BACKGROUND: An abridgment is a reduced form of a work produced by condensation and omission, but retaining the general sense and unity of the original. Summary, synopsis, epitome, condensation are all to be considered synonyms. An abridgment should not be confused with an adaptation, the latter consisting of a rewritten form of a work modified for a purpose or use other than that for which the original work was intended, such as a simplification for juvenile readers, or a change in form from fiction to drama. This instruction sheet provides guidelines for classifying separately published abridgments, summaries, etc. of individual works. For the classification of collections of abstracts, see F 480.

1. Explicit provisions for abridgments. If the schedule has explicit provisions for abridgments, follow those provisions. For example, class abridgments of the Bible in BS418, which has the caption Epitomes. Summaries.

2. No explicit provisions for abridgments. If the schedule does not have explicit provision for abridgments, class abridgments with the original work. The book number of the abridgment should be based on the book number of the original work, and should normally not be independently formulated.

3. No original call number. In some cases there may not be a complete LC call number for the original work, such as when the abridgment is received before the original work. In such cases use a class number and Cutter appropriate for the original work.

4. Shelflisting. For shelflisting of abridgments, see G 65.