Marc 21 For Everyone: A Practical Guide
Synopsis

Using common conventions and a shared language of tags, subfields, indicators, and codes, MARC 21 the latest code is a powerful integrated record format packed with information so all librarians can do their work more effectively. But you'll only be as effective using MARC as you are informed about its capabilities. Covering both the big-picture fundamentals and the basics of nuts-and-bolts details, MARC 21 for Everyone is the best and easiest introduction to MARC 21 available. Packed with self-assessment tools including quizzes, helpful tables, and many examples of tags and subfields, this authoritative manual presents clear and practical guidance to get you up to speed and ready to apply MARC 21 to your catalog records.

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Customer Reviews

Deborah A. Fritz is the co-owner of The MARC of Quality, a Florida-based company that provides training, software, and database services to help librarians create better MARC records. Formerly a cataloging trainer at a multitype library consortium and a cataloger at various libraries, she currently teaches an extensive array of cataloging workshops around the United States. She is the author of Cataloging with AACR2 and U.S.MARC: For Books, Computer Files, Serials, Sound Recordings and Videorecordings (ALA, 1999). She is co-developer of several MARC processing programs, including MARC Report and MARC Global. Fritz earned her master’s degree in library science at the University of Toronto. Richard J. Fritz is the other half of The MARC of Quality. Formerly a library systems administrator for a medium-sized school district and, before that, in charge of authority
control cleanup at a large bibliographic utility, his professional career has always involved MARC database processing in some capacity. His current work includes designing MARC processing software MARC Report and MARC Global for use by the library community and for in-house processing. He earned his library degree at the University of Toronto and also holds two other master’s degrees.

While I’ve used this book as a reference actually on the job it’s a little too skimpy for my purposes. There aren’t enough examples of the various fields and subfields! It’s really only an overview and not a particularly good reference for MARC. It would be okay for someone new to MARC that just wanted to get their feet good and wet.

OK, so it’s not a page turner and it won’t top a best seller list. But for a cataloging student or anyone needing to polish up on MARC records (don’t forget to check your copy cataloging every once in a while :) ), this book is a very friendly, easy to reference source. The authors are not kidding when they warn you not to use this book to catalog (thank you, OCLC’s Librarian Toolbox LOL), but it is useful to have close at hand for refreshers. Plus, the end of chapter practices are a handy way to make sure the information’s stuck before trying to create your own tags.

This book covers the basics of MARC records, but it is hard to assess it’s usefulness because at this point I don’t have any opportunity to use MARC records—I don’t have access to an integrated library system.

Using this currently for a cataloging graduate class; much easier to understand then AACR2 readings in alternate text. I like the style of writing and helpfulness of the examples and structure. An excellent resource.

I got this for a class but am using it as a training guide for new catalogers in my department at work.

This book does just what it says -- it’s an introductory overview for Marc21. If you need to do detailed cataloging, it isn’t what you need. It only covers about 1/2 of the fields.

Bought a used copy and the description of the item’s condition was accurate. Would have thought it was brand new. I was required to buy this as a textbook for school and it has proven to be an
extremely useful guide.

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