

Home Page

Logo



URL

<http://www.bpl.org/>

Subject

Boston Public Library--Catalogs

Accessibility

Free

Language

English

Publisher

Boston Public Library, United States

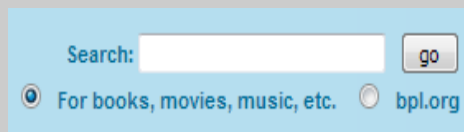
Scope and Coverage

The Boston Public Library is a municipal public library system in Boston, Massachusetts, United States, founded in 1848. According to its website, the Boston Public Library has a collection of over 23.7 million items, which makes it one of the largest municipal public library systems in the United States. The vast majority of the collection – over 22.7 million volumes — is held in the Central Branch research stacks. Because of the strength and importance of its research collection, the Boston Public Library is a member of the Association of Research Libraries (ARL), a not-for-profit organization comprising the research libraries of North America. In addition, the library is both a federal and state

depository of government documents. The BPL's research collection includes more than 1.7 million rare books and manuscripts. It possesses wide-ranging and important holdings, including medieval manuscripts and incunabula, early editions of William Shakespeare (among which are a number of Shakespeare quartos and the First Folio), the George Ticknor collection of Spanish literature, a major collection of Daniel Defoe, records of colonial Boston, the personal 3,800 volume library of John Adams, the mathematical and astronomical library of Nathaniel Bowditch, important manuscript archives on abolitionism, including the papers of William Lloyd Garrison, and a major collection of materials on the Sacco and Vanzetti case. There are large collections of prints, photographs, postcards, and maps.

Kind of Information

The library home page gives following catalog search option:



In this search process one just has to put search term to access bibliographic information on books, movies, music, etc. After completing the search process the website gives list of titles. All the titles are hyperlinked with detailed bibliographic information. The following website is an example:

The screenshot shows a library catalog record for the book 'Botany' by Carl L. Wilson, 1897-. The record is displayed in two columns. The left column contains the title 'Botany', the author 'Wilson, Carl L., 1897-', a book icon, the text 'Book - 1971', a star rating system, and 'Print' and 'Share' buttons. The right column contains detailed bibliographic information including 'Authors: Wilson, Carl L. (Carl Louis), 1897-', 'Title: Botany', 'Publisher: New York : Holt, Rinehart and Winston, [1971]', 'Edition: 5th ed', 'Characteristics: xv, 752 p. : ill. (part col.) ; 25 cm', 'Additional Contributors: Steeves, Taylor A. 1926- Loomis, Walter E. (Walter Earl), 1898-', 'ISBN: 9780030812002 0030812003', 'Statement of Responsibility: [by] Carl L. Wilson, Walter E. illus. based on drawings by Hannah T. Croasdale', 'Subject Headings: Botany', 'Topical Term: Botany', and 'LCCN: 76142324'. There are also tabs for 'Details' and 'Full Record' at the top of the record.

The information is also provided in MARC format. The holding detail on particular title is provided. Similar titles are also provided.

Special Features

- The Boston Public Library hosts thousands of free public programs each year, including Author Talks, Local and Family History lectures, the Lowell Lecture Series, Concerts in the Courtyard, and art and history exhibitions. The Boston Public Library also offers many daily events for children, teens, adults, and seniors,

including story times, book discussions, film showings, ESL conversation groups, and research and technology classes.

- The library offers a variety of digital services and collections. The online catalog, also available for mobile devices, allows users to browse and place holds on materials including books, audiobooks, DVDs, and CDs.
- Users can also download ebooks, e-audiobooks, music, and video through BPL's OverDrive site and check out Zinio magazines for the computer, tablet, or smartphone. Library card holders and e-card holders can also stream movies, television shows, music, and audiobooks through Hoopla Streaming Media.

Arrangement Pattern The search result is arranged by relevancy to the search queries. The list can be rearranged by publication date (chronologically), author name or title (alphabetically), rating etc.

Remarks

For all these reasons, the historian David McCullough has described the Boston Public Library as one of the five most important libraries in America, the others being the Library of Congress, the New York Public Library, and the university libraries of Harvard and Yale.

Comparable Tools

- Delhi Public Library Catalogue (<http://delhipubliclibrary.in/>)
- London Public Library (<https://catalogue.londonpubliclibrary.ca/>)
- Troy Public Library (<http://www.thetroylibrary.org/>)
- New York Public Library
(<https://catalog.nypl.org/>)
- Connemara Public Library : Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC)
(<http://connemara.tnopac.gov.in/>)
- Croydon Public library OPAC(<http://www.croydonlibraries.com/online-library/online-catalogue/>)
- Berkeley Public Library
(<https://www.berkeleypubliclibrary.org/locations/claremont-branch>)
- Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (<http://www.carnegielibrary.org/>)

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