

Make your materials
easier to

find.

The **Dewey Decimal Classification**® (DDC) system is the world's most widely used way to organise library collections. The DDC constantly updates 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.

Make sense of your complex collection.

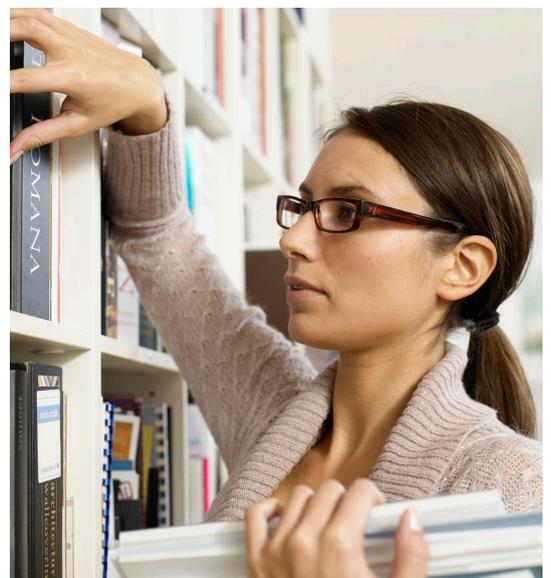
Libraries want to meet the information needs of their communities on a wide variety of topics. But many casual library users are not skilled catalogue searchers, and they may not know what keywords will return the best results. They need your materials and e-resources to be organised in a way that allows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

Organise 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 editors 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.

Minimise 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 catalogue, and even asking a librarian for help. With its subject-based classification system, the DDC encourages patrons to independently browse the catalogue, the stacks, and even your programming schedule 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.



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



“A match point...”

“Delaware Libraries use the Dewey Decimal Classification system as a match point across all library services—including reference, programmes, 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

Optimise library outcomes in your community

The Delaware Division of Libraries relies on the DDC not only for collection organisation, 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 oclc.org/stories.

Visit oclc.org/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.®

