

Multiple Subdivisions H 1090

BACKGROUND: A "multiple" subdivision is a subdivision in the subject authority file that incorporates bracketed terms, generally followed by the word *etc.* This device is used to suggest the creation of similar subdivisions under the heading in question. The presence of a multiple subdivision under a heading in the subject authority file automatically gives free-floating status to analogous subdivisions under the same heading, and, if the heading is a pattern heading, under those headings that it controls. Examples:

World War, 1939-1945–Personal narratives, American, [French, German, etc.]
Jesus Christ–Views on Jewish dietary laws, [Views on Jewish law, etc.]
Subject headings–Aeronautics, [Education, Latin America, Law, etc.]
Abortion–Religious aspects–Buddhism, [Christianity, etc.]
Names, Personal–Scottish, [Spanish, Welsh, etc.]

Some subdivisions used under name headings, though not actually established under any heading in the subject authority file, also function as multiple subdivisions, in that not only the subdivision itself, but also the bracketed element, may be assigned on a free-floating basis. Examples:

[name of person]–Inauguration, [date]
[name of corporate body]–Fire, [date]
[place]–Foreign public opinion, British, [French, Italian, etc.]

The equivalent of a multiple subdivision appears in some instances in the subject authority file in the form of an instructional scope note that allows for free-floating subdivision of the heading as described and illustrated in the note. Example:

Solar eclipses
Subdivided by date, e.g. Solar eclipses–1854.

This instruction sheet describes the procedures for establishing multiple subdivisions under subject headings and for assigning headings under which such subdivisions have been established.

For specific instructions on multiple subdivisions for religions and religious denominations, see H 1998 and H 2015.

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BACKGROUND: (Continued)

*Note: The subject authority file previously included main headings incorporating bracketed terms followed by the word **etc.**, for example, **Coins, Arab, [Austrian, French, etc.]**. These were called "multiple headings" and served to suggest the creation of similar headings. Until 1981, individual headings controlled by a multiple heading were not printed in **Library of Congress Subject Headings** and were therefore not represented by individual authority records in the subject authority file. That practice was discontinued with the introduction of AACR2 in 1981. Individual authority records were then created for each heading that was needed for AACR2 cataloging that would formerly have been authorized by the the authority record for a multiple heading. In 1990 all multiple headings were deleted from the subject authority file. Individual authority records were created for those headings formerly represented by a multiple that had been assigned by the Library of Congress to bibliographic records in the MARC database.*

1. Proposing new multiple subdivisions. Submit proposals to establish new multiple subdivisions by creating an "sp" record in the normal manner (see H 200). Format the 1XX field as in the following example:

```
100 0# $a Jesus Christ $x Views on Jewish dietary laws, [Views on  
Jewish law, etc.]
```

a. Punctuation. Follow the punctuation illustrated above, including the placement of commas and brackets, in order to assure consistency in the appearance of multiples in the subject authority file.

b. Number of subdivisions to include. List one subdivision outside the brackets and one subdivision inside the brackets unless more than one is needed to clarify the type of subdivision or qualifier being illustrated. Use the word **etc.** as the final element within the brackets.

c. "Used for", broader term, and related term references. Add no 4XX or 5XX fields to records for headings with multiple subdivisions. If a reference is required for an individual subdivision that would be free-floating because of the existence of the multiple, establish that individual subdivision separately, making the required reference(s).

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2. Further subdividing headings with multiple subdivisions. If it is necessary to use a non-free-floating subdivision as a further subdivision under a heading having an established multiple subdivision, establish the non-free-floating subdivision as a further subdivision under the multiple, provided that the subdivision has general application. Its usage will thereby be allowed under all subdivisions of the type illustrated by the multiple. If, for example, it is necessary to assign the heading **Military pensions–United States–World War, 1914-1918–Law and legislation**, establish the subdivision **–Law and legislation** under the existing multiple, as follows:

```
150 ## $a Military pensions $z United States $y Revolution,  
1775-1783, [Civil War, 1861-1865, etc.] $x Law and  
legislation
```

Add no 4XX or 5XX fields to the record. Once this record has been created and approved, the subdivision **–Law and legislation** is authorized for use under any heading of the type **Military pensions–United States–[individual war]**.

3. Assigning headings with established multiple subdivisions. Once a multiple subdivision (or its equivalent, as described in the Background statement above) has been established under a heading, formulate and assign any subdivision falling within the scope illustrated by the multiple subdivision as a free-floating subdivision under that heading, or, if it is a pattern heading, under any heading that it controls.

Note: It is usually necessary, when assigning a free-floating subdivision of this type, to assign at least one additional heading to the work being cataloged, bringing out the topic named in the subdivision.

Examples:

Title: The best name book in the whole wide world.
650 #0 \$a Names, Personal \$x English.
(Authorized by: **Names, Personal–Scottish, [Spanish, Welsh, etc.]**)
650 #0 \$a English language \$x Etymology \$x Names.

Title: Ordination of priests in the Roman Catholic Church.
650 #0 \$a Ordination \$x Catholic Church.
(Authorized by: **Ordination–Anglican Communion, [Methodist Church, etc.]**)
610 20 \$a Catholic Church \$x Clergy.