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**Dissertation Abstracts vs. RILM  
Pros and Cons**  
*Original prepared fall 1998.*

<b>Dissertation Abstracts</b>	<b>RILM</b>
Abstracts up to date (pro)	Three-year lag in abstracts and subject headings (con), though recent citations are available.
Includes citations back to 1861 (pro).	Only includes citations back to 1969 (con).
Abstracts only go back to 1980 (con), though older ones are available in the print version back to 1861 (pro).	Abstracts go back to 1969 (pro, as long as one does not need to go back further).
Weak subject headings (con), though broad headings are good for searching a broad area (e.g., all music dissertations published in a year at a given place).	Strong subject headings (pro).
Includes Dissertation Abstracts numbers for use when ordering copies or using InterLibrary Loan (pro).	Also includes Dissertation Abstracts numbers (pro).
Can search by institution and advisor (pro).	Can search by institution (pro).
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