General

What types of items are included in Prospector?
Prospector includes all types of materials from monographs to periodicals/journals, electronic resources: e-books, DVDs/CDs and audiobooks, and even some free resources such as items from the HathiTrust digital library, government documents and scanned ERIC documents.

Libraries are encouraged to contribute all types of materials to Prospector, even items that don’t circulate. Some patrons may go directly to Prospector to find materials that are in their local catalog, so it’s helpful to include these local items in the global catalog.

Items which users may borrow include all monographic materials which circulate and other material types as specified by individual institutions which are listed as available for circulation. Exceptions to this would include reserve materials and other locally defined special materials.

Items which users may not borrow but may use onsite would include reference materials, archival materials, rare books, and others as determined by individual institutions. Virtual items, such as electronic journals, which have IP limiting and authentication, are included in this category. Items which are owned virtually that have URLs or IP addresses which are open or unrestricted include government publications and selected homepages as determined by the local institution. Items must have full cataloging to be included in the unified catalog.

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