BACKGROUND: The subdivision —Pictorial works is a free-floating form subdivision used for works consisting primarily of pictures. When appropriate, this subdivision may be further subdivided by other form subdivisions, such as —Periodicals.


   a. Works consisting entirely or primarily of pictures. If the work being cataloged consists entirely of pictures or of pictures accompanied only by captions and/or brief introductory text, add the form subdivision —Pictorial works to the headings being assigned to represent the topical focus of the work. Use this subdivision when the intent is to convey visual information about the subject.

   b. Works consisting of text with illustrations. If the work being cataloged consists of text accompanied by illustrations, assign an additional heading to bring out the pictorial aspect, but only under the following conditions: (1) more than 50% of the work is pictorial, and (2) the publication features, or stresses the importance of, the illustrations, by using a term such as illustrated as part of the title, by giving special credit to the photographer, etc.

   Example:

   Title: Peoples of the world, in color.
   650 #0 $a Ethnology.
   650 #0 $a Ethnology $v Pictorial works.

   Do not add the additional heading if the illustrations are routine or incidental, such as those present in a typical high school textbook.

   c. Works that are primarily textual. If less than 50% of the work being cataloged consists of illustrations, do not bring out the pictorial aspect, regardless of the importance of the illustrations.
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1. General rules.  (Continued)

d. Usage of –Pictorial works. Use –Pictorial works under topical headings, individual wars, classes of persons, ethnic groups, names of individual persons and families, names of countries, cities, etc., and named entities, such as individual parks, structures, etc.

   Note: Under names of places, this subdivision replaced the subdivisions –Description–Views and –Description and travel–Views, which were discontinued in 1991. –Pictorial works is used directly after names of places without interposing the subdivision –Description and travel. Example:

   United States–Pictorial works
   [not United States–Description and travel–Pictorial works].

2. Exceptions to the general rules.

a. Classes of persons and ethnic groups. For a pictorial work about a class of persons or ethnic group that stresses the visual identity of the individuals, assign the appropriate heading for the class of persons or ethnic group with the subdivision –Portraits rather than –Pictorial works.

b. Individual persons. For a pictorial work about an individual person, use as appropriate, either –Art, –Caricatures and cartoons, –Pictorial works, or –Portraits. See H 1110 for instructions on using these subdivisions.

c. Art. For works consisting of art reproductions that depict a particular theme, place, or corporate body in art, assign headings of the type [topic] in art or [place]–In art, for example, Animals in art; Paris (France)–In art; Catholic Church–In art. The use of the free-floating phrase [. . .] in art was discontinued in 1997; all headings of this type must now be established.

d. Illustrations. For collections of pictorial representations found in types of published materials, individual literatures and literary forms, the works of individual authors, individual works, and sacred works, use the subdivision –Illustrations. See H 1659 for complete instructions on use of the subdivision.
2. Exceptions to the general rules.  (Continued)

e. Photography. For works on photography containing reproductions of photographs where the focus is on their photographic aspect, assign headings of the type Photography; Photography, Artistic; Nature photography; Photography of food.  See H 1255 for instructions on artistic photography.

f. Scientific and technical atlases. For scientific or technical works consisting of comprehensive, often systematically arranged, collections of illustrative plates, charts, etc., usually with explanatory captions, use the subdivision –Atlases under topics, for example, Human anatomy–Atlases.

g. Films, video recordings, filmstrips, etc. Do not use –Pictorial works as a form subdivision for such materials. Assign no form subdivision to adult moving image materials; assign –Juvenile films to juvenile materials.

h. Photographs. For works consisting of actual photographs, that is, photographic prints or digital photographs, rather than reproductions of photographs, use the subdivision –Photographs under subjects. For aerial photographs, see H 1210.5. For works consisting of slides, use the subdivision –Slides.

3. Examples.

Title: Costume : an illustrated survey from ancient times to the twentieth century.  [includes text]
650 #0 $a Costume $x History.
650 #0 $a Costume $x History $v Pictorial works.

Title: Aspects of Boston.  [includes text with separate pictorial section]
651 #0 $a Boston (Mass.) $v Pictorial works.
651 #0 $a Boston (Mass.) $x History.

Title: In praise of Australian birds.
650 #0 $a Birds $z Australia $v Pictorial works.

Title: A Yosemite album.
651 #0 $a Yosemite National Park (Calif.) $v Pictorial works.
3. Examples. (Continued)

Title:  Picture panorama of British history.
        651 #0 $a Great Britain $x History $v Pictorial works $v Juvenile literature.

Title:  Pompéi : résurrection d’une cité.
        651 #0 $a Pompeii (Extinct city) $v Pictorial works.

Title:  London : a picture-book to remember her by.
        651 #0 $a London (England) $v Pictorial works.

Title:  Australia, colourful continent.
        651 #0 $a Australia $v Pictorial works.