

Category Ideas

Here are some ideas for what to put in the columns. You can select subgenres, formats, fun made-up categories. Don't limit yourself. This is your challenge to push *your* boundaries and needs to be personal to your tastes. Have a good time with it!

Genres/Subgenres:

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Romance

- Contemporary
- Erotic
- Dark
- Romantic suspense
- Paranormal/Urban Fantasy
- Historical
- Romantic Comedy
- Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Speculative
- Dystopian
- Mystery
- Inspirational/Christian
- LGBTQ
- Gothic
- Old School/Retro (Romance from 70s-90s)

Young Adult

- Romance
- Contemporary
- Suspense/Thriller
- Horror
- Paranormal/Urban Fantasy
- Historical
- Romantic Comedy
- Sci-Fi/Fantasy/Speculative
- Dystopian

- Mystery
- Inspirational/Christian
- LGBTQ
- Old School/Retro (YA from the 70s-90s)

Genre Fiction:

Contemporary
Women's Fiction
Suspense
Mystery
Cozy Mystery
Hard-Boiled Detective/Noir
Horror
Gothic
Paranormal
Urban Fantasy
High Fantasy
Dystopian
Sci-Fi/Speculative
Graphic Novel/Comic
Steampunk
Historical fiction
Action/Adventure
Erotica
Time Travel
Middle Grade (and all its subgenres)
Picture Book
Inspirational/Religious

Non-Fiction:

Memoir/Biography
True Crime
Humor
Travel
Self-Improvement
Business
Productivity
Home
Health
Cookbook/Food
On Writing (or whatever your field is)
Entertainment (about music, movies, tv, celebrity memoirs, etc.)
Science
History
Politics
Essay Collection
Parenting
Social Issues

General Fiction:

Literary Fiction
Classics
Book Club Fiction
Short Stories
Contemporary
Historical
Family Saga

Diverse Reads:

Book by POC Author
POC Main Character
Book by LGBTQ Author
LGBTQ Main Character
Book with characters whose religion is different from yours
Book in translation
Book by an author from another country
Book with a neurodiverse character

Format:

Short Story
Anthology
Doorstop (500+ pages)
Novella
Serial
Audiobook
Translated
Trilogy
Ebook
Hardcover
Paperback
Library Book
Indie Published
Small Press
Traditionally Published

Creative Categories:

Made Into A Movie or TV Show
Award-Winning
Banned Book
Re-read From Childhood
Debut Author

First in Series
Book From Your Birth Year
Loved By Others
Second Chance on a DNF (did not finish)
Road Trip Story
Set Outside of the U.S./UK/Canada
Book That Intimidates You
Written By the Opposite Sex
Retro Read (published before a certain year)
Three in a Row of a Series
Book You Should've Read in School
Favorite Author You Haven't Read Lately
Legendary Author I've Never Read
Book I've Owned for 3+ Years
Book Club Pick/Book of the Month Club selection
Podcast Recommendation
Recommendation from a Friend
Recommendation from a Book Blogger/Bookstagrammer/BookTube
Recommendation from Another Author
Book I Bought for the Cover
Airport Book
Huge Bestseller
Book about Books
Book about Food
Book about TV or Movies
Beach Read
Book That Made Me Cry
Book that Made Me Laugh
Classic of a genre
Found at the Used Bookstore
Book I Received as a Gift
Holiday-themed
Book by a Local Author