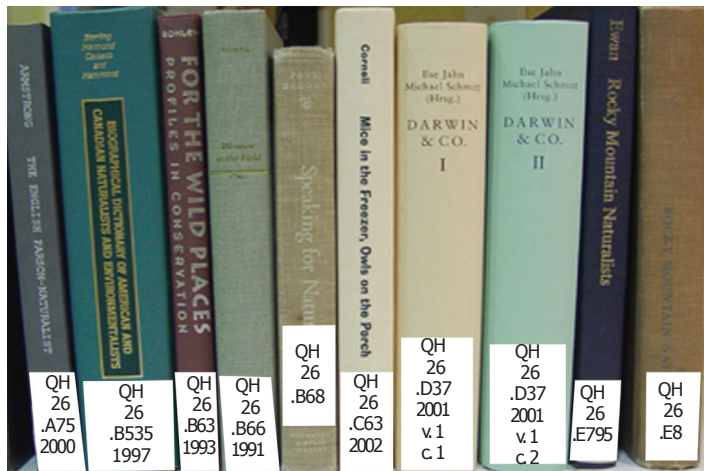


Understanding the Call Numbers

Your Guide to Shelf Location in the Library



Read the call number line by line. **The third line is read as a decimal.**

e.g. E795 comes before E8

How are the Books & Journals Arranged on the Shelves in the General Library?

Books, journals and other items are arranged by call number A-Z, using the Library of Congress Classification System. It is an alphanumeric system for shelf arrangement by subject. The call number is a unique identifier that will help you to locate catalogued items in the library. The call number can be found in the Harvest UC Davis Library Catalog (both available from the Library's home page).

Reading a Library of Congress Call Number:

QH26.E795

Read letters in alphabetical order
e.g. Q, QA, QB, QC... QH... etc.

Read as a whole number

Read numbers as a **DECIMAL**
Read letters in alphabetical order

e.g. E795 comes before E8

Some call numbers are followed by:
Year of publication (in chronological order)
Volume number
Copy number (if more than one copy)

For the call number above, **Q** identifies the category for **Science**, and **QH** identifies the subclass of **Biology**. The letter in the last portion of the call number **.E795**, identifies the author, **Ewan**, followed by a decimal. For journals or edited works the letter identifies the title rather than the author. There may be two series of these numbers, followed by publication year, volume, copy.

Library of Congress Classification System: A - Z

- A** General Works
- B** Philosophy. Psychology. Religion
- C** Auxiliary Sciences of History
- D** History (General) & History of Europe
- E** History: America
- F** History: America
- G** Geography. Anthropology. Recreation.
- H** Social Sciences
- J** Political Science
- K** Law
- L** Education

- M** Music & Books on Music
- N** Fine Arts
- P** Language & Literature
- Q** Science
- R** Medicine
- S** Agriculture
- T** Technology
- U** Military Science
- V** Naval Science
- Z** Bibliography. Library Science. Information Resources (General)

Q = Science

- QA = Mathematics
- QB = Astronomy
- QC = Physics
- QD = Chemistry
- QE = Geology
- QH = Biology**
- QK = Botany
- QL = Zoology
- QM = Human Anatomy
- QP = Physiology
- QR = Microbiology