



# MIT Thesis FAQ: Access and Availability Questions

**Student Frequently Asked Questions**

**Access and Availability Questions**

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## Types of Questions

**Preparing Your Thesis**

**Copyright**

**Access to Your Thesis**

**Holds and Changes to Your Thesis**

**Access and Availability**

**Scanned Theses in DSpace@MIT**

## Access and Availability FAQ

How do I determine the “publication date” for a thesis? A thesis is generally considered “published” when it has been cataloged and shelved in a publicly accessible library, but other factors could impact the publication date for patent purposes. For example, a thesis submitted electronically might be considered published on the date the electronic version is first made available to the public online, if this occurred prior to the thesis being cataloged. It might also be considered “published” if the student posted a copy on a personal website before submitting the thesis.

For further questions, contact the Office of the General Counsel, 617.452.2082.

How do I determine the date a thesis was cataloged? The catalog dates can be found in the Barton (MIT Libraries catalog) record. Find the record in Barton, click “Display full record,” click “MARC tags.”



In the MARC record, the field 008 will contain the publication date. The field looks like this:

*008 060309s2004 xx a bm 000 0 eng d*

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- Dissertation/Theses

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Have questions?

Contact us at [mit-theses@mit.edu](mailto:mit-theses@mit.edu).

The first two digits 06 = year (2006), the next two digits 03=month (March), and the last two digits 09= day (9th). The publication date for the above record is March 9, 2006.

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<b>008</b>	060309s2004 xx a <span style="color: red;">← 000 0-eng-d</span>
<b>035</b>	a (OCoLC)64584227
<b>040</b>	a MYG  c MYG
<b>099</b>	a Thesis HST 2004 Ph.D.
<b>1001</b>	a Butte, Atul J.
<b>24510</b>	a Exploring genomic medicine using integrative biology /  c by Atul Janardh
<b>260</b>	c c2004.
<b>300</b>	a 227 p. :  b ill. ;  c 29 cm.

**Note that the stamped date on the title page is not the thesis publication date.** It is the date the thesis was received by the MIT Libraries. A thesis is considered published when its catalog record is created and made available in Barton, the MIT Libraries catalog.

When is a thesis available to the public?

**Theses are available for public inspection (MIT and non-MIT) on the day they are received in the MIT Libraries, unless there is a hold request on the thesis.** Users interested in a thesis not yet in Barton may contact the Institute Archives staff to determine whether the thesis has been deposited. If it has been deposited, and if it is not on hold, the user may view the thesis in the Institute Archives reading room.

For further questions, contact the Office of the General Counsel, 617.452.2082.

How long does it take for a thesis to be cataloged and added to DSpace@MIT?

The time frame for the deposit, processing and cataloging of theses is a minimum of 3 months following delivery by the department; currently the average time frame is 3-6 months. Theses placed on hold are not cataloged until a

release letter has reached the Institute Archives. Theses can be held for a period ranging from three months to a year.

How do I request permission to reproduce a portion of thesis X?

Can I access a thesis that is not yet available in DSpace or Barton?

I am not from MIT. How do I get access to a thesis? How do I print a thesis?

I am an alum. Can I have a printable copy of my thesis?

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Are all MIT theses available in DSpace?

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1

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5203 |a Electronic publishing has been established as a unique means for providing information in an interactive and personalized manner. Although scholarly journals have been published electronically, large circulation magazines have not. The trend in these popular magazines towards more specialized content makes their electronic publication particularly attractive. This thesis explores the possibilities for such a publication. A system has been developed which assembles and displays an electronic magazine containing both editorial content and advertisements of specific interest to an individual. Useful methods of interaction with the magazine are provided. The material is presented in a stylized and entertaining manner, in keeping with the nature of popular magazines.

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