



# Doing the Work of Reference: Practical Tips for Excelling as a Reference Librarian

*Linda S Katz*

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## **Doing the Work of Reference: Practical Tips for Excelling as a Reference Librarian** Linda S Katz

Become more versatile, competent, and resourceful with these practical suggestions! Becoming a first-class reference librarian demands proficiency in a wide range of skills. Doing the Work of Reference offers sound advice for the full spectrum of your responsibilities. Though many aspects of a reference librarian's work are changing with astonishing speed, the classic principles in this volume will never go out of date. This comprehensive volume begins with hints for orienting yourself to a new job and concludes with ideas for serving the profession. On the way, Doing the Work of Reference covers such diverse topics as working with student assistants, offering reference services to remote users, and keeping up your professional development. In addition, you will find strategies for dealing with technological change--not high-tech information that will become obsolete before the ink is dry, but ways of approaching the process of change that will work today, next week, and ten years from now. Doing the Work of Reference will help you increase your competence in:

- getting along with other staff members
- marketing the library to users and faculty
- handling ephemeral materials
- keeping students' attention in library instruction courses
- maintaining good relations with faculty
- increasing your subject knowledge
- and much more! This comprehensive guide is an essential handbook for librarians in the trenches. Whether you are a new librarian or a veteran at the reference desk, Doing the Work of Reference will help you burnish your skills.

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