Tackling the Weeds in Your Library Collection
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.
Weeding scale
Put an X to mark where you fall on the weeding scale
Benefits of Weeding

- Space
- Time
Benefits of Weeding

Appealing Collection
More Benefits of Weeding

- Library’s Reputation
- Collection Needs
- Strengths & Weaknesses
First things first

- Review 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

I. 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
What else to weed

https://blogs.library.duke.edu/preservation/2011/03/16/what-the/
### Overview Chart of CREW Formulas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dewey Class</th>
<th>CREW Formula</th>
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#### CREW Formulas

**610 5/3/MUSTIE**

5-years since copyright

3-maximum number of years without usage

MUSTIE
What to consider when weeding Fiction
Fiction Core Collection

Sample Page

Abu-Jaber, Diana, 1960-

ISBN 978-0-393-06461-2; 0-393-06461-1
LC 2011-14575

“After 13-year-old Felicie Muir runs away from her Miami hom... her mother, Ava, retr... her kitchen, where she creates elaborate pastries as part therapy, part offering to her absent daughter. Felicie’s father, Brian, bur... 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 Felicie 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 hapazard momentum and its rich cast of characters that make us feel we’re in deliciously capable hands.”
—Eile

Abu-Jaber, Diana

$13.95
ISBN 0-393-05747-X; 0-393-32554-7
LC 2002-132907

“Sirine’s now deceased missionary parents were Iraqi... 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. Haifa (‘Haif’), 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 marvellous, 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

★ 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 a Igbo (Bo) community, from the events leading up to his banishment from the community for accidentally killing a classmate, 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,...
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Booklist Review

Horowitz, Anthony (author).

Maggie Murders.


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.—Hennette Verma

Find more titles by Anthony Horowitz
Author: Horowitz, Anthony, 1955-

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: Sturmrecker.

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):

Database: NoveList

Books

1. 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 EBSCHost
Who decides what goes?
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.
Crew method

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


• 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

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