headings](#) or the [authority files of the German National Library](#), etc.),

title	<i>My Winter Wonderland</i>	
subject	http://id.loc.gov/authorities/sh88004323#concept	
	label	<i>Cross-country skiing--Skating</i>

[as linked data](#)

- like **entries from classification systems** ((e.g. the [Dewey Decimal Classification](#), or Linnaean taxonomy, etc.).

title	<i>Transports in Kazakhstan 2000 - 2010</i>
subject	<i>W03_7</i>
subject	<i>G06_3</i>

label	<i>W03.7</i>
name	<i>Freight Transport</i>
broader	<i>W03</i>
narrower	<i>W03.72</i>

narrower	<i>W03.75</i>
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label	<i>G06_3</i>
name	<i>Kazakhstan</i>
broader	<i>G06</i>
narrower	<i>G06_31</i>
narrower	<i>G06_35</i>

[as linked data](#)

You may also use plain text. But if you need **more than one entry to describe the content** you should repeat the property.

title	<i>How to get an aircraft</i>
subject	<i>aircraft</i>
subject	<i>leasing</i>

[as linked data](#)

If you want to use a keyword or keyphrase in **different languages**, you should use language tags.

title	<i>KONSTYTUCJA RZECZYPOSPOLITEJ POLSKIEJ</i>	
subject		
	<i>Rzeczpospolita Polska</i>	pol
	<i>Republic of Poland</i>	eng

[as linked data](#)

If the **subject is a person or organization** you should use names from formal name authorities (e.g. from the Library of Congress Name Authority Headings [\[1\]](#), or from the Virtuell International Authority File [\[2\]](#)).

title	<i>Candle in the wind</i>	
subject	gnd	<i>118583549</i>
	family name	<i>Monroe</i>
	given name	<i>Marilyn</i>
	born	<i>1926</i>

	died	<i>1962</i>
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[as linked data](#)

Coverage

Coverage

The property coverage describes a relationship between a resource and another resource which represents the extent or scope of the content of the first resource. This includes the spatial locations (a place name or geographic co-ordinates), temporal periods (a period label, a date or a date range), or jurisdictions (states, counties, or other administrative entities). If you want to make a distinction between the temporal or spatial character of the content use temporal or spatial.

Temporal

This property describes the relationship between a resource and another resource which represent the temporal characteristics of the intellectual content of the first resource expressed by period labels or date encoding. If you want to describe date of the lifecycle of a resource use the date properties.

Spatial

This property describes the relationship between a resource and another resource which represents spatial characteristics of the intellectual content of the first resource expressed by geographic names, latitude/longitude, or other established georeferencing.

Guidelines for describing the coverage, spatial or temporal character of a resource

To describe the **temporal** characteristic of a resource

you may use plain text,

title	<i>Transports in Kazakhstan 2000 - 2010</i>
coverage	<i>2000 - 2010</i>

[as linked data](#)

or **structure your entry** using dates,

title	<i>Transports in Kazakhstan 2000 - 2010</i>		
temporal			
	start	<i>2000</i>	W3CDTF
	end	<i>2010</i>	W3CDTF

[as linked data](#)

or **period labels**.

title	<i>Analysis of rocks collected in Perth</i>	
temporal		
	start	<i>Cambrian period</i>
	scheme	<i>Geological timescale</i>
	name	<i>Phanerozoic Eon</i>

[as linked data](#)

Further information on encoding temporal characteristics you will find in the [DCMI Period Encoding Scheme](#).

To describe the **spatial** character of a resource, you could use plain text,

title	<i>Analysis of rocks collected in Perth</i>
coverage	<i>Perth, W. A.</i>

[as linked data](#)

or express it by **georeferencing**,

title	<i>Analysis of rocks collected in Perth</i>	
spatial		
	east	<i>115.85717</i>
	north	<i>-31.95301</i>
	name	<i>Perth, W. A.</i>

[as linked data](#)

or **reference to a formal encoding**.

title	<i>The growth of trees in the subtropical highlands</i>	
spatial		
	label	<i>Cwb</i>
	source	<i>Köppen-Geiger Climate Classification</i>
	main Climates	<i>warm temperate</i>
	precipitation	<i>winter dry</i>
	temperature	<i>warmest month averaging below 22°C</i>

[as linked data](#)

Further information on encoding spatial characteristics you will find in the [DCMI Box Encoding Scheme](#) and the [DCMI Point Encoding Scheme](#).

Dates

Date

The property date refers to a description of any dates or ranges in the lifecycle of a resource and is typically associated with the creation or availability. If the distinction between different sorts of date is necessary, the following subproperties should be used. If a date is describing the content of a resource the properties coverage or temporal have to be used.

Created

This property refers to a description of the date or range of the creation of a resource. According to the one-to-one principle this has to be the creation date of the resource being described and not the creation date of any other resource from which the described resource derives (e.g. a former version or a superior resource). So a resource is created only once, every other date of creation belongs to another resource that has to be described on its own.

Issued

This property refers to a description of the date of the formal issuance resp. publication of a resource. A resource is issued only once, every other issuance belongs to another resource that has to be described on its own. If the issuance of a resource is not formal the property "available" should be used.

Available

This property refers to a description of the date a resource did become or will become available. A resource becomes available only once, every other availability belongs to another resource that has to be described on its own. If the availability of a resource starts with the formal issuance resp. publication use "issued".

Modified

This property refers to a description of the date a resource was changed. You may record every date a resource was modified by repeating this property or record only one date (this should be the last one).

Valid

This property refers to a description of the date or range a resource is, was or will be valid. This property should be used if a resource is only valid resp. relevant until a particular date.

DateCopyrighted

This property refers to a description of the date or range of the copyright of the resource.

DateSubmitted

This property refers to a description of the date a resource was submitted (e.g. a thesis at a university department, an article at the editorial board of a journal, etc.).

DateAccepted

This property refers to a description of the date a resource was accepted (e.g. a thesis by a university department, an article by the editorial board of a journal, etc.)

Guidelines for the creation of content for dates

For the structure of date properties we recommend the usage of the **W3CDTF profile of ISO 8601** [W3CDTF]. It allows to sort search results by date and facilitates the merging of metadata of different applications.

You should use this encoding for **a point in time**

created	2003-04-10	W3CDTF
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[as linked data](#)

but must not use it with **a range**,

valid	2007-05-06/2007-07-15
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[as linked data](#)

or when the date is located **before the common area**.

created	-500	gYear
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[as linked data](#)

If you need to **structure range data**, make a distinction of start and end date.

date			
	start	2007-05-06"	W3CDTF
	end	2007-07-15	W3CDTF

[as linked data](#)

If the **complete date is unknown** you should use

month and year

available	2006-07	W3CDTF
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[as linked data](#)

or only the year

issued	2009	W3CDTF
---------------	------	--------

[as linked data](#)

If **more than one date of the same type** (e.g. modified) is recorded, the property must be repeated.

modified	2009-12-22	W3CDTF
modified	2010-01-08	W3CDTF
modified	2010-02-15	W3CDTF

[as linked data](#)

Since a resource has only one date of creation, issuance, availability and/or copyright you may repeat the properties created, issued, available and dateCopyrighted only if you want to **provide the same date in another structure**.

created	1752	W3CDTF
created	<i>probably after 1752</i>	

[as linked data](#)

If the described date is **only approximately known**, you may use plain text,

created	<i>aprox. 500 B.C.</i>
----------------	------------------------

[as linked data](#)

or describe it.

date		
	year	500
	qualifier	<i>approx.</i>
	epoch	<i>B.C.</i>

[as linked data](#)

Another date of creation, issuance, availability and/or copyright however belongs to another resource that has to be described on its own. The relation of both resources may be described by one of the relation properties or by source.

title	<i>Population estimates in Scandinavia</i>		
created	2004	W3CDTF	
source			
	title	<i>World health report 2002 statistical annex</i>	
	created	2002	W3CDTF

[as linked data](#)

Source and Relations

Relation

Relation represents the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that is related to the described resource in some way. Such relationship may be expressed reciprocally but this is not required and depends on the sort of relation. If the relation shall be specified more precisely use one of the following properties.

Source

Source describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, from which the described resource is derived in whole or in part (e.g. data of a climate centre are the source of a forecast, a book or journal is the source of a scan, etc.)

IsPartOf

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource of which the described resource is a physical or logical part (e.g. a painting as part of a collection, an article as part of a journal, etc.). The described resource is like a "child" in a hierarchical or "parent/child" relationship. For the reciprocal statement use hasPart.

HasPart

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource which is a physical or logical part of the described resource (e.g. the described resource is a collection of paintings, or a journal with different articles, etc.). The described resource is like the "parent" in a hierarchical or "parent/child" relationship. For the reciprocal statement use isPartOf.

IsVersionOf

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that is a former version, edition or adaptation of the described resource (e.g. the described resource is the revision of a book, or another recording of a song, etc.). Another version implies changes in the content of a resource. For resources with different formats use isFormatOf. For the reciprocal statement use hasVersion.

HasVersion

This property describes the relationship between the described property and another property, that is a later version, edition or adaptation of the described resource (e.g. the described resource is the older version of a revised book, or of a song, etc.). Another version implies changes in the content of a resource. For resources with different formats use hasFormat. For the reciprocal statement use isVersionOf.

IsFormatOf

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that is a former version of the described resource with the same intellectual content but presented in another format (e.g. the described resource is the microfilm version of a printed book, or the pdf version of a doc document). For intellectual changes between resources use isVersionOf. For the reciprocal statement use hasFormat.

HasFormat

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that is a later version of the described resource with the same intellectual content but presented in another format (e.g. the described resource is a printed book that is also available as a microfilm, or a doc document that is also available as pdf). For intellectual changes between resources use hasVersion. For the reciprocal statement use isFormatOf.

Replaces

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that has been supplanted, displaced or superseded by the described resource. It is used for the valid version in chain of versions (e.g. the described resource is the the last draft of a contract, or the current version of guidelines). For the reciprocal statement use isReplacedBy.

IsReplacedBy

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource, that supplants, displaces or supersedes the described resource. It is used, when in chain of versions only one version is valid (e.g. the described resource is one of the former drafts of a contract, or a former version of guidelines). For the reciprocal statement use replaces.

Requires

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource supporting the function, delivery or coherence of the content of the described resource (e.g. the described resource is an application that can be used only with a particular software, or hardware). For the reciprocal statement use isRequiredBy.

IsRequiredBy

The described resource is necessary for the function, delivery or coherence of the content of the resource the property references to (e.g. the described resource is a software or hardware necessary to use a particular application). For the reciprocal statement use requires.

References

This property describes the relationship between the described resource and another resource that is cited, referenced, or otherwise pointed to by the described resource (e.g. the described resource is an article citing a book, or an interview pointing to a play). For the reciprocal statement use isReferencedBy.

IsReferencedBy

This property describes the relationship between a resource and another resource that points to the described resource by citation, acknowledgement, etc (e.g. the described resource is a book cited in an article, or a play pointed to in an interview, etc.). For the reciprocal statement use references.

ConformsTo

This property describes the relationship between a resource and an established standard, to which the described resource conforms (e.g. a metadata record that conforms to the RDA standard, or a pipe that conforms to ISO 3183, etc.)

Guidelines for the creation of content for relations and source

You may refer to the related resource by plain text or by a URI representing the related resource. If you use plain text, you should **use a formal citation**.

issued	2009	W3CDTF
isFormatOf		
	<i>Eike von Repgow: Sachsenspiegel, Auff's neue vbersehen mit Summarijs vnd Additionen ...; Leipzig 1561/1563</i>	

[as linked data](#)

However recommended best practice is to **use an identifier instead of text**,

conformsTo	http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema	-
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[as linked data](#)

or to **describe the related resources like another resource**.

references			
	creator	<i>Black, Carl</i>	
	contributor	<i>White, Stuart</i>	

	title	<i>Black and White</i>	
	date	1988	W3CDTF

[as linked data](#)

If there is **more than one relation of the same sort** you have to repeat the property:

requires	
	<i>audio</i>
	<i>video</i>

[as linked data](#)

If **both resources of a relationship are described** the relation could be expressed reciprocally whereupon reciprocity could be generated automatically

identifier	<i>mySong1</i>	
title	<i>Candle in the wind</i>	
issued	1973	W3CDTF
description	<i>Portayal of the life of Marilyn Monroe</i>	
hasVersion	<i>mySong2</i>	

[as linked data](#)

identifier	<i>mySong2</i>	
title	<i>Candle in the wind</i>	
alternative	<i>Goodbye England's Rose</i>	
issued	1997	W3CDTF
description	<i>Tribut to the dead princess of Wales</i>	
isVersionOf	<i>mySong1</i>	

[as linked data](#)

Rights

Rights

The rights property represents the relationship between a resource and information about rights held in and over this resource. This includes information like access rights, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), copyrights, references to legal documents describing how to use a resource, etc. To specify rights more precicely use accessRights or license.

AccessRights

This property represents the relationship between a resource and information about who can access a resource or an indication of its security status. Access rights provides information about restrictions to view, search or use a resource based on attributes of the resource itself or the category of user.

License

This property represents the relationship between a resource and a legal document giving official permission to do something with the resource (e.g. an otherwise free resource may not be used for reproduction within commercial applications). Examples of such licenses you will find at <http://creativecommons.org/>.

Guidelines for the creation of rights content

A rights statement may be a **text**,

title	<i>Data from my last evaluation</i>
accessRights	
	<i>My colleagues only</i>

[as linked data](#)

or a **URI** referencing to formal rights information,

title	<i>You and me</i>
rights	http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/legalcode

[as linked data](#)

or a **combination of both**.

title	<i>GeoNetwork - Geographic Metadata Catalog</i>
license	http://www.gnu.org/licenses/gpl.html
	<i>GNU General Public License</i>

[as linked data](#)

If there are no formal rights statements to use you may also **create your own rights statement**.

title	<i>Diaries of Juanita Ramirez</i>
rights	<i>accessConditions</i>

identifier	<i>accessConditions</i>
title	<i>Access to my stuff</i>
description	<i>Resources under this right can only be read, searched and used by members of the myProject</i>

[as linked data](#)

Special properties for the description of education material

Audience

The property audience represents the relationship between a resource and the class of persons for whom the resource is intended or useful (e.g. the resource is a textbook for psychologists, etc.). To specify an audience more precisely use mediator or educationLevel.

Mediator

This property represents the relationship between a resource and the class of persons who mediate access to the resource and for whom it is intended or useful. This might be teachers, parents etc. (e.g. teachers are mediators for a resource intended to be used in elementary school lessons)

EducationLevel

This property refers to information about the progress of an audience through the educational or training context, for which the described resource is intended (e.g. the resource is an English workbook for students of the 4th - 5th grade).

InstructionalMethod

This property refers to the process used to engender knowledge, attitudes and skills, that the described resource is designed to support. Typically it includes ways of presenting instructional materials or conducting instructional activities, patterns of learner-to-learner and learner-to-instructor interactions, and mechanisms by which group and individual levels of learning are measured. Instructional methods include all aspects of the instruction and learning processes from planning and implementation through evaluation and feedback.

Guidelines for the creation of content for properties describing education material

You should use formal or informal **controlled vocabularies**. Though none are registered by DCMI, implementors are encouraged to develop local lists of values, and to use them consistently.

title	<i>Advances Physics</i>
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audience	
	<i>elementary school pupils</i>

[as linked data](#)

mediator	
	<i>schoolteacher</i>

[as linked data](#)

educationLevel	
	<i>3rd - 4th grade</i>

[as linked data](#)

InstructionalMethod	
	<i>experimental learning</i>

[as linked data](#)

Special properties for the description of collections

[AccrualMethod](#)

This property refers to the method by which items are added to a collection.

[AccrualPeriodicity](#)

This property refers to the frequency with which items are added to a collection.

[AccrualPolicy](#)

This property refers to the policy governing the addition of items to a collection.

Guidelines for the creation of content for properties describing collections

Resources described by these properties **have to be collections**. We recommend to use values of formal or informal **controlled vocabularies**.

title	<i>Pottery in Scandinavia in the second half of 19th century</i>
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accrualMethod	
	<i>purchase</i>

[as linked data](#)

accrualPeriodicity	
	<i>irregular</i>

[as linked data](#)

accrualPolicy	
	<i>Objects of this collection have to be Scandinavian ceramics from 1940s to 1999s.</i>

[as linked data](#)

Provenance

This property refers to a description of changes in ownership and custody. The statement should include any changes of the resource that are significant for its authenticity, integrity and interpretation.

Guidelines for the creation of content for provenance

The description of the provenance of a resource includes all changes made to a resource.

The provenance can be **described by text**,

title	<i>Luxor Obelisk</i>
provenance	
	<i>Originally located at the entrance to the Luxor temple the obelisk came to Paris in 1836 as a gift by Muhammad Ali Pasha.</i>

[as linked data](#)

or **described like another resource**.

title	<i>The flea circus</i>	
provenance		
	ownedBy	<i>1829 - 1833; Jim Button</i>
	ownedBy	<i>1833 - 1915; My Library</i>
	ownedBy	<i>since 1915; Flea Academy</i>

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