

DESCRIPTION

Developed by the Getty, an object ID is a unique identifier assigned to each item in a collection, ensuring it can be tracked, referenced, and catalogued correctly. Using standardized Object IDs ensures consistent cataloguing and easy retrieval, particularly when linked to vocabularies. This prevents misidentification, enhances data integration, and ensures long-term data reliability.

IDEAL SCENARIO

Each object has a unique, standardized Object ID linked to accurate metadata. This ensures consistency across systems and databases. In an ideal scenario you assign unique Object IDs for each artefact, integrate the IDs in your database and link accurate metadata to the object. This improves data management and provides for efficient object tracking.



TIPS

Do

- Use Object ID standards
- Update metadata regularly
- Ensure each object in a collection has an Object ID

Don't

- Avoid using inconsistent or arbitrary naming.
- Avoid overlooking metadata updates or assign outdated data to the object
- Evade relying only on physical records

FURTHER RESOURCES

- Getty Object ID, 1999 <https://www.getty.edu/publications/virtuallibrary/0892365722.html>
- Object ID ICOM, <https://icom.museum/en/resources/standards-guidelines/objectid/>
- Yasaitis, K. E. (2005). Object ID: a model of global collaboration. *Museum Management and Curatorship*, 20(1): 21–39. DOI: 10.1080/09647770500402001

Figure: Object ID from ICOM,
<https://icom.museum/en/resources/standards-guidelines/objectid/>