

## When to Establish a New Medium of Performance Term M 620

**1. General rule.** Establish a new term for definable and identifiable mediums of performance for resources being cataloged. All new terms must be supported by research in addition to the resource being cataloged. See M 638 for guidelines on the requirements. Establish the medium of performance when it is first encountered during the cataloging of a resource, rather than after several resources have been published and cataloged.

**2. Newly emerging mediums of performance.** Terms are usually established to reflect current American usage for a medium of performance, but sometimes no consensus has yet developed as to the accepted terminology. When that happens, prefer to assign available terms that most accurately describe the medium(s) necessary to perform the work.

If the medium of performance is judged to be of such high significance that a term should be established despite the lack of consensus on terminology, conduct authority research according to the principles given in M 638 and then make an intuitive judgment based on available evidence by selecting elements that allow the term to express what is intended and at the same time serve as a retrieval term. Provide UF references from any significantly different terms that were found to be used for the same medium of performance. If terminology other than that used in the authorized term becomes well established, it may be necessary to change the term.