

Keep it straight—Title vs Copy Call Number

Tip for: 11.20.17

You just changed your Title Call Number, and noticed that the copy call numbers did not update. What's going on?

The answer is in how Alexandria handles libraries that want their Title Call Numbers to match their Copy Call Numbers, versus the libraries (usually centralized catalogs) that have Copy Call Numbers that differ from the Title Call Number.

Basically, the Title Call Number will overwrite and replace the Copy Call Number, *except* when the Copy Call Number has been changed.

Here's an example.

We start with a title with 2 copies, where every record is using the Title Call Number.

Title Call Number = AAA

Copy #1 Call Number = AAA

Copy #2 Call Number = AAA

If we change the Title Call Number to BBB, both copies are updated:

Title Call Number = BBB

Copy #1 Call Number = BBB

Copy #2 Call Number = BBB

If we change Copy #1 Call Number to CCC, we are here:

Title Call Number = BBB

Copy #1 Call Number = CCC

Copy #2 Call Number = BBB

Now what happens if we change the Title Call Number to DDD?

Title Call Number = DDD

Copy #1 Call Number = CCC

Copy #2 Call Number = DDD

See how the copy whose call number has NOT been modified separately gets updated with the Title Call Number, but the one that HAS been modified is left alone.

This way, Call Numbers can be kept consistent, or changed on a copy-by-copy basis.



If you have differences between your title and copy call numbers and want to make them consistent, use one of these two utilities:

- [Change Title Call Numbers](#): Use the **Match Title to Copy Call Number** option to make selected titles' call numbers match the first copy's call number.
- [Change Copy Call Numbers](#): Use the **Match Copy to Title Call Number** option to make selected copies' call numbers match the title call number.