

EDUG – 8 May 2025

The long shadow of print: Optimizing DDC for digital environments

Alex Kyrios

Senior Editor, DDC

OVERVIEW

Print constraints

- Limited space for specific topics
- ... for built numbers
- ... for the Relative Index

Navigating print vs. electronic

- Strengths of print
 - Multi-record view
 - Quick browsing via page turning
- Strengths of electronic
 - More comprehensive record-level information
 - Precise searching
 - Hyperlinks

Print DDC as horse

- Print is reduced, not gone
- Advantages and disadvantages continue
- Should not hold us back



SOLUTIONS

Electronic-only entries?

- Extends the print idea of index-only records
- Could look like abridgement
- Ideally flagged in print

WebDewey functionality

- Display of notes with hierarchical force
- Changes to internal add tables?

Your thoughts?

- What else should be addressed?
- What should the priorities be?
- What do colleagues struggle with?

Thank you!

Alex Kyrios

Senior Editor, DDC

kyriosa@oclc.org

**Because
what is
known must
be shared.®**