Obtaining Library Materials from Outside MIT

- All of the options outlined below take time!! Make sure you plan ahead.

REQUESTING MATERIAL FOR DELIVERY TO MIT

For Books and DVDs . . .

Start with the BLC and BorrowDirect in Worldcat
- The Boston Library Consortium (BLC) includes 18 research libraries in and around Boston
- Borrow Direct includes the Ivy League universities, Johns Hopkins, University of Chicago, and MIT
- With “unmediated borrowing,” you can request items directly from other libraries
- You can request items owned by MIT that someone else checked out
- Use MIT’s Worldcat (http://mit.worldcat.org) for BLC and BorrowDirect

For other analog materials (like CDs and microfilm) . . .
Or if a book is unavailable through BLC/Borrow Direct . . .

Use Interlibrary Borrowing (ILB)
ILB obtains materials not owned by MIT. You’ll be notified when the book or other item you requested is available for pickup.
How to Borrow Through ILB #1: Worldcat
You can make ILB requests through MIT's Worldcat. If you click the “Interlibrary Loan” button, it will open up the ILB request form, already filled out with the item's information.

For Articles . . .

How to Borrow Through (ILB) #2: Article Database + SFX
Articles are usually delivered online as PDFs. You can make ILB requests through article and other databases by clicking the “SFX” link. In the new window that opens, click “Request through Interlibrary Borrowing via ILLiad.” This will open up the request form, already filled out with the article information.

Example: Historical Abstracts Database (http://libraries.mit.edu/get(hist-abs))
For All Kinds of Material . . .

How to Borrow Through ILB #3: ILB Request Form
You can always request items here: http://libraries.mit.edu/ilb (also linked on Libraries’ home page). Select the type of material you want and complete the form.
VISITING OTHER LIBRARIES

I. Harvard Special Borrowers Card

- The special borrowers card lets you borrow books from Harvard's Widener Library and seven other Harvard libraries.
- For more information, see: http://libraries.mit.edu/ordering/non-mit-access/hcl.html

II. Harvard Countway Library of Medicine Card

- This card gives access to Harvard’s Countway Library of Medicine in the Longwood medical area in Boston.
- Faculty, grad students, and research staff are eligible for borrowing privileges; undergrads are eligible for on-site use of materials.
- For more information, see: http://libraries.mit.edu/countway

III. Boston Library Consortium (BLC) Card

- You can get a BLC card at any library service desk. With the card, you can visit other member libraries and check out books.
- For more information, see: http://libraries.mit.edu/ordering/non-mit-access/access.html