
FORM OF ITEM (008/23 006/06) (Continuing resources, Music)
(008/29 006/12) (Maps, Visual)

Codes

# None of the following	d Large print
a Microfilm	f Braille
b Microfiche	o Online
c Microopaque	q Direct electronic
	r Regular print reproduction
	s Electronic (online, direct access not specified)

Description/Instructions

The form of item code specifies the physical form of the serial being cataloged. If this physical form is also that of the original, both 008/22 (Form of original item) and 008/23 contain the same code¹.

| Code “o” (online). The resource is accessed by means of hardware and software connections to a communications network.

| Code “q” (direct electronic). The resource is stored on a directly accessible tangible recording medium, e.g. disc, tape, playaway device, flashdrive, portable hard drive, etc.

| Code “s” (electronic). The code describes a resource intended for manipulation by a computer. The resource may reside in a carrier accessed either directly or remotely. It may require use of peripheral devices attached to the computer (e.g., a CD-ROM player).

| Codes “o” and “q” were implemented in 2010 to distinguish online and direct access electronic resources. The generic code “s” electronic implemented in 2000 does not make the distinction

¹ These instructions relate primarily to textual serials and the 008 tags associated with the serial fixed field are used; however, the code is defined with the same values in the visual materials and maps formats.

Form of Item

Form

page 2

between online and direct access resources. CONSER practice is to code byte with the more specific “o” or “q.”

Codes “o,” “q,” and “s” are used in 008/23 whenever a separate record is created, for an electronic resource, regardless of whether it is a reproduction or simultaneous version. DO NOT use when applying the CONSER single record option and noting the electronic version on the record for a printed serial. Do not use these codes for items that do not require the use of a computer (e.g., music compact discs and videodiscs).

DEFAULT CODE:

Original form: inkprint 008/22 (Orig)= #

Form of item: microfilm 008/23 (Form)= a

Original form: microfiche 008/22 (Orig)= b

Form of item: microfiche 008/23 (Form)= b

Original form: inkprint 008/22 (Orig)= #

Form of item: regular print
reproduction 008/23 (Form)= r

CONSER coding practice for electronic resources differs from that for microforms because the distinctions between original and reproduction are less clear with electronic resources. A serial may be produced originally in a digital form from which a print version and an electronic version are both created. For this reason, the use of “reproduction” is limited to cases where it is very clear that an electronic serial is a reproduction according to the provisions of LCRI 1.11a. For other electronic serials for which a separate record is created the form of item is coded for online or direct electronic and original form of item is coded as electronic.

Original form: electronic 008/22 (Orig)=s

Form of item: online 008/23 (Form)=o

Original form: electronic 008/22 (Orig)=s

Form of item: *direct electronic* 008/23 (Form)=q

Original form: *electronic* 008/22 (Orig)=s

Form of item: *electronic* 008/23 (Form)=s

Original form: *print* 008/22 (Orig)=#

Form of item: *electronic* 008/23 (Form)=s

[Item is an electronic reproduction²]

History

Character position 008/23 was formerly called the "Form of reproduction code." This code was used to designate the form of the item being cataloged when that item was a reproduction. When 008/23 was coded with a value other than #, 008/22 was blank.

CONSER maintenance

Existing records for items issued in a physical form that is the form as originally issued should be given the same code in 008/23 that appears in 008/22. Existing records for microform reproductions of inkprint serials do not need to be changed. Change existing CONSER records for electronic resources by recoding with code 's.' In all cases, the code for 008/23 should only be changed when the record is being reviewed for authentication or updated to accommodate changes in the serial.

Existing record for item originally published in microfiche

Before editing:

²In 2002, CONSER members voted to implement provisions of LCRI 1.11A in cases where an electronic item is clearly a reproduction according to the LCRI. Use of the LCRI and the coding shown in this example may be rather limited, since it is not always clear whether an item is an electronic reproduction or a simultaneous version.

Form of Item

Form

page 4

008/22 (Orig) = b

008/23 (Form) = #

After editing:

008/22 (Orig) = b

008/23 (Form) = b

Related fields, etc 008/22, 533, App. L, App. M.