

DATE: January 14, 2014
TO: ALA/ALCTS/CaMMS/Committee on Cataloging: Description and Access (CC:DA)
FROM: MLA BCC Descriptive Cataloging Subcommittee (Tracey Snyder)
OLAC RDA Revisions Task Force (Kelley McGrath)
SUBJECT: RDA 7.22 (Duration): Discussion of possible approach to revision in 2014

BACKGROUND: RDA 7.22.1.3 (Playing Time, Running Time, Etc.) contains a great deal of detail about how to record the playing time or running time of an audiovisual resource, including provisions for abbreviating terms for units of time, recording a time that is not stated on the resource, and recording an approximate time. However, RDA 7.22.1.4-6, which deal with duration for other types of resources, do not contain such provisions. Consequently, music catalogers referring to 7.22.1.4 (Performance Time) have felt unsure how to record an approximate performance time for notated music. Some take the example “about 1 hr., 10 min.” in 7.22.1.4 to mean that the word “about” should be used for an approximate performance time for notated music, in contrast with “approximately” for audiovisual resources, as detailed in 7.22.1.3. Others interpret the example in 7.22.1.4 to be a transcription from a resource bearing the word “about” and wonder if they should use “approximately” when *supplying* an approximate performance time for notated music, since that is the practice detailed in 7.22.1.3 for audiovisual resources. In November 2013, the RDA Music Joint Working Group proposed the following text as a LC-PCC PS for each of the instructions that suffer from a lack of clear guidance (7.22.1.4-6):

Record the time and abbreviate terms for units of time as instructed in appendix B (B.5.3). If the time is approximate, record the approximate time preceded by *approximately*.

PROPOSED SOLUTION: The proposed Policy Statements are likely to be published, but a more comprehensive solution is needed. Tracey Snyder (MLA) and Kelley McGrath (OLAC) propose to work with their respective cataloging communities in developing a formal proposal for CC:DA in 2014 that would bring consistency and clarity to 7.22. One possible approach could be to add a new section at 7.22.1.3 (and renumber the sections that follow) called Recording Duration, which would contain basic instructions on recording duration (including abbreviating units of time, recording approximate duration, etc.) that would apply to the subsequent instructions. (This approach can be seen at 3.5.1.3 Recording Dimensions.) With a new 7.22.1.3 in place, the subsequent instructions can be revised accordingly. **Does CC:DA agree with this approach?**

CURRENT TEXT:

7.22.1

Basic Instructions on Recording Duration

7.22.1.1

Scope

Duration▼ is the playing time, running time, etc., of the content of a resource.

Duration also includes performance time for a resource containing notated music or notated movement (see 7.22.1.4 RDA).

7.22.1.2

Sources of Information

Take information on duration from any source.

7.22.1.3

Playing Time, Running Time, Etc.

If the resource has a playing time, running time, etc., record the time and abbreviate terms for units of time as instructed in appendix B (B.5.3 RDA). Record the time by applying the following instructions:

a)

If the total playing time, running time, etc., is stated on the resource, record the time stated.

EXAMPLE

40 min.

Playing time of the content of an audiocassette

3 min., 23 sec.

Playing time of the content of a film cartridge

27 min.

Playing time of the content of an online video file

1:30:00

Total playing time of the content of 2 audio discs

75 min.

Playing time of the content of a videocassette

approximately 3 hr.

Playing time as stated of the content of 3 audio discs

b)

If the total playing time, running time, etc., is not stated on the resource but is readily ascertainable, record it.

EXAMPLE

30 min.

Playing time of the content of a videotape reel

c)

If the total playing time, running time, etc., is neither stated on the resource nor readily ascertainable, record an approximate time preceded by *approximately*.

EXAMPLE

approximately 7 min.

Approximate playing time of the content of a piano roll

approximately 90 min.

Approximate total playing time of the content of 2 film reels

d)

If the total playing time, running time, etc., cannot be approximated, omit it.

Optional Addition

In some cases, the actual playing time, running time, etc., differs significantly from the time stated on the resource. When this occurs, record the stated playing time followed by *that*

is and the actual playing time, running time, etc. Indicate that the information was taken from a source outside the resource itself (see [2.2.4 RDA](#)).

Alternative

If:

the resource consists of more than one unit

and

the units have a stated uniform playing time, running time, etc., or an approximate uniform playing time, running time, etc.

then:

record the playing time, running time, etc., of each unit followed by *each*.

EXAMPLE

60 min. each

Playing time of the content of each cassette in a set of 31 audiocassettes

approximately 30 min. each

Approximate playing time of the content of each cassette in a set of 11 audiocassettes

approximately 20 min. each

Approximate playing time of the content of each file in an online resource consisting of 3 audio files

7.22.1.4

Performance Time

For notated music and notated movement, if the performance time is stated on the resource, record the time stated.

EXAMPLE

18 min.

about 1 hr., 10 min.

7.22.1.5

Duration of Individual Parts

When preparing a comprehensive description for a resource consisting of more than one component, record the duration of each component.

EXAMPLE

17 min.; 23 min.; 9 min.

09:41; 16:00; 24:00

7.22.1.6

Resource Containing Both Sound and/or Moving Images and Text, Still Images, Etc.

For a resource containing sound and/or moving images as well as text, still images, etc., record the duration of the sound and/or moving images as duration.

EXAMPLE

80 min. of moving images

Duration of moving images on a videodisc also containing 2400 frames of still images

See also [3.22.2.10 RDA](#) for instructions on recording the number of pages of text, frames of still images, etc.