

It is an efficient tool wherever publications of notated music are produced, disseminated, sold and lent. Therefore, music publishers, music traders and librarians profit most from the rationalization effects of the introduction of the ISMN in their respective field.

The International Standard Music Number serves as a unique identifier for ...

- editorial and manufacture processes
- handling / returns
- stock control
- teleordering
- accounting
- ordering
- billing
- information retrieval
- music-in-print directory
- circulation / interlending
- national music bibliography
- electronic point-of-sale systems

ISMN 979-0-2600-0043-8



9 790260 000438

The ISMN can be converted into a bookland barcode and printed with a scanner raster:

Do you want  
to know more  
about the  
International  
Standard Music  
Number?

Please log on to

<http://ismn-international.org>

or contact

International ISMN Agency  
Schlosstr. 50  
12165 Berlin  
Germany  
Phone: (+49 30) 7974 5002  
Fax: (+49 30) 7974 5254  
eMail: [ismn@ismn-international.org](mailto:ismn@ismn-international.org)



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# ISMN

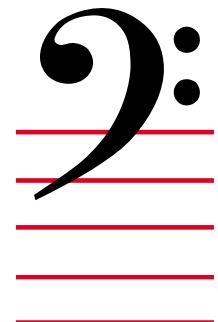
the International Standard Music Number  
for Notated Music

*simple*

*smart*

*sound*

to go around the world



979-0-2306-7118-7

This element identifies a particular publisher.

The prefix 979-0- distinguishes the ISMN from the ISBN.

This element identifies the notated edition.

The check digit verifies the validity of the ISMN mathematically.

The International Standard Music Number is based on the ISO Standard 10957. The number was created in 1993 in analogy to the ISBN system.

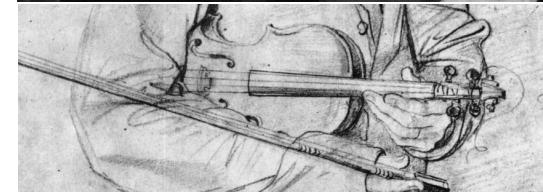
The ISMN is designed to rationalize the processing and handling of notated music and the respective bibliographic data.

It is compatible with the international EAN 13-digit bar code.

It facilitates international co-operation and information exchange; it is a truly international system.

ISMN publisher prefixes are listed on the International ISMN agency's website <http://ismn-international.org>. There, the ISMN Directory comprises an up-to-date reference tool for the music trade and the library world. Use it to quickly find the publisher and his address for a given ISMN.

The ISMN is a prerequisite for electronic data interchange on a global scope.



## Why do we need a numbering system for printed music?

Numbering systems are useful in a way car registration numbers and telephone numbers are: A number uniquely identifies each different item.

All of these registration numbers have some logical structure. There are national and truly international numbering systems. The International Standard Book Number (ISBN) is a case in point: Each number designates a particular edition – worldwide.

The trade of notated music has grown and has become more international, and so the problems of easy identification of titles and editions have grown. It might not be difficult to place orders of published notated music by its composer, but the title of a composition and the name of the composer do not provide a unique identity.

This is where the ISMN helps. The thirteen-digit number allows a hundred million items each to carry a different number.

You may be interested in a particular edition, publisher, binding, or electronic format, in full scores or separate parts, or you might be looking for a particular instrumentation.

The ISMN encapsulates all the additional information which the composer's name and the title of the composition cannot themselves provide.

Example: J. S. Bach, *The Well-Tempered Piano, Book 1*

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier 1. 1951. Hrsg.: Bussoni, Ferruccio. 116 S. Breitkopf & Härtel. 979-0-004-16095-4.

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier 1. Urtext. Hrsg.: Kreutz, Alfred. Peters. 979-0-014-03110-7.

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier, Bd 1. BWV 846-869. – Sammelband. Hrsg.: Dehnhard, Walther/Kraus, Eberhard. 152 S. Wiener Urtext. 979-0-50057-050-9.

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier. Bd 1. Klav. Hrsg.: Bischoff, Hans. Steinräuber. 979-0-50015-006-0.

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier. Teil 1. Ohne Fingersatz. Urtext. Klav. – Urtextausgabe. Hrsg.: Irmer, Otto von. 124 S., 1 Taf. Henle. 979-0-2018-0256-5.

Bach, J. S.: Das Wohltemperierte Klavier 1. Urtext der Neuen Bach-Ausgabe. Spielpartitur/Urtextausgabe. Hrsg.: Dürr, Alfred. Bärenreiter. 979-0-006-46696-2.