

Glossary of Library terms

Remote acces / Open access (Accès distant / Accès libre)

- ➤ **Remote access:** ability to use paid electronic resources (articles, ebooks, databases) from outside the library through authenticated login.
- ➤ **Open access:** online access to scholarly or informational resources that are freely available without subscription.

Bibliographic portal (Portail bibliographique)

An online interface giving access to various bibliographic resources such as library catalogs, databases, electronic journals, and other search tools.

Book drop (Boîte de retour)

A secure box usually located near the library entrance, allowing users to return borrowed materials outside library opening hours.

Call number (Cote)

A combination of letters and numbers that indicates the precise location of an item on the library shelves.

Catalog (Catalogue)

A digital tool used to search for, locate documents (books, journals, etc.). In some cases, it also provides access to electronic resources.

Copy (Exemplaire)

A single physical or digital version of a document (book, magazine, newspaper, etc.). A library may own several copies of the same title.



Database (Base de données)

A structured collection of information or data. In libraries, it groups and organizes digital resources such as articles, books, magazines, images, and videos in digital format.

Document (Document)

Any medium containing information: books, articles, reports, theses, films, audio recordings, and more.

Documentary research (Recherche documentaire)

The process of searching for, identifying, evaluating, and collecting relevant documents or information using catalogs, databases, search engines, and other tools.

E-journal package (Bouquet de revues)

A bundle of electronic journals offered as a group by a publisher or provider, typically accessed through a subscription covering multiple disciplines.

Electronic resource (Ressource électronique)

Any information source accessible online: databases, e-books, e-journals, online videos, software, etc.

Index (Index)

An alphabetical list of names, subjects, or concepts mentioned in a document, pointing to the pages where they appear.



ISSN

The **International Standard Serial Number** (ISSN) uniquely identifies serial publications such as journals or magazines. It consists of eight digits, often preceded by "ISSN".

Keyword / Subject heading (Mot-clé / Mot-sujet)

- ➤ **Keywords:** terms freely chosen by users to describe the content they are searching for.
- > Subject headings: standardized terms assigned by librarians to ensure consistent description and retrieval of documents.

Monograph (Monographie)

A work dedicated to a single subject, written in one or several volumes, and not issued periodically.

Periodical (Périodique)

A publication issued at regular intervals (daily, monthly, quarterly, etc.), such as newspapers, magazines, or scholarly journals.

Periodical collection status (État de collection)

The detailed record of the volumes and issues of a periodical held by the library, including missing issues and available formats (print or electronic).

Plagiarism (Plagiat)

Presenting someone else's work or ideas as your own without proper acknowledgment. It is considered academic misconduct.

Reader account (Compte lecteur)

A personal online space where you can view your current loans and manage your library activity.



Record (Notice)

In a library catalog, a record is a detailed description of a document. It contains bibliographic information such as the title, author, publisher, date of publication, abstract, and sometimes subject words.

Relevance (Pertinence)

Relevance in search results refers to the match between the results obtained and the user's needs or expectations.

Self-checkout machine (Automate de prêt)

A terminal that allows you to borrow, return, or extend documents independently.

Storage (Magasin)

A non-public area where documents are kept when they are not on open shelves; items stored there can be retrieved on request.

Source (Source)

A source is a document or medium used to obtain data or information. Sources can be **primary:** original documents, testimonials, or works of art, **secondary**: analyses, critiques, or commentaries, **tertiary**: reference works such as encyclopedias or dictionaries.

Suggestion book (Cahiers de suggestions)

A tool, physical or online, allowing you to propose improvements, suggest acquisitions, or comment on library services.



Table of contents (Table des matières)

A structured list of chapters, sections, or parts of a document, usually at the beginning, helping users navigate and understand the structure and main topics.