

To: Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA
From: John Attig, ALA Representative
Subject: Proposed revision to instruction 6.15.1.12, “Accompaniment for Songs, Lieder, Etc.”

ALA supports the revisions, but offers the following comment for consideration.

We find that the first sentence of the revised text is rather long and complex and hope that this can be addressed in the rewording. We offer some minor suggestions relating to the instruction in the first sentence — “record the name of the accompanying instrument, instruments or ensemble and *accompaniment*”.

1. RDA style calls for a comma to precede all items in a list except the last; thus it should be “record the name of the accompanying instrument, instruments, or ensemble and *accompaniment*”.
2. RDA does not typically use a construction such as “instrument(s)”, but in this case the instruction might be clearer if it did: “record the name of the accompanying instrument(s) or ensemble”.
3. The instruction might read better if the construction of the compound term were made more explicit: “record the name of the accompanying instrument(s) or ensemble, followed by the word *accompaniment*”. This is something that probably occurs throughout RDA and might be addressed as a recurring phrase.