

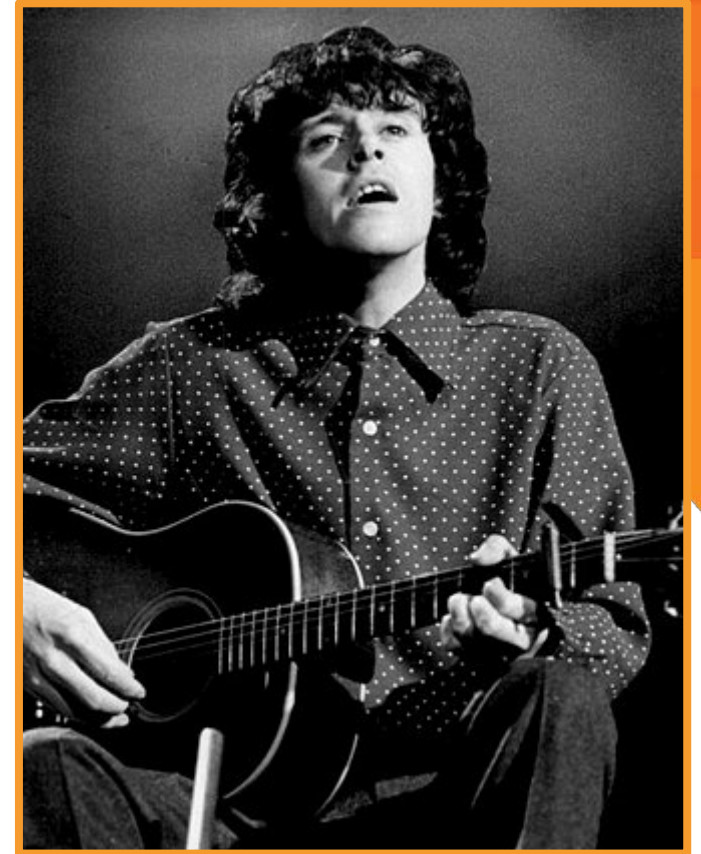
# Dates, approximately

Gordon Dunsire, Chair, RSC

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# What are the options for recording a date of publication using RDA?



A case study from RDA-L ...

The manifestation has no date, and the content has a “mid-sixties vibe”

# “date of publication”

Search: Exact title = date of publication

Browse: Manifestation. Elements

Browse: RDA Glossary

Browse: Relationship matrix

Manifestation to Timespan

[visual browser real soon now]

# date of publication

Recording methods for a related entity

## Recording

Record this element as a value of Timespan: **appellation of timespan**  or as an IRI.

Apply the general instructions for Manifestation: **date of manifestation** .

For date of distribution, manufacture,  
production, publication

# date of manifestation

## **Option**

### **Date of manifestation not identified**

#### **For**

a manifestation for which a date of manifestation cannot be identified,  
record an approximate date.

# Unstructured description

## Recording an unstructured description

Record an unstructured description of a related timespan as a value of Timespan:


name of timespan .

### Option

### For

a date of manifestation that appears on the manifestation,

record the date as it appears.

Apply the general [Transcription guidelines](#)  and [Transcription guidelines](#). Numbers expressed as numerals or as words.

# Unstructured description

## Option

Probable range of years of manifestation known

## For

a manifestation that does not carry a date,

## and

a probable date falls within a range of years,

record *between*, the earliest probable year, *and*, and the latest probable year, followed by a question mark, in that order.

Example: “between 1962 and 1969?”

# Unstructured description

Kinds of unstructured description include:

- A manifestation statement
- An unstructured note
- A name or title in direct order, as it appears in sources of information
- An uncontrolled term for a concept

“approximately 1965” is ok as an unstructured description of date of publication



# Unstructured description

The data in an unstructured description can only be processed reliably to extract keywords.

Although the data may be copied from, or be otherwise identical to, a structured description or identifier element, an application must expect the data in an unstructured description to have no structure or extrinsic relationship to a vocabulary encoding scheme.

“Published approximately 1965” has keyword “1965”


“Published in 1965 pieces ” has keyword “1965”

Is “1965” a date? Reliability depends on context = element

# Structured description


## Option

Record a date using ISO 8601 Data elements and interchange formats – Information interchange – Representation of dates and times.

Record ISO 8601 as the string encoding scheme used for a structured description. For guidance, see Data provenance: [Recording a content standard used for metadata](#) .

# access point for timespan

Record the form found in the vocabulary encoding scheme. Do not modify the values or punctuation.

Record the vocabulary encoding scheme used as the source of information. For guidance, see Data provenance: [Recording a source of metadata](#) .

Example: “1960s”

VES: Wikipedia List of decades

# date of publication

Recording method	Value	Source
Unstructured	“approximately 1965”	Cataloguer
Unstructured	“1965?”	Cataloguer + syntax
Unstructured	“between 1962 and 1968?”	Cataloguer + syntax
Structured	“1960s”	Wikipedia
Identifier	“Q35724”	Wikidata
IRI	<a href="http://dbpedia.org/resource/1960s">http://dbpedia.org/resource/1960s</a>	dbPedia