RDA Three-Field Cheat Sheet

Fields 336, 337, and 338 (the 33x fields or variable fields) appear in all RDA records. They replace GMD (General Material Designator) from AACR2, but you can think of applying them the same way: you’re still specifying material type, just in a new format.

It’s important to note that these fields alone do not make a record RDA: all fields must follow RDA rules for that to apply. This sheet does not cover all RDA designations for the material types.

I have added extra space between the subfields and the text to make this more readable. The screenshots represent how the fields, correctly entered, appear in Evergreen.

BOOKS

336 __$a text $b txt $2 rdacontent
337__$a unmediated $b n $2 rdamedia
338__$a volume $b nc $2 rdacarrier

| 336 | __$a text __$b txt __$2 rdacontent |
| 337 | __$a unmediated __$b n __$2 rdamedia |
| 338 | __$a volume __$b nc __$2 rdacarrier |

MOVIES ON DVD/BLU-RAY

336 __$a two-dimensional moving image $b tdi $2 rdacontent
337__$a video $b video $2 rdamedia
338__$a videodisc $b vd $2 rdacarrier

| 336 | __$a two-dimensional moving image __$b tdi __$2 rdacontent |
| 337 | __$a video __$b video __$2 rdamedia |
| 338 | __$a videodisc __$b vd __$2 rdacarrier |

SPOKEN WORD ON CD (AUDIOBOOK)

336__$a spoken word $ spw $2 rdacontent
337__$a audio $b s $2 rdamedia
338__$a audio disc $b sd $2 rdacarrier

| 336 | __$a spoken word __$b spw __$2 rdacontent |
| 337 | __$a audio __$b s __$2 rdamedia |
| 338 | __$a audio disc __$b sd __$2 rdacarrier |
MUSIC CD

336__$a performed music $b prm $2 rdacontent
337__$a audio disc $b s $2 rda
338__$a audio disc $b sd $2 rda

PLAYAWAY LAUNCHPAD

336__$a computer program $b cop $2 rdacontent
336__$a two-dimensional moving image $b tdi $2 rdacontent
337__$a computer $b c $2 rdamedia
338__$a other $b cz $2 rdacarrier
380__$a Computer tablet

Mixed Media

These subfields are repeatable. You can choose the one type of content you feel describes most of the item, or you can repeat them to include multiple formats. An example would be a book accompanied by a CD.
If you really like definitions:

336: **Content type (RDA 6.9)**

“a categorization reflecting the fundamental form of communication in which the content is expressed and the human sense through which it is intended to be perceived.” *How do you describe the content of the thing you are trying to catalog?*

337: **Media Type (RDA 3.2)**

“a categorization reflecting the general type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.” *What do you know to read or view the thing you’re cataloging?*

338: **Carrier Type (RDA 3.3)**

“a categorization reflecting the format of the storage medium and housing of a carrier in combination with the type of intermediation device required to view, play, run, etc., the content of a resource.” *What is the physical thing you are trying to catalog?*

Term and code list for RDA content types: [https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdacontent.html](https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdacontent.html)

Term and code list for RDA media types: [https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdamedia.html](https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdamedia.html)

Term and code list for RDA carrier types: [https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdacarrier.html](https://www.loc.gov/standards/valuelist/rdacarrier.html)