

1. INTRODUCTION OF THE FIRST FLOOR (B1/D)

On the first floor, also known as B1, users can find the counter where they can register for the library. This registration is required to access some of the services offered, including borrowing books. Registration is free: users just need to fill out a form, present an ID document, and provide their tax code card, which replaces the old library card.

Registration allows to borrow books and DVDs that are part of the Berio collection, as well as books and other materials from other public libraries of Genoa and its Metropolitan Area thanks to the so-called library system loan (Prestito di Sistema), and to request documents from other Italian libraries through an interlibrary loan (Prestito Interbibliotecario). In this case, the payment of a fee covering the shipping expenses is required.

Next to the reception desk is a display cabinet containing reading recommendations or new arrivals of non-fiction books. There is also a catalogue search station and a self-loan machine like the one on the ground floor.

The rest of the B1 floor houses a large reading room that connects, through a ramp, to another large room, the so-called D wing. The shelves in these rooms hold non-fiction books from various disciplines, such as literature, philosophy, sciences, and more.

The organization of non-fiction books on the shelves is based on a special classification system, which is indicated on the call number label, and allows readers to navigate the bookshelves and to find their desired books. It is a subject-based classification system called the Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC), devised by Melvil Dewey in the late 19th century and still used in libraries worldwide.