

**To:** Joint Steering Committee for Development of RDA  
**From:** Kathy Glennan, ALA Representative  
**Subject:** New Chapter 3 elements for *Optical Disc Data Storage Format and Production Method for Optical Disc*

Related documents:

[6JSC/ALA/44](#) and the constituency responses to that proposal  
[6JSC/ALA/16](#) and the constituency responses to that proposal

Constituency responses to [6JSC/ALA/44](#) were mixed, with ACOC, CCC, and LC generally in support of the proposal, and DNB, EURIG and UK against expanding RDA to accommodate these characteristics of optical discs. Various constituencies also had suggestions for clarifications, especially in relation to the possible Glossary definitions.

ALA has prepared the following revision which:

- Provides additional explanations as background information.
- Incorporates many of the suggestions for improvements in the responses.
- Removes the Optional Addition originally suggested for the proposed 3.4.9.3, *Recording Production Methods for Optical Discs* in favor of using 3.4.9.4, *Details of Production Method for Optical Disc* instead.
- Revised the proposed Glossary definitions to better match RDA style.

This revision does not address the concern raised by LC in their response, regarding the potential overlap between 3.19.3, *Encoding Format* and the proposed 3.22, *Optical Disc Data Storage Format*:

If separate elements are needed, revisions to 3.19.3 should be made to clarify the difference, make appropriate references, and revise the terms at 3.19.3.3. If different elements too complex, perhaps 3.19.3 could be re-captioned to be more general, with specific instructions for optical disc data storage format at a sub-instruction.

ALA recognizes the need for clarifying this situation; however, we did not have sufficient time to address this particular issue in advance of the JSC meeting.

## **Additional background**

The Online Audiovisual Catalogers provided the following table to clarify the differences between various optical disc characteristics, which should be able to be recorded as different elements in RDA. Taken together, these pieces of information help identify the software and hardware needed to play any given disc, as well as information to help resolve problems when a disc does not work properly (is it incompatible, or is it defective?). The revised ALA proposal seeks to clarify what is encompassed by each of these aspects of optical discs.

	<i>Encoding Format (3.19.3.3)</i>	<i>Optical Disc Data Storage Format [proposed 3.22.1.3]</i>	<i>Production Method for Optical Disc [proposed 3.9.4]</i>
Audio CD	CD audio	CD	stamped
MP3 CD on CD-R	MP3	CD	burned (CD-R)
VCD	VCD	CD	stamped
DVD video on DVD-R	DVD video	DVD	burned (DVD-R)
DVD video of Shakespeare play and Word file with text of play	DVD video MS Word	DVD	stamped
DVD audio	DVD audio	DVD	stamped
QuickTime video on DVD+R	QuickTime	DVD	burned (DVD+R)
PowerPoint presentation on DVD-RAM	[PowerPoint?]	DVD	burned (DVD-RAM)
Excel files on burned DVD with no external identification	Excel	DVD	burned
Multimedia learning software for children on DVD-ROM	[presumably an executable file of some kind that probably does not need an encoding format]	DVD	stamped
Xbox game on DVD-ROM	[currently missing values here]	DVD	stamped
Wii U game disc	[currently missing values here]	Wii U	stamped
Blu-ray Disc of feature film for Blu-ray player	Blu-ray [video]	Blu-ray Disc	stamped
MPEG-4 videos on BD-R	MPEG-4	Blu-ray Disc	burned (BD-R)
Blu-ray Audio	Blu-ray [audio]	Blu-ray Disc	stamped
PDF files on BD-RE	PDF	Blu-ray Disc	burned (BD-RE)

The current terms in 3.19.3, *Recording Encoding Format*, are heterogeneous. In addition, they may be either ambiguous (Blu-ray: the disc or the video playback format?), or insufficient (how can a cataloger properly record the “encoding format” of an MP3 CD?).

## Revised Proposal

### *Change #1: Create a separate instruction for **Optical Disc Data Storage Format***

Response to comments:

- *Not needed, already covered by 3.19.3 (several constituencies)*  
ALA respectfully disagrees with this perspective; see background information above.
- *Place the new instruction in 3.19 (several constituencies)*  
While this is a theoretical possibility, ALA did not have the time to explore the impact of such a significant change.
- *Add the new instruction to 3.20, Equipment and System Requirement (CCC)*  
Because ALA sees this as a hardware distinction – the physical form on which the data is stored – this does not appear to be a good placement. However, we are willing to consider alternative names for this element, such as “optical disc physical standard”.
- *Add the new instruction at 3.21 (preferred); could accept at 3.23 (LC)*  
ALA would accept any of these solutions.
- *Add Xbox and Playstation along with Wii U (ACOC)*  
Xbox and Playstation use standard physical disc formats (CD, DVD, Blu-ray), unlike Wii U, so adding these terms to this list would not be appropriate. However, in the future RDA may need an element for gaming platform as well as for operating systems.
- *Add “Details of Optical Disc Storage” (LC, JSC Secretary)*  
ALA agrees; see revision below.
- *Separate Scope into two paragraphs; use the wording “relating to” (JSC Secretary)*  
ALA agrees; see revision below.
- *Add examples to 3.22.1.3? (JSC Secretary)*  
ALA has no objection to this, but we have not provided any in this response.

### **New proposed instruction**

*Note: While we have presented this as 3.22, we are open to other numbering/placement as explained above*

## **3.22 Optical Disc Data Storage Format** [new]

### **3.22.1 Basic Instructions on Recording Optical Disc Data Storage Format**

#### **3.22.1.1 Scope**

**Optical disc data storage format** ▼ is the set of technical specifications relating to the way that content is stored on and read from an optical disc.

Optical disc data storage format includes storage capacity, laser wavelength used for reading the disc, and the size and arrangement of pits and lands on the disc.

### 3.22.1.2 Sources of Information

Use evidence presented by the resource itself (or on any accompanying material or container) as the basis for recording the optical disc data storage format. Take additional evidence from any source.

### 3.22.1.3 Recording Optical Disc Data Storage Format

Record the optical disc data storage format if it can be readily ascertained and is considered important for identification or selection. Use an appropriate term from the following list:

Blu-ray Disc  
CD  
DVD  
Wii U

If none of the terms in the list is appropriate, use another concise term to indicate the optical disc data storage format.

Record details of optical disc data storage format as instructed at [3.22.1.4](#).

### 3.22.1.4 Details of Optical Disc Data Storage Format

Record **details of optical disc data storage format**▼ if considered important for identification or selection. For scope and sources of information, see [3.22.1.1](#) and [3.22.1.2](#).

**Change #2:** Create RDA 3.9.4, *Production Method for Optical Disc* and add ***Optical discs*** to the Exceptions in 3.9.1.3

Response to comments:

- *“Optical disc storage format” isn’t a production method (UK)*  
ALA respectfully disagrees with this; see background information above.
- *In 3.9.1.3, give exceptions in alphabetical order (CCC)*  
If added, the JSC will have to decide if the exceptions should be listed in alphabetical order or in instruction number order. We assume that renumbering the sub-instructions to preserve alphabetical order is not desirable.
- *In 3.9.4.1, use “is the process” rather than “is the method” (JSC Secretary)*  
ALA agrees; see below.
- *In 3.9.4.3, remove “disc” from the terms listed (LC)*  
ALA agrees; see below.
- *In 3.9.4.3, list “stamped” and all types of burned discs instead of making the binary choice (CCC)*  
Because this would work in most, but not all, situations, the revision below lists four terms: two generic terms for stamped and for burned, as well as two more specific terms for types of burned discs.
- *Move the information from the proposed optional addition in 3.9.4.3 to Details of Production Methods for Optical Discs in 3.9.4.4 (LC)*  
ALA agrees; see below.

- *Do not create a controlled vocabulary for the optional addition in 3.9.4.3 (CCC)*  
Solved by moving this information to the “Details of...” element.
- *In 3.9.4.3, list the four generic types of burned discs (LC)*  
ALA seeks a solution where catalogers can record what is actually stated on the discs.  
We believe the revised “Details of...” instructions achieve this goal

**Revision of 3.9.1.3 (add Exception) --  
and  
Create 3.9.4, *Production Method for Optical Disc***

### 3.9.1.3 Recording Production Methods

Record the production method if considered important for identification or selection. Use one or more appropriate terms from the following list:

blueline  
blueprint  
collotype  
daguerreotype  
engraving  
etching  
lithograph  
photocopy  
photoengraving  
photogravure  
print  
white print  
woodcut

**EXAMPLE**

engraving  
Production method for an art print

#### *Exceptions*

***Manuscripts.*** For the method of production for manuscripts, see [3.9.2](#).

***Tactile resources.*** For the method of production for tactile resources, see [3.9.3](#).

***Optical discs.*** For the method of production for optical discs, see [3.9.4](#).

If none of the terms in the list is appropriate or sufficiently specific, use another concise term or terms to indicate the production method.

**EXAMPLE**

chromolithograph  
Production method for a print

Record details of production method as instructed at [3.9.1.4](#).

## 3.9.4 Production Method for Optical Disc *[new]*

### 3.9.4.1 Scope

**Production method for optical disc** ▼ is the process used to record data on an optical disc.

### 3.9.4.2 Sources of Information

Use evidence presented by the resource itself (or on any accompanying material or container) as the basis for recording the method used to record data on an optical disc. Take additional evidence from any source.

### 3.9.4.3 Recording Production Methods for Optical Discs

For an optical disc, record the production method for optical discs if it can be readily ascertained and is considered important for identification or selection. Use an appropriate term from the following list:

- burned
- burned, writable once
- burned, re-writable
- stamped

#### EXAMPLE

stamped

production method for a commercially-released Blu-ray Disc of a major motion picture

burned, writable once

production method for a commercially-released educational video on DVD

If none of the terms in the list is appropriate or sufficiently specific, use another concise term to indicate the production method for an optical disc.

Record details of production method for optical disc as instructed at [3.9.4.4](#).

### 3.9.4.4 Details of Production Methods for Optical Discs

Record **details of production method for optical disc** ▼ if considered important for identification or selection. For scope and sources of information, see [3.9.4.1](#) and [3.9.4.2](#).

#### EXAMPLE

BD-R

BD-RE

CD-R

CD-RW

DVD+R

DVD+RW

DVD-R

DVD-RAM

DVD-RW

**Change #3:** Add 15 new terms (definitions and cross-references) to the RDA Glossary to support the new instructions.

Response to comments:

- *Revise for clarity and to match RDA style (various constituencies)*  
ALA agrees with the majority of the suggestions; see below.
- *Why is “Disc” capitalized in Blu-ray Disc? (LC)*  
ALA capitalized this term because it is trademarked that way.
- *Only add generic definitions for burning and stamping (UK)*  
ALA respectfully disagrees; these terms have a specific meaning in relation to optical discs; a broad generalization of these terms will not fulfill user tasks.

### **Blu-ray Disc**

An optical disc data storage format for a plastic optical disc that is 1.2 mm thick and usually 12 cm in diameter, which was officially released in 2006. Blu-ray Discs are read with a 405 nm diode blue laser at 36 Mbits/s (1×). Types of Blu-ray Discs include BD-R and BD-RE.

### **burned**

A production method for an optical disc in which the content of a pre-existing master disc is replicated on a blank disc. The data is encoded by a writing laser, usually in a disc drive, that targets a layer made of dye or a metal alloy on the disc. Use for discs that can be written to only once as well as for rewriteable discs. Also known as: duplicated, recorded, or recordable.

### **burned, writable once**

A production method for an optical disc that creates a burned disc which can be written to only once.

### **burned, rewritable**

A production method for an optical disc that creates a burned disc which can be repeatedly written to, erased, and re-recorded.

### **CD**

An optical disc data storage format for a plastic optical disc that is 1.2 mm thick and usually 120 mm in diameter, which first became commercially available in October 1982. CDs are read with a 780 nm wavelength (infrared and red edge) semiconductor laser at 1200 Kb/s (1×). Types of CDs include CD-R and CD-RW.

### **compact disc**

CD ▼

### **details of optical disc data storage format**

Details of the technical specifications relating to the way that content is stored on and read from an optical disc.

**details of production method for optical disc**

Details of the process used to record data on an optical disc.

**digital versatile disc**

DVD▼

**digital video disc**

DVD▼

**DVD**

An optical disc data storage format for a plastic optical disc that is 1.2 mm thick and usually 120 mm in diameter that was invented in 1995 and became commercially available in Japan in November 1996, in the U.S. in March 1997, and later in other countries. DVDs are read with a 650 nm laser at 10.5 Mbit/s (1×). Types of DVDs include DVD+R, DVD+RW, DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD-RAM.

**optical disc data storage format**

The set of technical specifications that describe the way content is stored on and read from an optical disc, including storage capacity, laser wavelength used for reading the disc, and the size and arrangement of pits and lands on the disc.

**production method for optical disc**

The method used to record data on an optical disc.

**stamped**

A production method for an optical disc in which a master disc is created using a glass mold and stamping process to produce pits and lands. The master disc is used to produce replicated discs that contain prerecorded content that is not recordable or writeable by the consumer. The most common types of stamped discs are CD-ROM, DVD-ROM and BD-ROM. Also known as: prerecorded, pressed, or replicated.

**Wii U**

An optical disc data storage format for an optical disc designed for playback in Nintendo's Wii U game console.