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Recommendations for
**Citation of published
sound recordings**

Recommandations pour la citation des enregistrements sonores publiés

Empfehlungen für das Zitieren von veröffentlichten Tonaufzeichnungen

British Standards Institution



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Foreword

This British Standard is intended for the use of authors and editors needing concise instructions for setting out lists of discographic references and for providing citations to them in the text of a book or article. While it is anticipated that its principal application will be in works that are not themselves primarily discographic, it may also supply a basis for brief forms of reference associated with reviews of sound recordings and for more exhaustive entries in specialized discographies.

In addition to sections concerning the form and arrangement of discographic references, the standard includes guidance on how attribution is best made within

the text of a book or periodical contribution. Of the two systems of citation permitted by BS 1629 and BS 5605, the numeric system and the Harvard system, it recommends the former for most kinds of discographic citation. However, where sound recordings are cited in a scientific communication the Harvard system may be preferred.

Terms such as '10-in disc' are used in this standard as size designations rather than accurate dimensions. For this reason, and because these terms are those used in the recording industry, it was thought inappropriate to use SI units as is usual in British Standards.

British Standard Recommendations for Citation of published sound recordings

1. Scope

This British Standard is concerned with the citation of published sound recordings. Unpublished sound documents such as privately made recordings, test pressings and recordings taken from broadcasts do not come directly within its scope, though certain of its recommendations may be applicable to them.

2. References

The titles of the standards publications referred to in this standard are listed on the inside back cover.

3. Definition

For the purposes of this British Standard the following definition applies.

discographic reference. A set of data describing a sound recording or part of a sound recording, and sufficiently precise and detailed to identify and locate it.

NOTE. The term 'discographic' as used in the standard applies to sound recordings in any physical form.

4. Methods of citation in the text

4.1 General. Within the text of a document, any citations of sound recordings should be in accordance with one of the methods described in 4.2 and 4.3. The numeric system is preferred for most kinds of discographic citation because, in the Harvard system, references are arranged by author and date, and dates of sound recordings are often not known.

4.2 Numeric system. In the numeric system, cited sound recordings are numbered in the order in which they are first referred to in the text. At every point in the text at which reference to a particular sound recording is made, its number is inserted, either in parentheses, or in square brackets, or as a superscript.

Examples:

- 'As recorded by Frances Alda (14) the aria ...' or
- 'As recorded by Frances Alda [14] the aria ...' or
- 'As recorded by Frances Alda¹⁴ the aria ...'

4.3 Harvard system. In the Harvard system, at every point in the text at which reference to a particular sound recording is made, the surname of its author (or the name of the person or organization otherwise responsible for the content, for example the collector of a field recording or a university department corporately responsible for a recorded presentation) and the year of issue or recording

are inserted. If the name appears naturally in the sentence, the year alone is given in parentheses; if not, both name and date are so given. When an author has published more than one cited recording in a given year, these are distinguished by adding lower-case letters (a, b, c, etc.) after the year and within the parentheses.

If there are two authors, the names of both should be given before the date. If there are more than two, the name of the first only should be given, followed by 'et al.'

If no name can be identified as that of the author of the recorded presentation, the term 'Anon.' may be used.

Examples:

- '*C. edithae* is featured on a disc made by North (1958)
- 'The Lyre Bird was the first Australian species to be recorded (Littlejohns, 1931)'
- 'A later recording of African birds (North & McChesney, 1964) includes further species of *Corvus*'
- 'Similar recordings were made on Barro Colorado Island, Panama (Asch et al., 1952)'
- 'A recording of uncertain provenance (Anon., ca. 1964) is believed to have originated at about this time'
- 'The first East African recordings were those of Koch (1929a)'

5. Location and arrangement of discographic references

5.1 General. In both the numeric and the Harvard systems, discographic references describing the sound recordings cited are given in a list at the end of the text.

5.2 Numeric system. In the numeric system, the entries in the list of references are arranged in numerical order:

Examples:

9. GUNN, W.W.H. *A day in Algonquin Park*. Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Ottawa. (12-in 33½ rpm mono disc). 1955.
10. KELLOGG, P.P. *Florida bird songs*. Cornell University Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca N.Y. (7-in 33½ rpm mono disc). 1969.
11. *The golden bird record*. Brunswick (Decca) O1008 (10-in 78 rpm disc). 1930.
12. GUNN, W.W.H. *Songs of spring: 25 common songbirds of Ontario*. Federation of Ontario Naturalists, Ottawa. (10-in 33½ rpm mono disc). 1955.