



Prefixes to shelfmarks – a general guide

Janet MacKay, May 2022

GI12 [<https://www.abdn.ac.uk/library/documents/guides/gi12.pdf>]

This is a general guide only. Search in [Primo](#) to locate an individual item. Theses and items located in our Remote Stores, Special Collections Centre and Museums are not on open access shelving. Please request such items via Primo or consult library staff.

Note: TSDRL refers to The Sir Duncan Rice Library.

Prefix	Meaning	Main Location
A	Agriculture and Forestry	Remote Store
Abs	Abstracting journal	Remote Store
Aldroughty	Aldroughty House Papers	Special Collections Centre
AM	Alford Mutual Improvement Association Library	Special Collections Centre
AV	Audio Visual material	Various locations
Barth	Karl Barth Collection	Special Collections Centre
BCL	Blairs College Library	Special Collections Centre
Bies	Biesenthal Collection	Special Collections Centre
BK	Bibliothek of Kirkwall	Special Collections Centre
Boyndlie	Boyndlie Collection	Special Collections Centre
Brown-Lindsay	Brown-Lindsay Collection	Special Collections Centre
C	Celtic material	Special Collections Centre
C, Cd, Cm, Cmd, Cmdnd	Command Paper (UK Government)	Taylor Library
Cairngorm Club	Cairngorm Club Collection	Special Collections Centre
CH	Chapman Collection	Special Collections Centre
Christ's College	Christ's College Collection	Special Collections Centre
Coll	Sheet Music – collected musical works	TSDRL Floor 4
Daube	David Daube Collection – ancient law	Special Collections Centre
Disc	Compact Disc (CD) – Music	TSDRL Floor 1
DL	Diocesan Library	Special Collections Centre
DVD	Digital Video Disc (DVD) – Film	TSDRL Heavy Demand
e Book	Electronic book	(Online access via Primo)
e Per	Electronic journal/periodical	(Online access via Primo)
EC, EDC	European Union document	Taylor Library EDC
EI	Elphinstone Institute material	Elphinstone Institute
EI B	Elphinstone Institute Buchan Library material	Elphinstone Institute
f	Folio (oversize book)	Various locations
F	Medicine and Medical Sciences	Medical Library
ff	Double folio (very large) book	Various locations
ffp	Double folio (very large) pamphlet	Various locations
FHD	Heavy Demand Collection in Medical Library	Medical Library
FL	Fixed Location Collection	Special Collections Centre
Full S	Sheet Music – Full Music Score	TSDRL Floor 4
Gavin	Catherine Irvine Gavin Collection	Special Collections Centre
Geddes	W. D. Geddes Collection	Special Collections Centre
Gen Ref	General Reference material	Remote Store
Glucksman	Glucksman Collection	Special Collections Centre
GRHB	NHS Grampian Archives	Special Collections Centre
GY	Gregory Collection	Special Collections Centre
Harrower	John Harrower Collection	Special Collections Centre
HD	Heavy Demand	Various locations
Hend inst, Hend voc	J. Murdoch Henderson Collection	Special Collections Centre
Herald	Herald Pamphlet Collection	Special Collections Centre
HN	Henderson Collection (Henderson of Caskieben)	Special Collections Centre

Prefix	Meaning	Main Location
Inc	Incunabula Collection (books printed before 1501)	Special Collections Centre
J	Juvenile Collection (19th century children's literature)	Special Collections Centre
KCx	Medical Science Collection from King's College	Special Collections Centre
King	King Pamphlet Collection	Special Collections Centre
L, Lambda	Local materials collection	Special Collections Centre
Law	Law Collection	Taylor Library
Lib R	Librarian's Room Collection (Library rarities from 1801 to current)	Special Collections Centre
LMS	London Missionary Society Lending Library, Edinburgh	Special Collections Centre
M	Microform (e.g. microfiche, microfilm)	Various locations
MacBean	MacBean Jacobite & Stuart Collection	Special Collections Centre
MacD	George MacDonald Collection	Special Collections Centre
MH	Meldrum House Collection	Special Collections Centre
Microform	Microform (e.g. microfiche, microfilm)	Various locations
Min S	Sheet Music – miniature Score	TSDRL Floor 4
MM	Marischal Museum Collection of printed materials	University Museums
MN	Melvin Collection	Special Collections Centre
MS	Manuscript	Special Collections Centre
Mus	Sheet Music – music score (general)	TSDRL Floor 4
Nicoll	Nicoll Collection	Special Collections Centre
OD	O'Dell Collection (material about railways)	Special Collections Centre
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development	Taylor Library
OP	Official Publication	Taylor Library
p	Pamphlet	Various locations
p Lambda	Pamphlet in Local Materials Collection	Special Collections Centre
Per	Periodical (journal, serial)	Various locations
Phillips	Phillips Library of Pharmacology and Therapeutics	Special Collections Centre
pHJ	Hilary Jenkinson Pamphlet Collection	Special Collections Centre
pi	pi Collection	Special Collections Centre
PP	Parliamentary Paper	Taylor Library
Ref	Reference material	Various locations
R	Roger Robinson Collection	Special Collections Centre
Rep	Law report	Taylor Library
S	S Collection (the study of books)	Special Collections Centre
SB	Special Books Collection	Special Collections Centre
SBL	Special Books Local Collection	Special Collections Centre
Sc	History and Philosophy of Science Collection	TSDRL Floor 5
SCA	Scottish Catholic Archives	Special Collections Centre
SFA	Society of Friends Aberdeen	Special Collections Centre
SFK	Society of Friends Kinmuck	Special Collections Centre
SH Mus	Stationer's Hall Music Collection	Special Collections Centre
Sim	Simpson Collection (architecture)	Special Collections Centre
SOP	Scottish Official Publication	Taylor Library
SP	Scottish Parliament	Taylor Library
TB	Thomson of Banchory Collection (of Books)	Special Collections Centre
Th	Thesis (research postgraduate degree)	Remote Store
Th Ref	Reference Thesis (research postgraduate degree)	Special Collections Centre
Thomson	Thomson of Banchory Collection (of Pamphlets)	Special Collections Centre
TL	Theological Library	Special Collections Centre
TR	Taylor Psalmody Collection	Special Collections Centre
VID	Videotape Cassette	Remote Store
VL	Victorian Literature Collection	Special Collections Centre
VP	Victorian Poetry Collection	Special Collections Centre
Voc S	Sheet Music – vocal score	TSDRL Floor 4
Watt	Watt Collection	Special Collections Centre
WN	Robert Wilson Collection	Special Collections Centre
WS	Bernard C. Lloyd Walter Scott Collection	Special Collections Centre