
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS COLLECTIONS POLICY STATEMENTS SUPPLEMENTARY GUIDELINES

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Book Jackets

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I. Scope

A book jacket, also known as a dust jacket or dust cover, is a removable paper cover used to protect the binding of a book and, often, to promote the book itself. The Library receives books with jackets through its various sources of acquisition.

II. Collecting Policy

The Library of Congress does not normally collect book jackets beyond those accompanying books selected for the Rare Books and Special Collections Division. On a highly selective basis, book jackets and book jacket designs of particular interest for the history of graphic design, and book jackets which are limited edition fine prints, may be acquired for addition to the collections of the Prints and Photographs Division. All other book jackets are discarded during the Library's processing workflow.

The above does not preclude the temporary retention of book jackets for exhibition or reference purposes.

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