

1. General Sources

Encyclopedias

Encyclopedia Judaica, 2nd edition. Detroit: Macmillan/Keter, 2007.

This updated 2007 edition has improved access to Yiddish topics, with increased coverage and YIVO transliteration, but the 1972 edition has more pictures.

Jewish Women in America: an Historical Encyclopedia. 2. New York: Routledge, 1997.

Good coverage of American female Yiddish cultural figures. Full bibliographies.

Hundert, Gershon, ed. *The YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe*. YIVO/Yale University Press (2008). Provides detailed information specific to Yiddish-speakers. For example, an entry on a holiday will only discuss the Eastern European traditions associated with it. Now online: <http://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/>

Online Resources (Open Access)

NYPL online catalog <http://catalog.nypl.org>

Harvard online catalog <http://holliscatalog.harvard.edu>

Library of Congress online catalog <http://catalog.loc.gov/>

YIVO online catalog <http://aleph.cjh.org:81/F%20>

These are the most extensive holdings of Judaica/Yiddica which allow on-line searching. Use keyword searching to find titles of articles inside a book, chapter headings, illustrators, contributors, publishers and place of publication. Many have language limit features so you can see only those books in Yiddish. Some have Hebrew-alphabet searching capabilities. To see what almost every major library in North America holds (for really obscure titles) use <http://www.worldcat.org>

Index to Yiddish Periodicals <http://yiddish-periodicals.huji.ac.il/>

Indexes numerous European Yiddish periodicals from the inter-war period, expanding to include a larger geographic and time spread. It can be searched in Yiddish or English. Not full-text.

RAMBI Index to Articles in Jewish Studies <http://jnul.huji.ac.il/rambi/>

RAMBI is an index to scholarly articles on Jewish topics drawn from a variety of mainly scholarly sources, including chapters in books. Not full-text.

YIVO Encyclopedia of Jews in Eastern Europe. <http://www.yivoencyclopedia.org/>

(See description under "Encyclopedias" above.)

Jewish Women: A Comprehensive Historical Encyclopedia. <http://jwa.org/encyclopedia>

Philadelphia: JPS, 2007. This international encyclopedia of Jewish women, now online, includes coverage of many Yiddish writers and actresses.

Jewish Encyclopedia <http://www.jewishencyclopedia.com>
This ground-breaking 1904 encyclopedia is much stronger on Yiddish than the later *Encyclopedia Judaica* or the more informal online encyclopedias.

Understanding Yiddish Information Processing <http://www.uyip.org>
Everything you need to know to make your computer Yiddish-capable.

Advanced Book Exchange <http://www.abebooks.com>
Best commercial site for used Judaica, including Yiddish titles.

CYCO Books <http://cycobooks.org/>
Online database of used and new Yiddish books for sale.

National Yiddish Book Center <http://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/>
10,000+ Yiddish books online. They will also sell you a used copy or a reprint.

Translators, Speakers, Groups, Events <http://www.derbay.org>

Good links pages
<http://www.klezkamp.org/docs/links.htm>
<http://www.cs.uky.edu/~raphael/yiddish.html>
<http://www.yv.org/#links>

Online Databases (Subscription)

These have to be used at a library, or at home with a library card. If you don't have access to these databases at your library, contact a Judaica library to do a search for you.

Index to Jewish Periodicals
Indexes English-language American Jewish community newspapers and magazines, including some semi-scholarly titles, covering 1988 to the present.

Ethnic Newswatch
Indexes current English-language ethnic community newspapers. You can limit the search to "Jewish" in the Ethnic Group menu. Full-text.

JSTOR
Enormous full-text scholarly database. Most of the journals it covers include the full back run, which means you can search 19th century journals.

MUSE
Selective full-text multi-disciplinary database: covers prominent titles from the mid-1990s on. Useful for finding current, important articles.

ArchiveGrid
Information on nearly half a million archives and manuscripts worldwide.

2. Linguistics

Selective Bibliography of Yiddish Dictionaries

A complete list of Yiddish dictionaries is available at:

<http://www.yivoinstitute.org/library/index.php?tid=46&aid=104>

Groyser Verterbukh fun der Yidisher Shprakh. Nyu York: Komitet farn groysnverterbukh fun der Yidisher shprakh, 1961-

An unfinished dictionary of 4 volumes covering the letter alef. Entirely in Yiddish.

Weinreich, Uriel. *Modern English-Yiddish, Yiddish-English Dictionary*. New York: Yivo/McGraw-Hill, 1968.

The only complete modern Yiddish-English dictionary (i.e. using standard orthography). Besides words, Weinreich includes expressions, irregular plurals, past tenses, gender, feminine form of masculine nouns, and pronunciation for Hebrew and Aramaic root words. For best use, consult the table on p. lx-lxi (on the English side of the dictionary) for abbreviations and symbols.

Harkavy, Alexander. *Yidish-English-Hebreisher Verterbukh / Yiddish-English-Hebrew Dictionary*. Nyu York: Farlag fun dem farfaser, 1925.

Earlier editions of this dictionary are nowhere near as good as those published in the 1920s. While employing inconsistent orthography, many local dialect and non-standard words not in Weinreich can be found in this dictionary.

Niborski, Y. and Neuberger, S. *Verterbukh fun Loshn-Koydesh-Shtamike Verter in Yidish*. Pariz: Medem-bibliotek, 1997.

The most complete dictionary of Hebrew and Aramaic-root words in Yiddish. Gives sample sentences from literature, pronunciation (including dialect variants) and plural forms. Entirely in Yiddish.

Jacobson, Steven A. *A Guide to the More Common Hebraic Words in Yiddish*. 4th ed. Fairbanks, Alaska: S.A. Jacobson, 1995.

For the Hebrew-impaired, the second half of this dictionary is Hebrew and Aramaic-root words in phonetic spelling, allowing you to look up how they are spelled when you have only heard them spoken. Also useful for decoding Soviet Yiddish texts which used phonetic spelling. Out of print but available online.

Stutchkoff, Nahum. *Der Oytser fun der Yidisher Shprakh*. New York: YIVO, 1950.

A monumental thesaurus. For each noun entry, it gives synonyms; verbs related to activities surrounding the noun; expressions and sayings. Arrangement is thematic; the index at the back is of some help locating specific words. Entirely in Yiddish.

Weisbrot, Berl; Niborski, Yitskhok and Noyberg, Shimen. *Yidish-Frantseyzish yerterbukh = Dictionnaire Yiddish-Français*. Pariz : Medem-Bibliotek, 2002.

Comprehensive modern dictionary, worth using (with additional dictionaries) even for non-French-speakers.

Electronic Dictionaries

Harkavy Dictionary <http://www.cs.uky.edu/~raphael/yiddish/harkavy/index.utf8.html>

This is the 1910 Harkavy dictionary due to copyright restrictions. While not as good as the later editions, it is the only complete dictionary available online.

YIVO-standard Transliterated Dictionary <http://www.yiddishdictionaryonline.com/>

This project is only just underway. Once there are more words in it, it will be phenomenol. Check back regularly to see its improvements.

Downloadable Dictionary <http://www.tichnut.de/jewish/yiddishdictionary.html>

Suitable for Windows/Palm/Linux operating systems.

Di gevishkn-velt in Yidish (Plant names in Yiddish) <http://www.yivoinstitute.org/botanik/>

Yiddish-English botanical dictionary compiled by the late Dr. Mordkhe Schaechter. Now online with a new Yiddish-English-Latin index.

Word Lists by Topic <http://www.derbay.org/words/index.html>

These can be helpful if you're reading a text with many references to a particular kind of thing, e.g. foodstuffs or plants.

Reference Books

Bratkowsky, Joan. *Yiddish Linguistics: a Multilingual Bibliography*. New York: Garland Pub., 1988.

The Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry. Tubingen: Max Niemeyer ; New York: Yivo Institute for Jewish Research, 1992-

Kumove, Shirley. *Words Like Arrows: a collection of Yiddish folk sayings*. Toronto ; Buffalo: University of Toronto Press, c1984.

--. *More Words, More Arrows*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, c1999.

Sayings in Yiddish and transliterated Yiddish, with English translation.

Guri, Iosif. *Klug vi Shloymeh ha-Meylekh: 500 Yidishe folksfarglaykhn fartaytsht oyf Hebreish, English un Rusish*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University, 1999.

--. *Vi Kumt di Kats Ibern Vaser?: toyznt Yidishe idiomen fartaytsht oyf Hebreish, English un Rusish*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University, 1997.

--. *Vos Darft ir Mer?: 2000 Yidishe bilderishe oysdrukn fartaytsht oyf Hebreish, English, un Rusish*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University, 2002.

--. *Oyfn Shpits Tsung: 500 Yidishe shprikhverter*. Jerusalem: Hebrew University, 2006.

These books give Yiddish expressions, sayings and idioms with idiomatic equivalents in English, Russian and Hebrew. They are not direct translations and do not help you understand each word of a saying, but its overall meaning and usage.

Bernshteyn, Ignats. *Yidishe Shprikhverter*. New York: Alveltlekher Yidisher Kultur-Kongres, 1983.

In Yiddish and organized alphabetically by keyword, this work does not explain all the sayings it lists, only the most abstruse ones. Quotations from Jewish texts show how the sayings were used in context.

Online Resources (Open Access)

Jewish Languages Home Page www.jewish-languages.org

Basic information on all Jewish languages.

Sound Archives of the Language and Culture of Ashkenazic Jewry

<http://www.eydes.org/eydes.htm> or

<http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/projects/digital/lcaaj/>

Gathered to provide source material for the *Language and Culture Atlas of Ashkenazic Jewry*, the sound clips mounted on these pages allow you to listen to native speakers from different regions.

YIVO Transliteration http://www.yivo.org/yiddish/alefbeyts_fr.htm

This helps you use any resource that uses standardized transliteration.

Library of Congress Transliteration

<http://www.loc.gov/catdir/cpsa/romanization/hebrew.pdf>

A slight variant on YIVO transliteration (so that it is consistent with library practice), it allows you to understand how to search library catalogs in the roman alphabet and find Yiddish (or Hebrew) texts.

Online Databases (Subscription)

MLA Bibliography

To use this database for linguistics, include the word “language” in your search (e.g. “Yiddish language and plural” brings up five hits for articles about Yiddish plural formation). Some articles are full-text, most citations. Note: scholarly Yiddish-language journals are indexed here, but not in their full run. *Yidishe Shprakh* is indexed for the 1960s and 70s; also *Afn Shvel*, *Yidishe Kultur*, *Sovetish Heymland*, *YIVO Bleter*, *Goldene Keyt*, and *Undzer Tsayt*.

Linguistics and Language Behavior Abstracts

Much more complete coverage of the field of linguistics than MLA, but does not include Yiddish-language journals and no full-text.

3. History, Geography and Biography

Reference Books

Universal Jewish Encyclopedia. Eds. Isaac Landman et al. New York: Universal Jewish Encyclopedia, 1939-1943. (10 volumes)

This encyclopedia specialized in biography. Many individuals not included in the *Encyclopedia Judaica* are listed here.

Cohn-Sherbok, Dan. *An Atlas of Jewish History*. New York: Routledge, 1994.

Magocsi, Paul R. *Historical Atlas of East Central Europe*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1993.

Mokotoff, Gary, et al. *Where Once We Walked*. 2nd edition. Bergenfield, NJ: Avotaynu, 2002.

An index of shtetlekh throughout Eastern Europe, with cross-references by variant names and spellings. Gives exact latitude and longitude and Jewish population in last pre-War census.

Beider, Alexander. *A Dictionary of Ashkenazic Given Names: Their Origins, Structure, Pronunciation, and Migrations*. Bergenfield, N.J.: Avotaynu, 2001.

--. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from Galicia*. Teaneck, NJ: Avotaynu, 2004.

--. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Kingdom of Poland*. Teaneck, NJ : Avotaynu, 1996.

--. *A Dictionary of Jewish Surnames from the Russian Empire*. Teaneck, NJ : Avotaynu, 1993.

These books give etymologies of names, variants, lists places they were commonly found. Given name dictionary also lists variant pronunciations and gives short summary of name history.

Mohrer, Fruma and Web, Marek. *Guide to the YIVO Archives*. Armonk, NY: M. E. Sharpe, 1998.

Although more archives have been added since this appeared, it is a good starting place to find out if someone's papers are at YIVO.

Online Resources (Open Access)

Jewish Genealogy <http://www.jewishgen.org>

Locate a shtetl, a family name, or a book about a place. Includes some translations of yizkor books and a listing of others, as well as numerous databases and regional special interest groups (SIG's).

Yad Vashem Database

http://www.yadvashem.org/lwp/workplace/TY_HON>Welcome

Central repository, which anyone can add to, of names and information on those who died in the Holocaust.

Yizkor Books Online

http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/jws/yizkorbooks_intro.cfm

Look through 650 yizkor (Holocaust memorial) books. Each book, written by survivors, looks at a town or a region. Many individuals and organizations are named, and there are pictures, maps, and other visual aids.

Yiddishland: Countries, Cities, Towns, Rivers

<http://yivo.org/publications/index.php?tid=170&aid=667>

A gazetteer of Yiddish place names of Central and Eastern Europe, including a detailed index. Compiled by Dr. Paul Glasser of YIVO.

Ellis Island, Catsle Garden <http://www.ellisland.org> <http://castlegarden.org/>

Search databases of New York boat-docking records from Castle Garden (1820-1892) and Ellis Island (1892-1924) for information on passengers.

CJH Holocaust Resources <http://www.holocaustresources.cjh.org>

An annotated bibliography of materials held in New York's Center for Jewish History (includes YIVO and other organizations). Included are almost 3,000 individuals' names, over 300 organizational names, and close to 700 locations (countries, cities, towns) with alternate languages and spellings.

Jewish Women's Archive <http://www.jwa.org/archive/jsp/search.jsp>

While this resource is about Jewish women generally, you will find many Yiddish figures, such as actors and writers, included.

Yiddish Sources <http://yiddish-sources.com/>

Find includes international sources for research, study and events on this site maintained by Gerben Zaagsma of the European University Institute.

David Shneer's History of Yiddish Culture

<https://portfolio.du.edu/pc/port?page=3&uid=9045>

Access useful readings and links from Professor David Shneer's Introduction to Yiddish Culture course at the University of Denver.

Online Databases (Subscription)*America: History and Life*

Good coverage of U.S. and Canadian history journals and books. Virtually all Jewish topics covered. Not full-text.

Historical Abstracts

This covers the rest of the world. Not full-text. If your library has a subscription to both *America: History and Life* and *Historical Abstracts*, you can search both at once by entering either.

Central and Eastern European Online Library (www.ceeol.com)

This article index allows free searching even if your library does not subscribe to the full content database. You can then use the citation to get the article in print from your library, or can pay a small fee to get the article immediately online.

4. Literature and Folklore**Reference Books**

Leksikon fun der Nayer Yidisher Literatur. Eds. Sh. Niger and Yaakov Shatski.

Nyu-York: Alveltlekhn Yidishn Kultur-Kongres, 1956-1981. (8 volumes)

The most complete of the biographical dictionaries of Yiddish writers. Note that some authors refused to be included and are not listed. Arrangement is alphabetical; information is only moderately reliable.

Kagan, Berl. *Leksikon fun Yidish-Shraybers: mit hesofes un tikunim tsum Leksikon fun der Nayer Yidisher Literatur, un 5,800 psevdonimen*. Nyu-York: R. Ilman-Kohen, 1986. Online at: <http://www.archive.org/details/nybc213586>

No entry is given if there was nothing to add to the *Leksikon* entry, but it is always worth checking because Kagan corrected errors in the *Leksikon*, added writers left out or refusing to be included, and updated death dates and publications. Organized alphabetically, with an appendix of late additions and a separate list of pseudonyms.

Rejzen, Zalman. *Leksikon fun der Yidisher Literatur, Prese un Filologye*. Vilna: 1928-1930. (4 volumes).

--. *Leksikon fun der Yudisher Literatur un Prese*. Varshoy: Tsentral, 674 [1914].

Earlier versions of the *Leksikon* which are sometimes more accurate or complete than their successor. Both online at:

<http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=rejzen%20leksikon%20AND%20mediatype%3Atexts>

Prager, Leonard. *Yiddish Culture in Britain*. Frankfurt am Main: Peter Lang, 1990.

Bibliography of British writers, groups, periodicals, and other cultural manifestations.

Fox, Chaim Leib. *100 Yor Yidische un Hebreishe Literatur in Kanade*. Montreal, 1980.

--. *Cent Ans de Litterature Yiddish et Hebraique au Canada*. trans. Pierre Ancil. Sillery, Quebec: Septentrion, 2005.

Covers Canadian writers thoroughly. The French translation also updated and corrected the original.

- Schulman, Elias. *Leksikon fun Forverts-shrayber: zint 1897*. New York: Forward Association [1987]. Provides bio-bibliographic information about editors and contributors to the *Forverts*, the largest-circulation Yiddish daily paper (now weekly) since 1897 in New York.
- Prager, Leonard. *Yiddish Literary and Linguistic Periodicals and Miscellanies*. Darby, PA: ASJL/Norwood Editions, 1982
This work describes several thousand Yiddish journals, magazines and newspapers, giving years of publication, editors, sample contributors.
- Jeshurin, Ephim. *100 Yor Moderne Yidishe Literatur*. Nyu-York: Arbeter-ring, 1965.
The table of contents at the **back** of the book has thematic entries on topics in literature and education. Listings are given for Yiddish articles and articles in other languages.
- Dictionary of Literary Biography*, volume 333: Writers in Yiddish. (Detroit: Brucoli Clark Layman, 2007)
The first English-language biographical dictionary of Yiddish writers. It is highly selective with only a few dozen writers represented, but all entries are long and include primary bibliographies (writings by the author listed) and secondary bibliographies (books and articles about the author).
- Singerman, Robert. *Jewish Translation History: a Bibliography of Bibliographies and Studies*. Amsterdam ; Philadelphia, Pa.: John Benjamins Pub., 2002.
Not a list of translations but a bibliography to facilitate study of translation practice. Chapter 7 gives translations to and from Yiddish.
- Weinreich, Uriel and Beatrice. *Yiddish Language and Folklore: a Selective Bibliography*. Gravenhage: Mouton, 1959.
- Weinreich, Beatrice, ed. *Yiddish Folktales*. Trans. Leonard Wolf. New York: Pantheon Books/YIVO, 1988.
Folktales arranged thematically; includes a bibliography, glossary of Yiddish words, and scholarly introduction.
- Nigal, Gedalyah. *Leksikon ha-Sipur ha-Hasidi*. Jerusalem: ha-Makhon le-heker ha-sifrut ha-hasidit, 765/2005.
Comprehensive Hebrew-language encyclopedia of Hasidic literature, authors, characters, tales, ritual concepts, places, and works.
- Yassif, Eli. *Jewish Folklore: an Annotated Bibliography*. New York: Garland, 1986.
- Elswit, Sharon. *The Jewish Story Finder: A Guide to 363 Tales, Listing Subjects and Sources*. Jefferson, North Carolina: McFarland and Company, 2005.
Folktales are listed by theme. Each story is summarized, variant versions noted, and detailed bibliography given. A story title index allows another way to search.

Online Resources (Open Access)

National Yiddish Book Center - Stephen Spielberg Digital Yiddish Library

<http://www.archive.org/details/nationalyiddishbookcenter>

10,000+ Yiddish books from the National Yiddish Book Center are online and downloadable through the Internet Archive.

Old Yiddish literature <http://www.literatur-des-judentums.de>

About 800 16th to early 20th century books, all of them full page image. There is a text search feature but it's not exact. Allows browsing by author, title, and other fields, as well as detailed searching capabilities.

Yiddish texts <http://www.cs.uky.edu/~raphael/yiddish.html>

These are in PDF or unicode-compliant formats. Many can be read on palm pilots. They are not usually full books but stories, poems, and other short items. Great for learners, reading groups or classes.

Yiddish Literature Collection

<http://www.polona.pl/dlibra/collectiondescription2?dirids=31>

Read 221 pre-WW II Yiddish works, with brief biographies of major authors.

Sholem Aleichem index <http://yiddish.haifa.ac.il/SholAley/FridIntro.htm>

This is best used printed out rather than on the web. You can look up a story by Yiddish title to find out if it's been translated; or by English title to find out its original title and publication details. Full details of all Yiddish and English publications of Sholem Aleichem stories are given.

Yiddish Poetry <http://yiddishpoetry.org/>

Features Yiddish poetry, with translations in English, French, Polish and Hebrew, edited by Andrew Firestone. Sections include "Anthology of Yiddish Poetry in Poland Between the two World Wars, 1918-1939"; The Birstein Project (Polish-Australian Yiddish poet Yosl Birstein), The Yisroel Shtern Project (Warsaw Yiddish poet Yisroel Shtern), and Contemporary Yiddish Poetry.

Zagorin, Neil. *The Noah Cotsen Library of Yiddish Children's Literature.*

Downloadable from http://yiddishbookcenter.org/pdf/NYBC_cotsen_catalog.pdf

An annotated bibliography of hundreds of children's books in Yiddish.

Baker, Zachary. *Essential Yiddish Books.*

Downloadable from <http://www.yiddishbookcenter.org/+10310>

A "core collection" guideline to the 1,000 most important Yiddish books which are currently readily available to buy from the National Yiddish Book Center.

Online Databases (Subscription)

MLA Bibliography

Covers literature and folklore, including the only Jewish folklore journal (*Jewish Folklore and Ethnology Review*). Some articles are full-text, most citations.

Note: scholarly Yiddish-language journals are indexed here, but not in their full run. *Yidishe Shprakh* is indexed for the 1960s and 70s; also some years of *Afn Shvel*, *Yidishe Kultur*, *Sovetish Heymland*, *YIVO Bleter*, *Goldene Keyt*, and *Undzer Tsayt*.

Other

Ephim Jeshurin card index (YIVO)

This work of a single mad indexer is a list of works about an author. For each Yiddish author, a series of cards notes where that person's work was reviewed or mentioned in the Yiddish press, or where biographical or interview material was published. So extensive that at times he notes small mentions that are not worth pursuing; otherwise it is an extraordinary resource. This card file is in a closed area at YIVO. Ask an archivist at YIVO to make you copies of the cards you need (there is a charge for this service), or promise to be very careful replacing the cards in order and they might let you use them yourself.

5. Performing Arts (Theater, Music, Dance and Film)

Reference Books

Zylbercweig, Zalmen. *Leksikon fun Yidishn Teater*. Nyu York: Farlag "Elisheva", 1931-1969. (6 volumes).

Available online at: <http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=zylbercweig>

Jones, Faith. *Leksikon fun Yidishn Teater: Index*. New York: Dorot Jewish Division, The New York Public Library, 2001. Available for free download at:

<http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/jws/leksikonindex.html>

This encyclopedia is the first stop for Yiddish theatre research. There are entries on individuals, theatrical companies, movements, and unions. Because organization varies among the volumes, access is best facilitated through the freestanding index on the New York Public Library's web site.

Mestel, Jacob. *70 Yor Teater-Repertuar: Tsu der Geshikhte fun Yidishn Teater in Amerike*. Nyu York: Ikuf farlag, 1954.

--. *Undzer Teater*. Nyu-York: Shrayber-sektsye baym Ikuf, 1943.

Search indices for play titles and authors; they guide you to the text where you can find out date of first production, stars, and sometimes other production history.

Online at: <http://www.archive.org/search.php?query=mestel%20jacob>

- Mlotek, Chana and Joseph. *Mir Trogn a Gezang!* 4th edition. New York: Workmen's Circle, 2000.
- . *Songs of Generations*. New York: Workmen's Circle, 1997.
- . *Pearls of Yiddish Song*. New York: Workmen's Circle, 1988.
- Combined index for all three books is in *Mir Trogn a Gezang!*; also available at: <http://www.derbay.org/a-k.html> and <http://www.derbay.org/a-l-z.html>
- Arranged thematically, so you can find songs on topics. These books give YIVO-standard transliterations for lyrics. Many of the songs are poems by literary authors set to music, which means these books are the *only* source for transliterated Yiddish poetry using a standard transliteration.
- . *Pearls of Yiddish Poetry*. Jersey City: KTAV Publishing, 2010. By Joseph and Chana Mlotek, ed. Mark Mlotek, translated by Barnett Zumoff.:
- Read English translations of Yiddish articles from the column "Perl fun der yidisher poezye" in the Forverts. Each article includes an author biography and text(s) in the original Yiddish and in English translation.
- Vinkovetsky, A. et al. *Anthology of Yiddish Folk Songs*. Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1983 - . 6 volumes. In Yiddish, Hebrew and English, with songs divided thematically, including volumes devoted to individual authors Mordecai Gebirtig, Mark Warshawsky and Itzik Manger.
- Heskes, Irene. *Yiddish American Popular Songs, 1895-1950*. Washington: Library of Congress, 1992.
- Yiddish sheet music deposited for copyright purposes at the Library of Congress is listed here. Full details are given and cover art is described for exact identification. Some inconsistencies in transliteration and some dubious composer/lyricist attributions; nonetheless it is very useful in tracking down American Yiddish songs.

Online Resources (Open Access)

- Yiddish Dance Home Page* <http://www.yiddishdance.com>
- One of the least-researched and least-documented areas of Yiddish culture, dance has only one resource and this is it. Note bibliography and online collection of dance descriptions.
- All About Jewish Theatre* <http://www.jewish-theatre.com>
- Collates web articles and information on Jewish theatre in all languages.
- Selected Yiddish plays in the Library of Congress, full-image <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/vshtml/vsyid.html>
- 77 full Yiddish plays, full-image. They are manuscripts and hard to read, but each page image links to a high-resolution TIFF for better decipherment.

Index to Yiddish plays in Jewish Division, New York Public Library (Faith Jones)

<http://www.nypl.org/research/chss/jws/yiddishplays.cfm>

Index to Yiddish plays in the American Jewish Archives (Leonard Prager)

Part One <http://shakti.trincoll.edu/~mendele/ytf/ytf02002.htm>

Part Two <http://shakti.trincoll.edu/~mendele/ytf/ytf02003.htm>

Index to Yiddish plays in the Library of Congress (Zachary Baker)

<http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/marwick/marwickbibliography.pdf>

Use these indices to find play manuscripts, since most Yiddish plays were never published.

NYPL Digital Gallery

<http://digitalgallery.nypl.org>

Type in the words “Yiddish theater” (American spelling) to see about a hundred New York and Buenos Aires Yiddish theatre posters from the 1910s to 1930s.

Jewish Music Web Center

<http://www.jmwc.org/>

Created by Brandeis librarian Judy Pinnolis, this comprehensive site includes bibliographies, reviews, links, and much more.

Internet Movie Database

<http://www.imdb.com>

Internet Broadway Database

<http://www.ibdb.com>

Locate Yiddish actors and films, often with detailed biographies, and, in the case of IMDB, accurate spellings of Yiddish and Eastern-European names and places.

Film Literature Index

<http://webapp1.dlib.indiana.edu/fli/index.jsp>

Scholarly index (no full-text) of film criticism and theory 1976-2001. More recent criticism is in subscription databases (p. 14).

Zemerl: Jewish song database

<http://www.zemerl.com>

Full lyrics of many songs; some sound clips. Buyer beware: many weird transcriptions and mistakes, as this is a volunteer database to which anyone can contribute. Use the Mlotek books for preference and this as a backup.

Judaica Sound Archives

<http://faujsa.fau.edu/jsa/home.php>

Listen to hundreds of albums and songs from the Judaica sound archives at Florida Atlantic University. Search or browse by artist, title or genre. Some errors in attribution (songs with known composers/lyricists listed as folk songs) so use Mlotek or Heskes books to confirm data.

Yiddish Song of the Week

<http://yiddishsong.wordpress.com/>

Listen to field recordings of Yiddish songs, presented with texts and detailed notes by researchers and edited by Dr. Itzik Gottesman. Sponsored by the An-Sky Jewish Folklore Research Project, part of the Center for Traditional Music and Dance’s *An-sky Institute for Jewish Culture*.

Catalog of Recorded Jewish Music

<http://sceti.library.upenn.edu/freedman/>

Allows you to search for recordings and printed music for songs.

Yiddish Sheet Music <http://dl.lib.brown.edu/sheetmusic/yiddish/>
Brown University's smallish collection of Yiddish sheet music is online full-text. Searching is available in transliteration; browsing can be done by creator (lyricist/composer/singer), title, or cover art.

Klezmer Shack <http://www.klezmershack.com/>
Calendar, band listings, musician contact information

Save the Music – Jewish Music Archive <http://savethemusic.com/>
Search and browse musical and spoken-word recordings, in Yiddish, Hebrew, Ladino, French, and English. Enjoy the content, but beware: information and organization is often incorrect, inconsistent and/or incomplete.

Der Yidisher Gramofon <http://www.yidisher-gramofon.org/>
This site, created by Michael Aylward, provides updates to his ongoing *Discography of Early European Recordings of Jewish Music*, and articles about Jewish music recorded commercially in Europe.

Online Databases (Subscription)

International Index for the Performing Arts
Coverage begins in 1864. Indexes major English-language journals and magazines in all areas of entertainment and the performing arts. Recent articles are full-text.

International Bibliography of Theatre and Dance
Index (some full-text) of current periodicals (1980-present) including entertainment industry publications (such as *Playbill*) and some scholarly journals.

New York Times 1851-2003
Another surprising source: the *Times* covered Yiddish theatre fairly extensively in the 1920s and 30s. This database is full-text. If your library does not subscribe to it, search for article citations web site (<http://www.nytimes.com>) then find the article itself on microfilm in the library, to avoid paying the *Times*' fee of \$5 per article.

RILM: Abstracts of Music Literature

RILM is a continuously updated bibliography of music literature with broad international coverage in over 202 languages from 3,700 journals, including hundreds of articles on Jewish and Yiddish music.

Other

YIVO Sound Archives – Blog at: <http://yivosounds.com/>
Make an appointment to listen to recordings of music and spoken word, including ethnographic recordings. Transfers can be made for a fee. A few sample sound files are online at <http://www.yivo.institute.org/library/index.php?tid=45&aid=191>

6. Research Guide: How to Use Everyday Books for Deep Research

These examples show you how you can find reference sources such as bibliographies, glossaries, citations and other useful material in everyday books.

Use scholarly editions of individual authors' works to find overview (introduction), bibliography and biography. Use notes to translations as a resource for studying translation issues. Use bilingual editions as teaching or self-instruction tools.

Weinreich, Uriel. *College Yiddish*. (numerous editions)

Use the synopsis of Yiddish grammar at the back for quick reminders. Use the "Supplementary Readings" section (which includes glossaries for hard vocabulary) to improve your reading skills, or provide reading materials for a learners' group.

Sapoznik, Henry. *Klezmer!: Jewish music from old world to our world*. New York: Schirmer Books, c1999.

Use glossary at the back when you come across a musical term you don't know. Use bibliography to find further readings on traditional Yiddish dance music.

Howe, Irving and Eliezer Greenberg, eds. *A Treasury of Yiddish Stories*. New York: Viking, 1989.

Use scholarly introduction and short biographical note on individual authors to get a quick overview of how each author fits in the Yiddish literary tradition.

Forman, Frieda, et al, eds. *Found Treasures: Stories by Yiddish women writers*. Toronto: Second Story Press, 1994.

Use this book to get information about the women Howe and Greenberg omitted. Includes extensive glossary, scholarly introduction with bibliography, biographical notes on authors and original publication information.

Harshav, Benjamin and Barbara, eds. *American Yiddish Poetry*. Berkeley: University of California, 1986.

Use extensive indices (translations of most important documents of the *inzykhist* literary movement) rather than hunting them down in Yiddish in their original periodical publications. Use introduction to put them in context. (Note: this is another all-male anthology. A book with better gender balance that still has plenty of study resources is *ProletPen*, an anthology of poets of the political left).

Kreitman, Esther. *Deborah*. New York: Feminist Press (CUNY), 2004. Trans. Maurice Carr; afterword Anita Norich.

Manger, Itzik. *The World According to Itzik*. Trans. and ed. Leonard Wolf; introduction David G. Roskies and Leonard Wolf. New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002.

Molodowsky, Kadya. *Paper Bridges*. Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1999. Trans. Kathryn Hellerstein.

Peretz, Isaac Leib [Yitskhok Leyb]. *Selected stories: bilingual edition*. Translation and introduction, Ei Katz ; [selected and edited, Itche Goldberg and Eli Katz]. New York : Zhitlowky Foundation for Jewish Culture, 1991.

Sholem Aleichem. *The Letters of Menakhem-Mendl and Sheyne-Sheyndl; Motl, the Cantor's Son*. Trans. and introduction Hillel Halkin. New Haven: Yale University Press, c2002.

Tregebov, Rhea. *Arguing with the Storm: Stories by Yiddish Women Writers*. New York : Feminist Press, 2008. With introduction by Kathryn Hellerstein and bibliography.

7. Research Guide: Specialized Reference Sources and How to Find Them

Guides to specialized reference books

Brisman, Shimeon. *A History and Guide to Judaic Bibliography*. Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College Press, 1977.

--. *A History and Guide to Judaic Encyclopedias and Lexicons*. Cincinnati: Hebrew Union College Press, 1987.

--. *History and Guide to Judaic Dictionaries and Concordances*. Hoboken, NJ: KTAV Pub. House, 2000.

Cutter, Charles. *Judaica Reference Sources: a selective, annotated bibliographic guide*. 3rd ed. Westport, CT: Libraries Unlimited, 2004.

Shunami, Shlomo. *Bibliography of Jewish Bibliographies*. 2nd edition. Jerusalem: Magnes Press, 1965. *Supplement*. Jerusalem, Magnes Press, 1975.

8. Finding a source in a library catalog

If you were researching the Yiddish secular school system in America, you'd be delighted to find Norman Drachler's *Bibliography of Jewish Education in the United States*. But how can you find out there is such a resource on your topic? In a large online catalog, do a keyword search for your topic and a kind of reference work. For example the keywords "Soviet Jews bibliographies" will retrieve *Soviet Jewish History, 1917-1991: an Annotated Bibliography*.

Note that in some library catalogs, you need to put the word "and" between search terms ("Soviet and Jews and bibliographies"). Also, most catalogs mention the kind of reference work in the plural (e.g. bibliographies) but some catalogs will put that term in the singular (e.g. bibliography). Finally, you may need to repeat your search using the words "Jews," "Jewish," and Yiddish."

Some kinds of reference books you might want to use in a keyword search are:

- handbooks
- guides
- bibliographies
- encyclopedias (or encyclopaedias)
- indexes (or indices)
- concordances
- dictionaries
- atlases
- catalogs (or catalogues)

One kind of Yiddish reference work which is very strong is the biographical dictionary. In addition to those listed in the preceding bibliography, there are also biographical dictionaries of Jews in particular places (e.g. *Leksikon fun Yidishe Gezelshaftlekhe Tuer in Argentine*). Some yizkor books (Holocaust memorial books) include biographical entries on notable people from that place (e.g. *Khurbn Vilne*). There is even a yizkor book which is entirely a biographical dictionary: the *Lerer Yisker-Bukh*, which provides full details on anyone who taught in the Tsisho schools in Poland, among them many cultural figures. To find these books you should add the place name to your search, consult a listing of yizkor books (see JewishGen, p. 6), or browse the Brisman volumes above.

9. Judaica Libraries with Large Yiddish Collections

These libraries provide reference services in person or by email, phone or letter.

YIVO Library and Archives

15 West 16th Street, New York, NY, 10011-6301

Reading room hours: Monday-Thursday 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Extended hours (Library only)

Monday 9:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Phone: library (212) 246-6080 (ext. 5102); archives (212) 246-6080 (ext. 6124)

Email: archives@yivo.cjh.org Web site: <http://www.yivo.org/library/index.php>

Catalogue: <http://opac.cjh.org:8991/F>

Dorot Jewish Division, The New York Public Library

Room 111, 40th Street and Fifth Avenue, New York, NY, 10012

Reading room hours: Monday, Thursday-Saturday, 10:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday-Wednesday, 11:00 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Phone: (212) 930-0601

Email: freidus@nypl.org Web site: <http://www.nypl.org/locations/schwarzman/jewish-division>

Catalogue: <http://catalog.nypl.org>

Hebraic Section, Library of Congress

101 Independence Ave. SE, Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ 220,

Washington, D.C. 20540-4660

Reading room hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone: (202) 707-5422

Email: hebraicsection@loc.gov Web site: <http://www.loc.gov/rr/amed/hs/hshome.html>

Catalogue: <http://catalog.loc.gov>

Bibliothèque Medem

18, passage Saint-Pierre Amelot 75011 PARIS

Reading room hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, 2:00 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Saturday, 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Phone: +33 (01) 47 00 14 00

Email: medem@yiddishweb.com

Web site: <http://www.yiddishweb.com/medem/>

Catalogue: <http://www.rachelnet.net>

Jewish Public Library, Montreal

1, carré Cummings Square (5151 Côte Ste-Catherine) Montréal, Quebec H3W 1M6

Reading room hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Friday: 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sunday*: 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. * closed July and August

Phone: (514) 345-2627

Email: info@jplmontreal.org

Web site: <http://www.jewishpubliclibrary.org>

Catalogue: <http://catalog.jewishpubliclibrary.org/cgi-bin/gw/chameleon>

