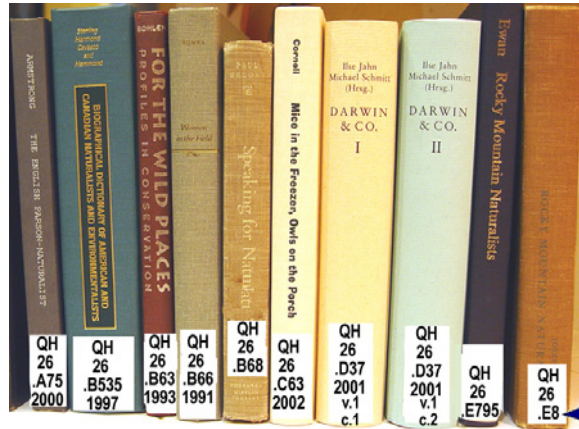




Understanding the Call Numbers

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 from 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 or the Melvyl UC Catalog (both available from the Library's home page). **Note:** *Carlson Health Sciences Library & UCD Medical Center Library* use National Library of Medicine (NLM) classification system described on page 2.

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 these 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)

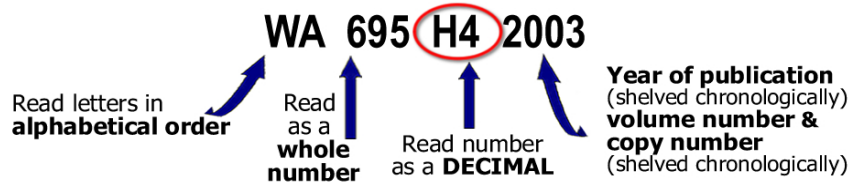
Q=Science

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



Carlson Health Sciences Library & UCD Medical Center Library: National Library of Medicine Classification System (NLM)

Carlson Health Sciences Library and UCD Medical Center Library use the National Library of Medicine Classification System (NLM). While there are no Ws used in the Library of Congress system, NLM uses the entire W range in its call numbers. So if you have a call number that begins with W, it is from one of the Health Sciences Libraries. NLM uses a range of starting letters from **QL**, **QS-QZ**, and **W-WZ**. The Carlson Health Sciences Library also uses the Library of Congress system for social sciences, biology and veterinary medicine: **BF**, **H**, **QH**, **SF**.



Basic Sciences	Veterinary Medicine	Medicine & Related Subjects
BF Psychology	SF757 Veterinary Hygiene	W Medical Profession
H Social Sciences	SF 781-809 Communicable Diseases of Animals	WA Public Health
QH Biology	SF810 Veterinary Parasitology	WB Practice of Medicine
QL Zoology	SF811 Circulatory System	WC Infectious Diseases
QS Human Anatomy	SF831 Respiratory System, Nutritional System	WD100 Deficiency Diseases
QT Physiology	SF851-855 Deficiency Diseases	WD200 Metabolic Diseases
QU Biochemistry	SF867 Dentistry	WD300 Diseases of Allergy
QV Pharmacology	SF871-889 Urinary and Reproductive Organs	WD400 Animal Poisoning
QW Microbiology and Immunology	SF890 Mammary Glands	WD500 Plant Poisoning
QX Parasitology	SF891 Eyes, Ear, Throat, etc.	WD600 Diseases by Physical Agents
QY Clinical Pathology	SF895 Nervous System	WD700 Aviation and Space Medicine
QZ Pathology	SF901 Bones, Joints, Muscle, Skin	WE Musculoskeletal System
	SF907-909 Horse, Foot and Horseshoeing	WF Respiratory System
	SF910 Other Diseases and Conditions	WG Musculoskeletal System
	SF911-913 Veterinary Surgery	WH Hemic and Lymphatic Systems
	SF914 Veterinary Traumatology, Veterinary Emergencies	WI Gastrointestinal System
	SF915-919 Veterinary Pharmacology	WJ Urogenital System
	SF925 Veterinary Physical Medicine	WK Endocrine System
	SF951-959 Diseases of Horses	WL Nervous System
	SF961-967 Diseases of Cattle	WM Psychiatry
	SF968-969 Diseases of Sheep and Goats	WN Radiology
	SF971-977 Diseases of Swine	WO Surgery
	SF985-986 Diseases of Cats	WP Gynecology
	SF991-992 Diseases of Dogs	WQ Obstetrics
	SF994-995 Avian Diseases	WR Dermatology
	SF996 Diseases of Zoo Animals	WS Pediatrics
		WT Geriatrics Chronic Disease
		WU Dentistry Oral Surgery
		WV Otorhinolaryngology
		WW Ophthalmology
		WX Hospitals
		WY Nursing
		WZ History of Medicine

Other NLM Call Number Ranges:

W1	Use for the majority of Journals
W2	Government Documents
ZQS-ZWZ	Bibliographies of the Preclinical and Medical Sciences
REF ZW1	Reference Indexes and Abstracts
REF	(followed by the call number) Located in Reference Collection