

Accessible

Once we have found the right data, we need appropriate rights to access the data.



Accessible according FAIR

Once the user finds the required data, she/he needs to know how can they be accessed, possibly including authentication and authorisation.

A1. (Meta)data are retrievable by their identifier using a standardised communications protocol

A1.1 The protocol is open, free, and universally implementable

A1.2 The protocol allows for an authentication and authorisation procedure, where necessary

A2. Metadata are accessible, even when the data are no longer available

What Are the Different Types of Metadata?

Metadata helps narrow your search down using descriptors that identify the above image. First, the date the photo was taken and author are noted. This date gives you a good base of where to begin your search for the above image. Next, some keywords such as grizzly, forest and bear might be attached to the image. These are its metadata. Using a combination of the metadata keywords, you'll be able to find the above exact image.

The three main types of metadata are descriptive, structural and administrative. We'll give a rundown of each one and explain their importance.

1. Structural

Structural metadata refers to how data is formatted and assembled. Think of it like a table of contents in a book. It explains how data relates to one another. An example of structural metadata would be if JK Rowling included notes in *Harry Potter* indicating it would be only the first version of many more books to come.



Structural metadata is how data is built.

2. Descriptive

Descriptive metadata is how data is identified. This includes things such as a title, date or keywords. An example of descriptive metadata would be if an audio file was stored in a computer, the run time of the audio would be descriptive metadata.

3. Administrative

Administrative metadata gives important instructions about a file. It informs what type of restrictions are to be placed on the file, such as who can access it or not. An example of administrative metadata would be a business file that is identified as a specific file type.