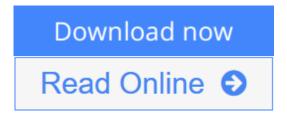


Improving Online Public Access Catalogs

By Martha M Yee, Sara Shatford Layne



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This practical guide for librarians and systems designers describes various Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC) options and explains how users interface with them to obtain information. It also distinguishes between true user aids and those that can be barriers to accessing information.



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Editorial Review

From Library Journal

Yee, cataloging supervisor at the UCLA Film and Television Archive, and Layne, head of the UCLA cataloging division at the Physical Sciences and Technology Libraries, have written a practical guide to help those librarians who want a better understanding of online public access catalogs (OPACs) and how patrons interface with them to obtain information. They have organized their book primarily around the two main types of searching that users do in OPACs: 1) searching for particular authors and for their works, and 2) searching for works on a particular subject. Design for each of these is broken down into three categories: file and index structure, indexing, and display. The authors provide many suggestions for making OPACs appear to be simple to use while carrying out the inherently complex operation of searching and displaying bibliographic records. Numerous illustrations of both problems and solutions are included. The list of user studies consulted is also helpful. For public and academic librarians.?Susan E. Ketcham, Long Island Univ. *Southampton Coll. Lib.*, *NY*

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From **Booklist**

Yee and Layne set out to "improve the design of online public access catalogs (OPACs)." They successfully provide an in-depth look at the current state of OPACs, how users succeed in using them, and the factors that go into producing a successful online catalog. They examine such topics as the various interfaces used in OPACs and the components that serve as the basis for the OPAC--MARC records and the wealth of information encoded in them. Much of the book is devoted to demonstrating relationships of authors, works, and subjects and to formulating decisions about file structure, indexing, and display. Recommended to anyone designing an OPAC. *Edward Swanson*

Review

..".a practical guide to help those librarians who want a better understanding of online public access catalogs (OPACs) and how patrons interface with them to obtain information."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Luther Roberts:

Hey guys, do you really wants to finds a new book to study? May be the book with the title Improving Online Public Access Catalogs suitable to you? The actual book was written by renowned writer in this era. The book untitled Improving Online Public Access Catalogsis the one of several books which everyone read now. This specific book was inspired lots of people in the world. When you read this reserve you will enter the new age that you ever know previous to. The author explained their concept in the simple way, and so all of people can easily to know the core of this publication. This book will give you a wide range of information about this world now. So you can see the represented of the world with this book.

Teresa Graham:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because if you find yourself reading a book specially book entitled Improving Online Public Access Catalogs your head will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each and every aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely can be your mind friends. Imaging each word written in a publication then become one type conclusion and explanation that will maybe you never get previous to. The Improving Online Public Access Catalogs giving you another experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful information for your better life in this particular era. So now let us explain to you the relaxing pattern at this point is your body and mind is going to be pleased when you are finished looking at it, like winning a game. Do you want to try this extraordinary wasting spare time activity?

Wanda Davis:

In this era globalization it is important to someone to get information. The information will make anyone to understand the condition of the world. The condition of the world makes the information much easier to share. You can find a lot of recommendations to get information example: internet, classifieds, book, and soon. You will observe that now, a lot of publisher which print many kinds of book. The book that recommended to you is Improving Online Public Access Catalogs this book consist a lot of the information of the condition of this world now. This book was represented so why is the world has grown up. The words styles that writer use for explain it is easy to understand. Often the writer made some research when he makes this book. This is why this book ideal all of you.

David Gilbert:

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