

Site:

Currently, the database contains many, but not all, of the find sites in the Judean Desert.

DJD Edition:

References to the volume and pages of the publication in DJD.

Other Edition:

References to primary publications outside of DJD or other sources used for data collection. Note that this is not an exhaustive list, but sources consulted for this database.

Photo URL:

Links to the *Leon Levy Dead Sea Scrolls Digital Library* pages that correspond to each manuscript.

Language:

The primary language of the manuscript.

Script:

The primary script of the manuscript, the options are Paleo-Hebrew, Square Script, Cryptic, Greek, and Arabic.

Period:

The dating of the manuscript is structured according to periods:

Early Hellenistic: Signifies the period prior to the Hasmonean period, i.e. before c. 175 BCE. Previously called *archaic*.

Hellenistic-Roman: Signifies manuscripts that are not paleographically dated but fit within the broader period represented by the other manuscripts. Thus, sometime between 200 BCE and 100 CE. This is a catch-all for undated manuscripts.

Transitional: Signifies a date between the Hasmonean and Herodian periods, often given by editors who see features of both periods. Ca. 30 BCE – 30 CE, but sometimes somewhat more broadly defined.

Hasmonean: 175 – 30 BCE

Herodian: 30 BCE – 70 CE

Roman: 70 CE and later

Editor Dating:

The specific dating of the manuscript according to the editor of the manuscript.

Category:

Hebrew Bible: Includes the books found in the traditional Hebrew canon.

Apocrypha: Texts found among the *Apocryphal* or *Deuterocanonical* books included in some Christian traditions. The only texts included here are *Tobit*, *Sirach* (*Ben Sira*), and the *Epistle of Jeremiah*.

Pseudepigrapha: Includes ancient texts found outside the Hebrew canon that are known from Antiquity, but not included in the traditional *Apocrypha*. These include *Jubilees*, *1 Enoch*, and *The Testaments of the 12 Patriarchs*.

Qumran: Includes texts known from Qumran. For now, this is limited to the most well-known and widely attested texts: *Community Rule*, *Hodayot*, *War Scroll*, *Temple Scroll*, *Damascus Document*, *Song of the Sabbath Sacrifice*, and *Reworked Pentateuch*.

Uncategorized: All other manuscripts are placed here by default, but other categories will be developed with time, and some manuscripts can be moved to other categories as needed.

Text:

The name of the text(s) which can be identified in the manuscript.

Range:

The specific portions of the text that are found in the manuscript.

Material:

The physical material the manuscript is made of. These are very generally described: Papyrus and Skin are the two main categories.

Length (reconstructed):

The length of the scroll as measured (in very few cases) or reconstructed by the editors. Note that the vast majority of scrolls have not been reconstructed.

Page Height:

The total height of the page which is usually highly reconstructed.

Color:

Descriptions of the color of the manuscript or certain fragments as found in DJD.

Ink:

Descriptions of the ink as found in DJD.

Surface:

Descriptions of the surface of the manuscript or fragments as found in DJD.

Other Descriptions:

Other descriptions of other physical features of the manuscripts are found in DJD.

Dry Lines:

Notes the presence of ruling with dry lines (though a few cases are, in fact, wet lines with ink), indicating the topline of each line of writing.

Guide Marks:

Notes the presence of guide marks in the margins used to indicate the writing block. These may have different forms and consistency.

Margins:

Measurements for extant margins including top margins, bottom margins, right margins, left margins and intercolumnar margins.

Column Size:

Column width is given in both cm and letter spaces. The measurements are on the expected column size with the published data from parenthesis. The value is sometimes an average of the extant data and sometimes the result of choosing a representative column and then finding the average. Thus, the numbers are a guideline.

Column Height is given in both cm and number of lines.

Distance Between Lines:

The measurement is an average or normal value of the distance between successive toplines.

Letter Height:

The baseline measurement of letter sizes reflects standard letter sizes of letters that do not extend above or below the normal writing space.