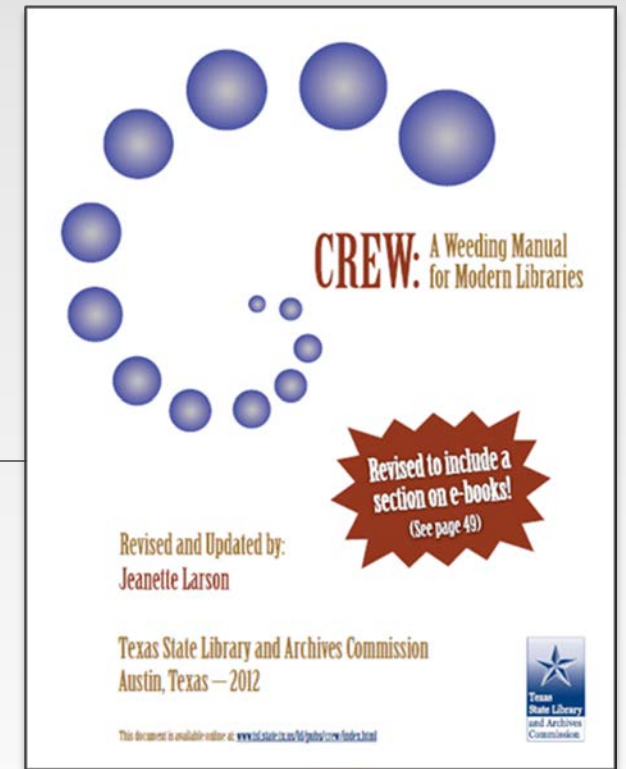


# Tackling the Weeds in Your Library Collection

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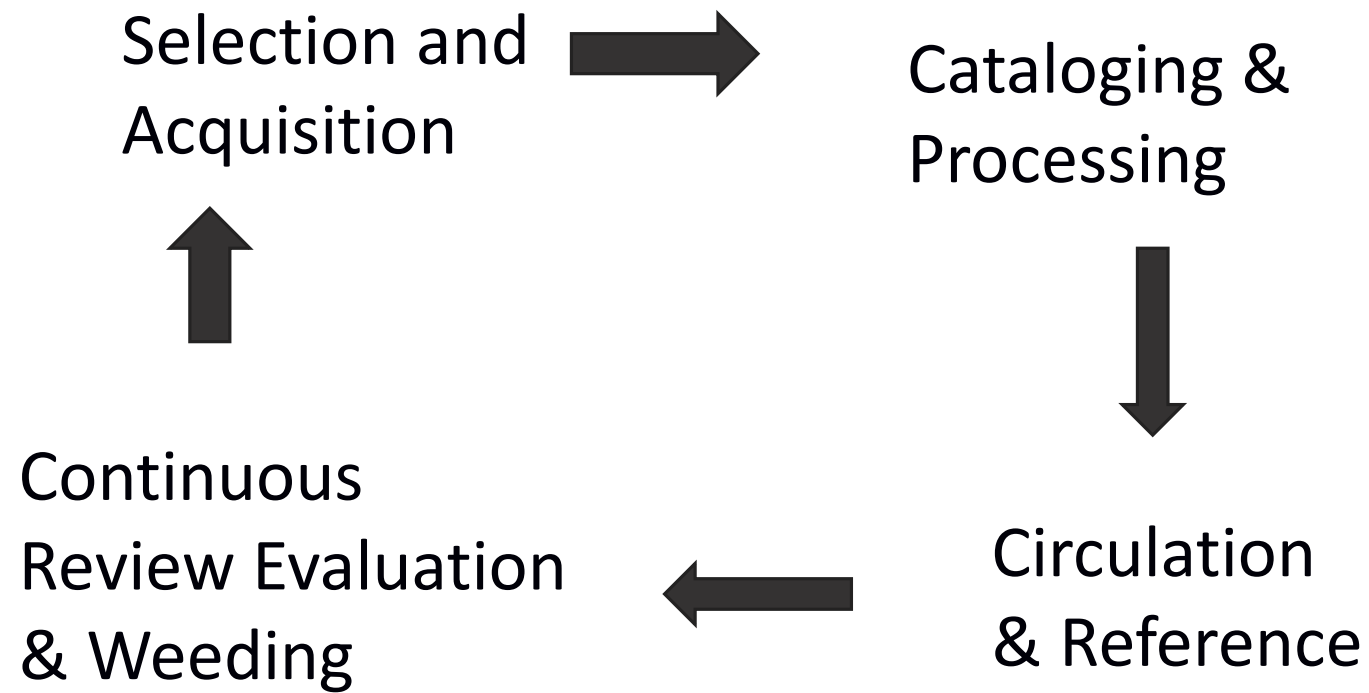
# Collection Development Process Overview



<https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/pubs/crew/index.html>

**Collection  
Development  
Policy  
supports  
Mission**







**More books doesn't equal a better library!**

“Weeding is  
part of the  
whole life cycle  
of the library.”

News

## Alameda County Library's dumping of books draws criticism



By CHRIS DE BENEDETTI | Bay Area News Group, Mercury News  
January 30, 2015 at 3:08 pm

FREMONT — To Alameda County Library leaders, throwing away hundreds of thousands of books while adding new ones reflects an evolving “living library” that’s trying to meet the changing needs of modern patrons.

To some, however, the library system’s weeding of books has led to a disturbing loss of knowledge contrary to its tradition of giving information to all.

The Library Book Savers of Alameda County and other critics have complained at recent meetings in Albany and Fremont, urging the library branches to stop throwing away books and other materials.

“We see that they have not worked to preserve the breadth or depth of the library collections ... and have free rein to dispose of taxpayer property without consulting the public,” said Dorothea Dorenz, a Library Book Savers member.

But Peggy Watson and other library leaders say removing outdated or underused books is a normal part of running a modern library. It’s part of the county system’s “Living Library” philosophy, she said, which tries to maintain “a careful balance of new and classic titles, coupled with thoughtful refreshment of outdated materials.”

“Weeding is part of the whole life cycle of the library,” added Watson, Alameda County Library’s head of all branches.



## Weeding scale

Put an X to mark where you fall on the weeding scale



# Benefits of Weeding

---

- Space
- Time

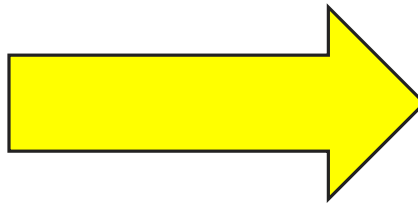




# Benefits of Weeding

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## ○ Appealing Collection



# More Benefits of Weeding

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- Library's Reputation
- Collection Needs
- Strengths & Weaknesses



# First things first

---

- Review collection development policy

# Selection criteria

## Homer Public Library's Collection Development Policy

### G. SELECTION CRITERIA

Selection of materials is based on the professional judgment of the library staff, which is guided by the needs of the community and the balance and comprehensiveness of the collection. Selection is aided by reviews and other professional tools such as standard catalogs and bibliographies. Selection tools include, but are not limited to:

- Reviews in professional library journals or periodicals such as *Booklist*, *Library Journal*, *Publisher's Weekly*, *Wilson's Public Library Catalog*, *The Horn Book*, *Kirkus Reviews* and other professional publications.
- Internet resources for evaluation and selection such as the ALA website, Amazon.com, Common Sense Media, and professional media review sites.
- Individual subject expertise of staff or community members.
- Publisher catalogs.
- Standard bibliographies.

There is no single standard that can be applied in all acquisition decisions. Some materials must be judged primarily on their artistic merits, some on their scholarship, and some on their value as human documents. Still others are intended to satisfy recreational and entertainment needs. Each will be considered in terms of the audience for whom it is intended. Materials are judged on the basis of the work as a whole, not on a part taken out of context.

Selection Criteria considered in the evaluation and the re-evaluation of materials are:

- Cultural, recreational, informational and/or educational value.
- Local interest and potential use by library patrons.
- Usefulness in relation to other materials in the collection.
- Appearance of the item in standard bibliographies and review journals.
- Permanent significance.
- Accuracy, effectiveness, and timeliness of presentation.
- Artistic excellence.
- Qualifications and/or significance of the author.
- Suitability of physical form for library use.
- Availability of material in other library collections.
- Price.
- Library space.

# De-selection criteria

## Homer Public Library's Collection Development Policy

### L. COLLECTION MAINTENANCE

Select books of long-term value to the collection are sent to a professional bindery when their bindings become worn-out or damaged and are not easily mended. These titles are usually popular, of local interest, and not available in hardcover bindings.

Books are mended if, as a whole, they are in good shape and the mending will result in prolonged life of the books for additional circulations. Cumulative damage such as a large number of dirty or torn pages may result in withdrawal or replacement instead of mending.

The purpose of a withdrawal policy is to insure that the collection remains up-to-date and useful. The criteria used for selecting materials are also be used in the removal of items from the collection. Materials that are no longer useful in light of stated objectives are systematically withdrawn from the collection. Prime candidates for deselection are:

- Items which contain outdated or inaccurate information, unless of historical value.
- Superseded editions.
- Worn out or damaged items.
- Seldom-used materials.

# MUSTIE

---

M= Misleading

U= Ugly

S= Superseded

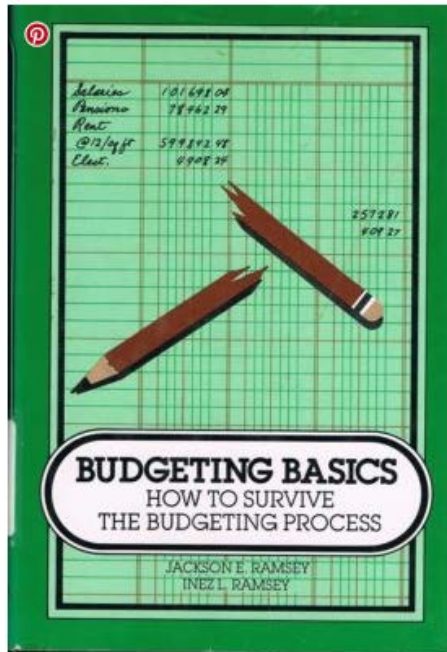
T= Trivial

I= Irrelevant

E= Elsewhere

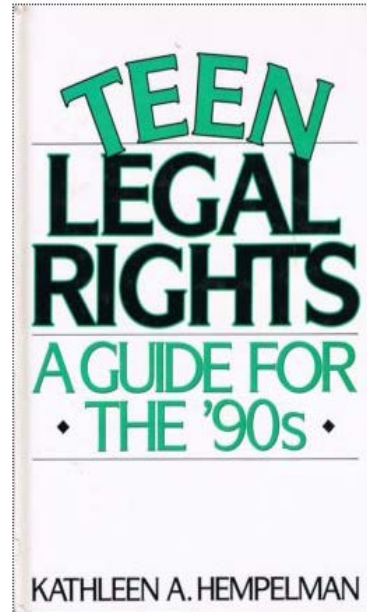


# What to weed



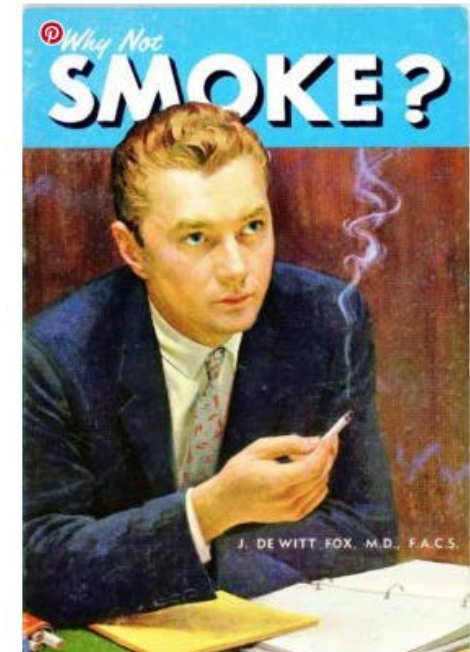
## BUDGETING SECRETS

June 19, 2018   Holly   Bleeding Edge, Making Money   One comment



## TEEN LEGAL RIGHTS

June 25, 2018   Holly   Society Explained, Talkin 'Bout My Generation   5 comments



## SMOKE GETS IN YOUR EYES

June 20, 2018   Mary Kelly   Health and Safety   5 comments



# What else to weed

---



<https://blogs.library.duke.edu/preservation/2011/03/16/what-the/>



# Overview Chart

## CREW Formulas

**610** 5/3/MUSTIE

5-years since copyright

3-maximum number of  
years without usage

**MUSTIE**

## Overview Chart of CREW Formulas

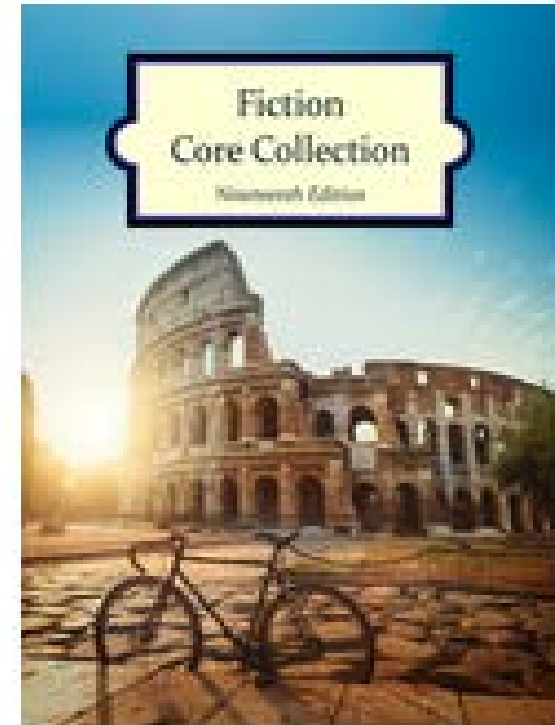
Dewey Class	CREW Formula
000	
004	3/X/MUSTIE
010	10/3/MUSTIE
020	10/3/MUSTIE
030	5/X/MUSTIE
Other 000s	5/X/MUSTIE
101	15/5/MUSTIE
133	10/3/MUSTIE
150	10/3/MUSTIE
160	10/3/MUSTIE
170	10/3/MUSTIE
200	10/3/MUSTIE or 5/3/MUSTIE
306	5/2/MUSTIE
310	2/X/MUSTIE
320	5/3/MUSTIE
323	5/3/MUSTIE
330	3/3/MUSTIE
340	5/2/MUSTIE
350	5/3/MUSTIE
360	5/3/MUSTIE
370	10/3/MUSTIE
390 - 394	10/3/MUSTIE
395	5/3/MUSTIE
398	X/3/MUSTIE
400	10/3/MUSTIE
500	5/3/MUSTIE
507	10/3/MUSTIE
510	10/3/MUSTIE
520	5/3/MUSTIE
550	X/3/MUSTIE
560	5/2/MUSTIE
570	7/3/MUSTIE
580	10/3/MUSTIE

Dewey Class	CREW Formula
610	5/3/MUSTIE
629	X/2/MUSTIE
630	5/3/MUSTIE
635	10/3/MUSTIE
636	5/2/MUSTIE
640	5/3/MUSTIE
649	5/3/MUSTIE
670	10/3/MUSTIE
700	
709	X/3/MUSTIE
720	X/3/MUSTIE
737	5/3/MUSTIE
740	X/3/MUSTIE
770	5/3/MUSTIE
791	10/2/MUSTIE
793 - 796	10/3/MUSTIE
800	X/3/MUSTIE
910	3/2/MUSTIE
Personal Travel Narratives	5/2/MUSTIE
930 - 999	10/3/MUSTIE
92, 920 or B	X/3/MUSTIE
F (Fiction)	X/2/MUSTIE
Graphic Novels	X/1/MUSTIE
E (Easy Readers/ Picture Books)	X/2/MUSTIE
JF (Juvenile Fiction)	X/2/MUSTIE
YA Fiction (Teen Fiction)	3/2/MUSTIE
J and YA Non-fiction	Use adult criteria (and review children's general criteria)
Periodicals/ Newspapers	3/X/X
Government Documents	3/2/X
Local History	X/X/X
Nonprint	WORST
Film Formats	2/1/WORST
Audio Formats	X/2/X

# What to consider when weeding Fiction

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Fiction X/2/MUSTIE



# Fiction Core Collection

## Sample Page

### FICTION CORE COLLECTION

Eighteenth Edition

**Abu-Jaber, Diana, 1960-**

**Birds of paradise; a novel.** W. W. Norton & Co.  
2011 362p \$25.95

ISBN 978-0-393-06461-2; 0-393-06461-1

LC 2011-14575

"After 13-year-old Felice Muir runs away from her Miami home . . . , her mother, Avis, retreats to her kitchen, where she creates elaborate pastries as part therapy, part offering to her absent daughter. Felice's father, Brian, buries himself in his lawyering and fantasizes about the young Cuban woman in the office next door, and her brother, Stanley, throws himself into the organic market he's opened in lieu of going to college. They all vacillate between willing themselves to forget Felice and constant wondering—why she left, where she is, if she's alive—until the approach of her eighteenth birthday and a storm named Katrina upsets their fragile holding patterns. Abu-Jaber . . . employs her descriptive talents in bringing Miami to steamy, pulsing life, but it is *Birds of Paradise's* neither predictable nor merely haphazard momentum and its rich cast of characters that make us feel we're in deliciously capable hands." Elle

**Abu-Jaber, Diana**

**Crescent.** Norton 2003 349p hardcover o.p. pa  
\$13.95

ISBN 0-393-05747-X; 0-393-32554-7 pa

LC 2002-152907

"Sirine's now-deceased missionary parents were Iraqi and American; she's been raised since she was nine by her beloved Iraqi uncle. Her world is his house, the cafe where she is chef, and the air of Los Angeles. She's nearly 40, and inside her pale skin and green eyes she feels the rhythms of her uncle's Arabic stories and the scent of Eastern spices. Hanif ('Han'), a professor of Arabic literature at the local university comes to the cafe for the tastes of home, and he and Sirine fall into an affair of wild, sweet tenderness. . . . Abu-Jaber's language is miraculous, whether describing the texture of Han's skin or Sirine's way with an onion. It is not possible to stop reading." Booklist

**Abu-Jaber, Diana**

ourselves, and the massive dreams we haul quietly with us and hold close." (Publisher's note)

"Acampora not only meticulously conveys the allure of an outwardly paradisiacal suburban community, with its perfectly restored Victorian homes and well-tended lawns; she also clearly captures the inner turmoil of its residents, homing in on their darkest impulses and beliefs. Some of the stories' starring characters make cameos in others, adding considerable complexity to the whole." Booklist

**Acevedo, Chantel**

**The Distant Marvels;** Chantel Acevedo. Penguin Group USA 2015 304 p. \$17

ISBN 1609452526; 9781609452520

LC 2015410975

In this book, by Chantel Acevedo, "the elderly Maria Sirina has lived through and, as a young girl, participated in the Cuban war for independence; now, in 1963, at the dawn of Castro's new Cuba, with Hurricane Flora on the way, she is evacuated with other women to a historic mansion for shelter, where she entertains her fellow refugees with personal and richly imagined stories." (Booklist)

"This extraordinary narrative tells, from these women's perspectives, how war brings lovers together and tears families apart. This is a major, uniquely powerful, and startlingly beautiful novel that should bring Acevedo's name to the top echelon of this generation's writers." Booklist

**Achebe, Chinua**

★ **Things fall apart.** Astor-Honor 1959 215p  
\$15.95

ISBN 0-8392-1113-9

First published 1958 in the United Kingdom; first United States edition published by McDowell, Obolensky

"The novel chronicles the life of Okonkwo, the leader of an Igbo (Ibo) community, from the events leading up to his banishment from the community for accidentally killing a clansman, through the seven years of his exile, to his return. The novel addresses the problem of the intrusion in the 1890s of white missionaries and colonial government into tribal Igbo society. It describes the simultaneous disintegration of its protagonist Okonkwo and of his village. The novel is a masterpiece of African literature." Booklist



# Booklist Online

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### **Magpie Murders.**

**Horowitz, Anthony (author).**

June 2017. 464p. Harper, hardcover, \$27.99 ([9780062645227](#)).

[REVIEW](#). First published [April 15, 2017](#) ([Booklist](#)).

Horowitz's unusual stand-alone combines two books in one—the first, set in 1950s England, is a wonderfully written Agatha Christie-style whodunit complete with vicar, village, and vengeance. The second, set in modern times, stars an editor who must solve a mystery surrounding that whodunit, as her publishing house's fortunes rest upon its success. While the first story is more enjoyable than the second, which drags a little, this is overall a very entertaining set of tales, and readers will enjoy finding clues in the whodunit that will help solve the mystery in the latter tale. Perfect for readers of Christie and Sophie Hannah, for lovers of mysteries with a splash of metafiction, and, of course, for fans of Horowitz's other work in multiple genres, for both young people and adults. In addition to fiction, Horowitz is the acclaimed creator and writer of such popular TV crime series as *Foyle's War* and *Midsomer Murders*.— *Henrietta Verma*

[Find more titles by Anthony Horowitz](#)

[Adult Books](#) - [Fiction](#) - [Crime Fiction](#) - [Mystery](#)

### **Booklist Editors Recommend**

Titles similar to  
*Magpie Murders*

[The Twenty-Year Death](#)

### **Related Features**

[The Reading List: Best Adult Genre Fiction, 2018](#)

# Novelist

lam.Alaska.gov/sled



[Search Other Databases](#)

Keyword AU "Anthony Horowitz" AND ND Author

Search



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## Recommended Reads Lists

Adult

Teen

Ages 9-12

Ages 0-8

[Best of 2017: Fiction »](#)

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[Fantasy »](#)

[Fiction A to Z »](#)

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## I'm in the mood for books that are...

Adult

Teen

Ages 9-12

Ages 0-8

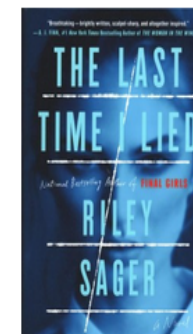
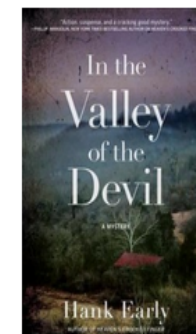
Menacing and Atmospheric

Gritty and Flawed

Haunting and Lyrical

Unconventional and Stylistically complex

Keep the lights on.



Want to make your own combo? [Try our appeal mixer](#)

## Browse Genres





# Novelist

Author:  
**Horowitz, Anthony, 1955-**

Ages 9-12 Teen Adult Nonfiction Fiction

**Description:**

**Anthony Horowitz's** plot-driven books are action-packed, suspenseful adventures filled with nail-biting moments, slapstick humor, and nonstop thrills featuring teenage boy characters. His fast-paced titles blend genres beyond just adventure and suspense that can include spy fiction, horror, mystery, science fiction, and fantasy. **Horowitz's** titles are the perfect choice for reluctant readers, especially now that some of his best-selling *Alex Rider* adventures series have been adapted into graphic novels. Start with: *Stormbreaker*.

**Book Appeal Terms:** [Definition of Appeal Terms](#)

**Genre:** Fantasy fiction; Horror; Humorous stories; Mysteries; Spy comics; Spy fiction; Thrillers and suspense

**Character:** Courageous; Likeable

**Storyline:** Action-packed

**Pace:** Fast-paced

**Tone:** Suspenseful

**Writing Style:** Compelling

**Persistent link to this record (Permalink):**

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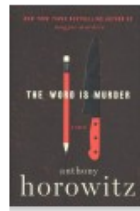
**Database:**

Novelist

Books Series More about this Author

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1.



Read reviews on  
goodreads

★★★★☆  
831 reviews

**The word is murder** (Jun 2018)

**By:** Horowitz, Anthony, 1955-

A playful commentary on the mystery genre itself and the first in a promising new series. The author, Horowitz, plays the part of the narrator, and gets caught up in solving a murder with Daniel Hawthorne, an out-of-work detective. — Amy Whitfield for LibraryReads.

**Series:** [Daniel Hawthorne novels, 1](#)

**Popularity:** ★★★★★ Adult Fiction

[Title Read-alikes](#) [Author Read-alikes](#) [Series Read-alikes](#)



Search for information on this author in EBSCOhost

# Who decides what goes?

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# CREW method in 10 Steps

---

1. Weeding is part of policy
2. Gather usage statistics of your library's collection.
3. Set goals and build weeding into the year's calendar.
4. Make a plan and gather weeding materials on a book truck
5. Study the area you will be weeding as a whole.

## *Disposal Slips*

### *Disposal Slip*

Book Title or Call Number: \_\_\_\_\_

<input type="checkbox"/> Bindery	<input type="checkbox"/> Discard
<input type="checkbox"/> Mend/Preserve	<input type="checkbox"/> Book Sale
<input type="checkbox"/> Promote	<input type="checkbox"/> Replacement/New Edition
<input type="checkbox"/> Donate to: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sent To: _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Check Database for other locations of this title: _____	

Other locations of this title: \_\_\_\_\_

Title to replace this volume: \_\_\_\_\_

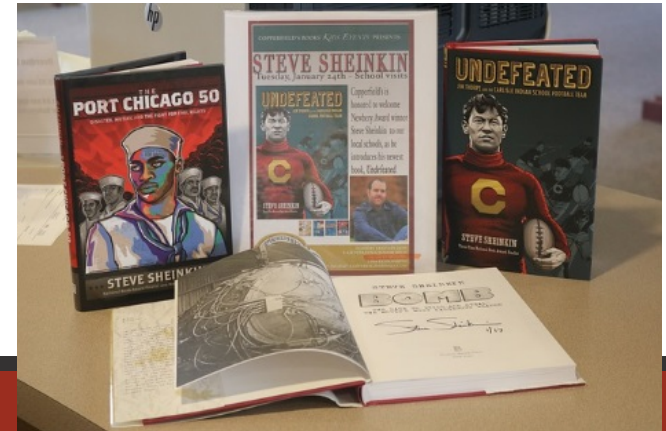
Authorizing Agent: \_\_\_\_\_

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# Crew method

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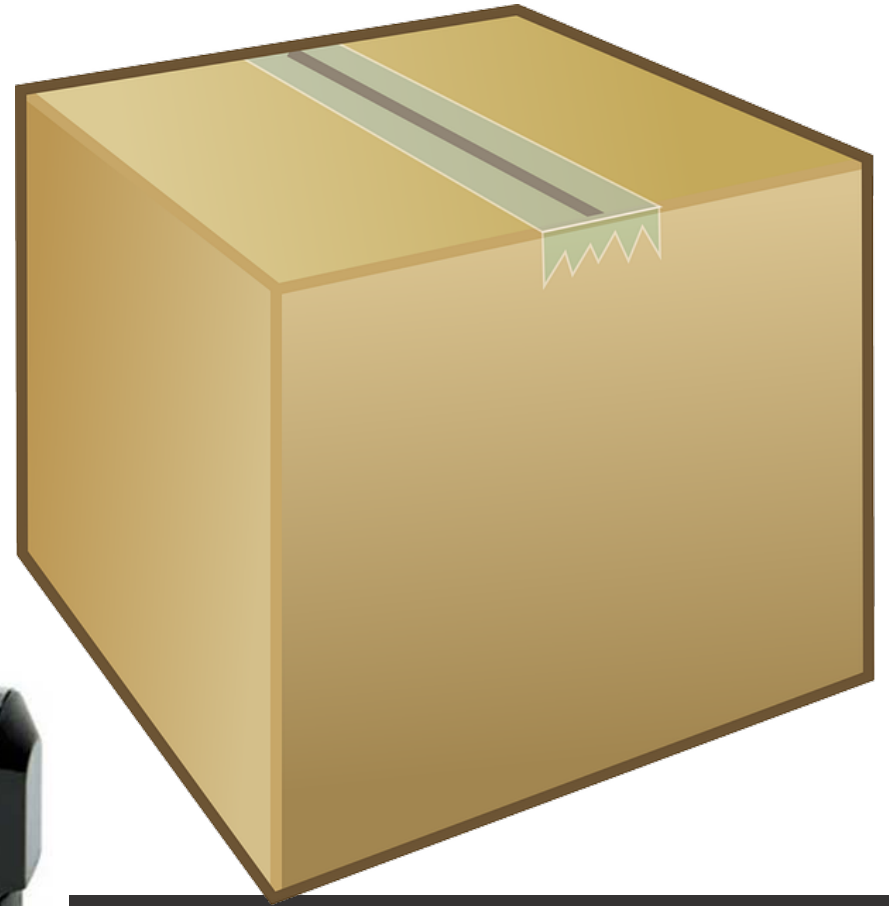
6. Inventory the library's holdings.
7. Check the pulled books against any standard indexes & bibliographic resources
8. Treat the books according to their slips
9. Replacement checking and ordering
10. Create displays for low circulating, high quality books.



# How to handle discarded books

---

- Sell them
- Give to other libraries or nonprofits
- Crafts and Arts
- Box up and take to the landfill



# Sources

---

- *CREW: A Weeding Manual for Modern Libraries*. (2012). Austin, Texas: Texas State Library and Archives Commission. URL <https://www.tsl.texas.gov/ld/pubs/crew/index.html>
- Crash course in collection development, Wayne Disher-Libraries Unlimited-2007.
- Fundamentals of collection development and management. 3rd, rev. ed, Johnson - American Library Association – 2013
- Awful Library Books <http://awfullibrarybooks.net/>

# More Sources

---

- Booklist online <https://www.booklistonline.com/book-awards>
- **Alameda County Library's Dumping Of Books Draws Criticism**  
Chris Benedetti -  
<https://www.mercurynews.com/2015/01/30/alameda-county-librarys-dumping-of-books-draws-criticism/>
- **Homer Public Library Policies**  
<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/library/library-policies>



# One More Source

---

- SLED Statewide Library Electronic Doorway  
<https://lam.Alaska.gov/sled>

# Questions?

---

Julie Niederhauser

Public Library Coordinator

[Julie.Niederhauser@Alaska.gov](mailto:Julie.Niederhauser@Alaska.gov)