Common MARC Tags

MARC stands for Machine Readable Cataloging. It is a standard format for the records which describe items available in the library. A MARC record could have up to 999 fields, each represented with a 3-digit tag.

Knowing some common tags is helpful to match an item in the library’s collection with an existing record when copy cataloging. Some common tags are:

- **020** International Standard Book Number (ISBN)
- **035** OCLC records number (a unique identifier in the WorldCat database)
- **100** Main entry (author)
- **245** Title and author statement
- **250** Edition statement
- **260** Publishing information
- **300** Physical description
- **5xx** Notes
- **6xx** Subject headings

Learn more about MARC

ICFL Adult Basic Library Education online tutorials
http://libraries.idaho.gov/able

WebJunction Online Training: Introduction to Cataloging for Non-Catalogers
http://id.webjunction.org/catalog

Introduction to MARC Tagging by OCLC
http://www.oclc.org/support/training/connexion/marc/default.htm