*BACKGROUND: An acronym is a word formed from the first, or first few, letters of a series of words.   This instruction sheet provides guidelines for assigning the heading **Acronyms** and the free-floating subdivision –**Acronyms**.*

1. General.   Assign the heading **Acronyms** to general works about acronyms.   Assign the heading **Acronyms–Dictionaries** to works that consist of alphabetical lists of acronyms in multiple languages, together with their meanings.

2. By language.

> *a. English*.   Assign the heading **Acronyms** to works about English acronyms.   Assign the heading **Acronyms–Dictionaries** to works that consist of alphabetical lists of acronyms in the English language.

> *b. Other languages*.   Assign the heading [*name of language or language group*]–**Acronyms** to works about acronyms in that language or language group.   Assign the heading [*name of language or language group*]–**Acronyms–Dictionaries** to works that consist of alphabetical lists of acronyms in that language or language group, together with their meanings.

3. By topic.   Assign the heading for the appropriate topic subdivided by the free-floating subdivision –**Acronyms** to works about acronyms pertaining to the topic.   For works that consist of alphabetical lists of acronyms pertaining to a topic, further subdivide [*topic*]–**Acronyms** by the free-floating subdivision –**Dictionaries**.

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3. By topic. (Continued)

For works about acronyms in a language other than English, assign an additional heading for **[*language*]–Acronyms**.   For dictionaries of acronyms in a language other than English, further divide the heading **[*topic*]–Acronyms–Dictionaries** by the name of the language and assign an additional heading **[*language*]–Acronyms–Dictionaries**.

Examples:

> *Title:* *Guide to federal government acronyms.*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a Administrative agencies $z United States
>        $x Acronyms.
> 650 #0 $a Executive departments $z United States
>        $x Acronyms.
> ```

> *Title:* *Dictionary of medical and health   acronyms.*
> ```
> 650 #0 $a Medicine $x Acronyms $v Dictionaries.
> 650 #0 $a Health $x Acronyms $v Dictionaries.
> ```