



Sitka

Those Flummoxing Fixed Fields

What are fixed fields?

Fixed fields are MARC fields that are of a fixed length, so they always contain the same number of characters and each character position has a specific meaning. The four fixed length fields are the Leader, 006, 007, and 008.

For more information see:

Leader - [English Version](#) or [French Version](#)

006, 007, 008 - [English Version](#) or [French Version](#)

What does Evergreen do with fixed fields?

Evergreen uses the values in the fixed fields for determining what format icons should display for records, what records should be displayed in the search results, and how search results are sorted.

- **Language Search Filter** - relies on characters 35-37 of the 008 field.
- **Audience Search Filter** - relies on character 22 of the 008 field
- **Literary Form Search Filter** - relies on character 33 of the 008 field (only applicable to books).
- **Publication Year Search Filter** - relies on characters 07-10 of the 008 field.
- **Exclude Electronic Resources checkbox** – relies on character 23 of the 008. When the checkbox is checked records coded as “s” or “o” are excluded from search results.
- **Formats Search Filter** - relies on a combination of characters as shown in this [table](#).
- **Format Icons** - rely on a combination of characters as shown in this [table](#).

How do you correct fixed fields?

Cataloguers can edit the fixed fields using the [Flat Text](#) or [Enhanced MARC](#) editors in Sitka’s Evergreen. The Enhanced MARC Editor includes the [Leader and 008 Grid](#) and the [Physical Characteristics Wizard](#) to make it easier for cataloguers to update these fields.

Tips

- Right-click in the boxes in the Leader and 008 Grid to see possible values.
- The first character of a fixed field is always zero not one.
- [Appendix B](#) in Sitka’s Evergreen Documentation lists the abbreviations used in the Leader and 008 Grid and the corresponding fields and characters.