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Digital Initiatives at LAC

Digitization

Internal Digitization Standards

The following table contains the standards for resolution and bit depth that LAC typically uses in digitization projects. The material is organized by type of source material being digitized. These standards are guidelines rather than rules; the actual settings used in a specific project may vary depending on the condition of the material and the intended use of the digital images. In every case, the objective is to have a master image which is a faithful reproduction of the original document, and an access version in which all the essential informational value of the original is readable.

	Master Copy	Access Copy
Books	300 dpi 8-bit colour (sometimes bitonal or greyscale) JPG	300 dpi bitonal (with some elements in greyscale or colour) PDF with OCR
Serials	300 dpi 24-bit Adobe RGB (1998) TIFF	72 dpi colour or greyscale JPG or PDF with OCR
Government publications and reports	300 dpi 24-bit Adobe RGB (1998) TIFF	72 dpi colour or greyscale JPG or PDF with OCR (when possible)
Newspapers (microfilm)	150 dpi 8-bit greyscale TIFF	150 dpi greyscale JPG or PDF with OCR
Theses (microfiche)	150 dpi 8-bit greyscale TIFF	150 dpi greyscale JPG or PDF with OCR
Music recordings	96 kHz 24-bit BWF	MP3
Spoken word recordings	96 kHz 24-bit BWF	MP3

Film	Not yet defined	H.264
Video and TV broadcast	NTSC encoding, Motion JPEG2000 at 50Mbps employing lossless reversible compression 4 audio channels, 8 or 10 bits video resolution	H.264
Maps	6000 to 8000 pixels (longside) 24-bit Adobe RGB (1998) TIFF	600-1000 pixels (longside) 72 dpi JPG, PDF or JPG 2000
Documentary art, photography, portraiture	Varies depending on format and scanner, ranges 6000 to 8000 pixels (longside), between 300 dpi to 4000 dpi 24-bit Adobe RGB (1998) TIFF	600-1000 pixels (longside) 72 dpi or 150 dpi colour or greyscale JPG

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