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.

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<td>Jewish music</td>
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<td>ZS</td>
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ANSCR call number composition

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

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
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

June 24, 2019