

Commonly used Abbreviations and Key Word Search Terms

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The following key words can be used to search the Information Sources (Book list, etc) and other databases shown in the "Where Used" column

The key words that are used to search the Information Sources (Book lists, etc) appear in the "Title Expanded" field

For additional search terms see "[Subject Keyword search](#)" or "[Country Search](#)" menus above (top line)

For Railroad Abbreviations (ie, "CB&Q" or Private Line Marks, use your mouse or cursor and tap the "RR code" menu item above. If the RR name you are searching for is not found in this list, consult https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Class_1_railroads. Reformatting Wikipedia's list by eliminating the "and" and substituting "&" and removing "Railway" or "Railroad"; ie, "Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis Railway" becomes "Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis". Alternately, find the "Topic List" menu at the top of this list. Use your mouse or cursor to select this menu and find "RR: List all by name" ([or other selection](#)) menu item toward the top of third column. Select this menu with your mouse or cursor and you will be given a list of railroad names.

Key Words highlighted in bold face with yellow background are frequently found terms.

Key Word	Description	Where Used	Category
20th Century	Query also returns "20th Century Limited"	Information Sources	Passenger Train
20th Century Limited	Alt Query: Twentieth Century Limited	Information Sources	Passenger Train
4-4-0	Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-4-2	Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-6-0	Steam Locomotive; also "Ten Wheeler"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-6-2	Steam Locomotive; also "Pacific"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-6-4	Steam Locomotive; also "Hudson"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-6-6-4	Steam Locomotive - Union Pacific "Challenger"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-8-2	Steam Locomotive; also "Mountain"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-8-4	Steam Locomotive; also "Northern" "Niagara"	Information Sources	Locomotive
4-8-8-4	Steam Locomotive - Union Pacific "Big Boy"	Information Sources	Locomotive
A&WP	Atlanta & West Point	Information Sources	RR Name
AAR	See comments	Information Sources	Industry
AAR Loco Designation	Diesel and Electric Loco Classifications See comments	Information Sources	Locomotive
Abandon	or Abandoned	Information Sources	RR Type
Accident	also: Wreck Disaster, Boiler Explosion	Information Sources	Accident-Disaster
ACF	American Car & Foundry	Information Sources	RR Name
ACL	Query: Atlantic Coast Line	Information Sources	RR Name
Acquisition	Also: Acquisitions, Reorganizations, Sale	Information Sources	Finance
Adirondack	Adirondack mountains (NY)	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Advertising	Alt Query: Advertisement, Posters, Art Work, Paintings	Information Sources	Advertising
AFE	Alt: Authorization For Expenditure	Information Sources	RR Administration
Africa	Mainly South Africa and some smaller countries	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
African-American	Alt Query: African American	Information Sources	Employee
Agriculture	Farming and related	Information Sources	RR Administration
Air Brake	Alt: Braje	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Air Force	U.S. Air Force	Information Sources	Military
ALCO	Query: ALCO or American Locomotive Company (Diesel Locomotives) See comment	Information Sources-Key Term	Locomotive Mfg
Allegheny	Also Alleghenies, Alleghany	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
American	A 4-4-0 Steam Locomotive mfg in America; or generic reference to the United States	Information Sources	
Amtrak	Query: Amtrak	Information Sources	RR Name
Annual Report	Annual Report issued by RR or State RR Commission	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Appalachian	Appalachian mountains	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Appliance Car	Alt Search using "Boxcar" or "Box Car"	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Archives/Records	Collections of papers, timetables, maps, annual reports + othe materials	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Argentina		Information Sources	Geographic
Army	U.S. Army	Information Sources	Military
Asia	Also query: "China" "Japan"	Information Sources	Geographic
AT&SF	Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe	Information Sources	RR Name
Atchison, Topeka & Santa	Alt: "Santa Fe"	Information Sources	RR Name
Atlantic	ie, Atlantic Coast, Eastern Seaboard, Eastern U.S.	Information Sources	Geographic
Atlas	A collection of maps; Produces a few, but very important references	Information Sources	Geographic
Australia		Information Sources	Geographic
Auto	A Box car specially fitted to transp assembled autos or auto parts	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Auto Rack	Alt Query: Auto-Rack or Autorack	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Auto Train	Auto Train (alternative is "AutoTrain" and "Auto-Train")	Information Sources	RR Name
Automobile	A Box car specially fitted to transp assembled autos or auto parts	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Avertisements	alternate: Advertising	Information Sources	Advertising
B&A	Query: Boston & Albany	Information Sources	RR Name

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B&M	Query: Boston & Maine	Information Sources	RR Name
B&O	Query: Baltimore & Ohio	Information Sources	RR Name
Baggage	Baggage Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Baldwin	Query: Baldwin Locomotive Works	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
BAR	Bangor & Aroostook	Information Sources	RR Name
Betterment	Semi-Streamlined Modernized Heavyweight Passenger Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Beyer-Garratt	Steam Locomotive: also search for: Beyer Garratt or "Garratt"	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
Bibliography	Bibliography	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Bicentennial	Also: Centennial, Exposition See comment	Information Sources	Locomotive
Big Four	Query: Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis (CCC&StL)	Information Sources	RR Name
Billboard Car	Used with Refrigerator cars in the 1920's	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Biography	Search for "Biograph" see also Comment	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Black Diamond	Alt Query: Coal, Coal Mine, Coal Mining	Information Sources	Industry
Black Hills	area of South Dakota	Information Sources	Geographic-US State
BLH	Query: Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton	Information Sources-Key Term	Locomotive Mfg
Blue Ridge	Eastern U.S. area within the Appalachian Moutains: see comments	Information Sources	Geographic
Blueprint	See Drawings or Plan	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Blueprint	See Drawings or Plan	Information Sources	Car
Blueprint	See Drawings or Plan	Information Sources	Locomotive
BLW	Query: Baldwin Locomotive Works	Information Sources-Key Term	Locomotive Mfg
BN	Query: Burlington Northern - query also returns "Burlingtn Northern Santa Fe"	Information Sources	RR Name
BNSF	Query: Burlington Northern Santa Fe or BNSF (both forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
Boiler explosion	Also Accident Disaster Wreck	Information Sources	Locomotive
Bond	Be sure to include a space after the letter 'd'. Alt Query: Stock or Stock Certificate	Information Sources	Finance
Bottle Car	Hot Metal car used to transport Hot Metal between plants in Steel Mill	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Boxcar	Search using "Boxcar" or "Box Car"	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
BR	Bedroom (Pullman Sleeping Car...)	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Brakeman	See also Conductor, Engineer, Fireman	Information Sources	Job Description
Branch House	See also Meat Packer, Meat Packing, Stock Yard, Stock Car, Refrigerator Car	Information Sources	Industry-Meat
Branch Line		Information Sources	Geographic
Brazil		Information Sources	Geographic
Bridge	See also Trestle, Viaduct; Pull down "Topic List" menu, click on "Cities: Facilities+Structure"	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Brief History		Information Sources	History
Britain; British	Always specify "England" when searching for British, Britain, or UK	Information Sources	Geographic-Intl Country
Broad Guage		Information Sources	Track
Broadway	The Broadway Limited was a famous luxury train operated by the Pennsylvania RR	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Brotherhood	Alt Query: Labor, Union	Information Sources	Employee
Budd	Budd was an important passenger car builder; see also RDC (Rail Diesel Car)	Information Sources	Car-Passenger Car
Buffet	Buffet (or Buffet-Lounge, Buffet-Coach, etc)	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Bunk Car	A sleeping car (MofW car) for workers on the job site	Information Sources	MofW Car
Bus	Query must be "Bus," or "Bus " (the latter with a space following "Bus")	Information Sources	Bus
Business Car		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
C&EI	Query: Chicago & Eastern Illinois	Information Sources	RR Name
C&NW	Query: Chicago & North Western	Information Sources	RR Name
C&O	Query: Chesapeake & Ohio Ry	Information Sources	RR Name
C&S	Query: Colorado & Southern	Information Sources	RR Name
C&S Colorado & Southern		Information Sources	RR Name
Cab Forward	Alt: Cab-Forward Southern Pacific Steam Locomotive design	Information Sources	Locomotive
Cable Car	Cable Car, Cable Railroads	Information Sources	RR Type

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Caboose	See also "Waycar", "Drover's Caboose", "House Car" (NYC), "Van" see comments	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Cajon Pass		Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Calendar		Information Sources	Advertising
Camelback, Camel Back	Alt Query: Mother Hubbard	Information Sources	Locomotive
Canada	Alt Query: "Canadian" See comment for Province names	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Canadian	Query: Canadian Pacific, Canadian National and others; also Passenger Train name	Information Sources+RR	RR Name
Canadian Locomotive		Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
Canal	See comments	Information Sources	Marine
Car Ferry	Alternate: Carferry, or Ferry	Information Sources	Marine
Car Name pr Car Names		Information Sources	Type-Passenger Car
Car Name pr Car Names		Information Sources	Type-Passenger Car
Carnegie	Andrew Carnegie founded US Steel; financed many important RR	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Catalog		Information Sources	Information Type
CB&Q	Query: Chicago, Burlington & Quincy	Information Sources	RR Name
CCF	Canadian Car & Foundry	Information Sources	Car: Builder/Mfg
Centennial	See also Exposition	Information Sources	Exposition
Centennial	also see Bicentennial, Exhibition, exposition, Worlds Fair, Anniversary	Information Sources	Historic Event
Center Cab	Diesel Locomotive Industrial use	Information Sources	Locomotive
Centipede or DR12-8-1500	Baldwin's DR12-8-1500 Diesel	Information Sources	
Century	ALCO Century Series Diesels: C420, C424, C628, C425, C855, C630 etc	Information Sources	Locomotive-Diesel
Century of Progress	1933-34 Exposition in Chicago (World's Fair) With major RR exhibits	Information Sources	RR Name
CGW	Chicago Great Western	Information Sources	RR Name
Chicago	Ambiguous, unless "Chicago, IL" see comments	Information Sources	Geographic
Chile		Information Sources	Geographic
China	query will return country and dining car china	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Chinese	query will return country and Chinese Laborers	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Circus	Circus Train or Circus Car	Information Sources	Circus
City Name	see comment below	Information Sources	Geographic-US City
Civil War	Civil War	Information Sources	War
Class 1		Information Sources	RR Type
Classroom	Teacher's Guides	Information Sources	Education
CLC	See also Canadian Locomotive Company	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
CLIC, SPINS, ZTS, KATIC		Information Sources	
Climax	A steam locomotive primarily used for logging, mining, and agricultural purposes	Information Sources	Locomotive
Clinchfield	Clinchfield RR or Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio Railroad	Information Sources	RR Name
Club	Club Car (or Club-Baggage, Club-Lounge, etc)	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
CM&StP	Query: Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul (prior to 1927)	Information Sources	RR Name
CMStP&P	Query: Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific (1927 onward)	Information Sources	RR Name
CN	Query: Canadian National	Information Sources	RR Name
CNJ	Query: Central Railroad of New Jersey	Information Sources	RR Name
CNJ	Central Railroad of New Jersey (also + CRRofNJ, New Jersey Central)	Information Sources	RR Name
Coach		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Coal	Coal (Industry), Coal Mine/Coal Mining pr Coal Dock	Information Sources	Industry
Coal car	A Gpdola or Hopper Car used for the transportation of coal	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Coal Dock		Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Coaling Tower	Query: Coaling Tower, Coaling Station or Tipple	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
COFC	Container On Flat Car; Alt Query Intermodal	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
CofG	Query: Central of Georgia	Information Sources	RR Name
Coke Car	A Gpdola or Hopper Car used for the transportation of Coke used in Steel making	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car

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Collection	Collections of papers, timetables, maps, annual reports + othe materials	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Color	Color Photo; or Book with Color Pictures Alt Search: "Color Guide" or "Paint"	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Color	Alt Query: "In Color" or "Color Guide" Term used by Morning Sun Books in Book title	Information Sources	Books
Color Guide		Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Colored	Colored People; Alt Query: Segregation, Jim Crow (see comments for addtl)	Information Sources	Passenger
Combine	Combined Coach and Baggage or other combination	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Commuter	Commuter RR, Commuter Train, Commuter Car, Commuter Station...(see comment)	Information Sources	RR Type
Compartment	Compartment type car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Conductor	See also Engineer, Brakeman, Fireman	Information Sources	Job description
Confedera	Confederacy; Confederates, Civi War	Information Sources	War
Conrail	Consolidated Rail Corp (or "CR")	Information Sources	RR Name
Consist	See comment also Make Up of train	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Construction	Building of the railroad, financing, etc (See comments)	Information Sources	Historic Event
Container	Alt Query: Intermodal, COFC	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Cooke	Jay Cooke: financed Northern Pacific; bankruptcy caused Panic of 1873	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Copper	Copper Mine, Copper Mining Copper hauling Railroadm related information	Information Sources	Industry
Copper Range	Copper Range in Keweenaw, Houghton, and Ontonagon	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Corn Belt	Midwestern U.S. See comments (Iowa and Illinois are best known)	Information Sources	Geographic
Corporate History	Query should specify "Corporate" only; Alt Query: "History"	Information Sources	History
Cotton Belt	St. Louis Southwestern Ry	Information Sources	RR Name
Course	Alternative search: "Classroom Guides" "Teacher" "Lesson Plan"	Information Sources	Education
CP	Query: Canadian Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
Cpt or Compt	Compartment	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
CR	Query: Conrail (Consolidated Rail Corp)	Information Sources	RR Name
Crane	Also: Burro Crane, Derrick, Boom Car, Wrecking Crane,	Information Sources	MofW Car
CRI&P	Query: Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific or "Rock Island" (latter returns the city of Rock	Information Sources	RR Name
CSX or CSXT		Information Sources	RR Name
CTC	Preferred Query: Centralized Traffic Control, or Signals SEE COMMENTS	Information Sources	RR Operation
Cumbres Pass	in Colorado and NM: Denver & Rio Grande	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
CV	Query: Central Vermont	Information Sources	RR Name
Cyclopedia	Alt Query: Encyclopedia	Information Sources	Encyclopedia
D&H	Query: Delaware & Hudson or Delaware & Hudson Canal Co	Information Sources	RR Name
D&RG	Query: Denver & Rio Grande also returns "Denver & Rio Grande Western"	Information Sources	RR Name
D&RGW	Denver & Rio Grande Western	Information Sources	RR Name
Dairy	Alt query: Mile Car; Dairy and Cheese Plants and transportation of these products	Information Sources	Industry
Data Sheet	See comments	Information Sources	Locomotive Specification
Daylight (passenger train)	Also Returns "Coast Daylight", and "Daylight" steam locomotives (Southern Pacific)	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Depot	also Station, Union Station	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Diagram	Alt Search=Plan or Drawing; A unscaled drawing of a locomotive, car or structure	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Diesel Loco Model (E7, U25,	you may specify a specific model #, ie, E7, FT, F45, U25, etc	Information Sources	Locomotive
Diesel Locomotive	Search="Diesel" See also Locomotive, Electric Locomotive, Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Diner	aslo query: Dining Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Dining Car	also query: Diner	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Directory	See comments	Information Sources	Directory
Disaster	also Accident Wreck Boiler Explosion	Information Sources	Accident-Disaster
Ditcher		Information Sources	MofW Car
Division	Railroad Division Point (Roundhouse, etc) Include a space after the last letter.	Information Sources	RR Operation
DL&W	Query: Delaware, Lackawanna & Western	Information Sources	RR Name
Documentary		Information Sources	Video

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Dome (Dome Car)	Alt Query: Vista Dome/Vistadome (CB&Q), Observation; See comments below:	Information Sources	Passenger Car
Donner	Also Donner Pass, Sierra Nevada Mountains: Southern Pacific	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Doodlebug	See Also: Gas-Electric, Gas Electric, Motor Car, Rail Bus	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Motor Car
Double Deck Stock Car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
DR	Drawing Room	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Drawing	Alt Search=Plan; A scaled drawing of a locomotive, car or structure	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Drumhead	An end of passenger train sign, also called a "Tail Sign"	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
DSS&P	Denver, South Park & Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
DT&I	Detroit, Toledo & Ironton	Information Sources	RR Name
DZ	Denver Zephyr (CB&Q)	Information Sources	Passenger Train
E unit	Electro-Motive (EMD) E5, E7, E8 etc	Information Sources	Locomotive-Diesel
Early	Generally, the period prior to 1860: Alt Query: "Early Locomotives" or "Early"+"Locomotive"	Information Sources	Historic Event
Early	Generally, the period prior to 1860; See comments below	Information Sources	Historic Event
East	Also Eastern, East Coast; see comment below	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
EBT	East Broad Top	Information Sources	RR Name
Econom	Economy, Economics, Profits, Revenues	Information Sources	RR Economics
Education	Alt Query: Teacher Class Outline, Course Materials, Training, Lesson Plan	Information Sources	Education
EL	Query: Erie-Lackawanna or Erie Lackawanna (both forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
Electric	Electric Railroad (Electrified RR, or Electric Commuter RR)	Information Sources+RR Master	RR Type
Electric Locomotive	"Search=Electric Locomotive" See also Locomotive, Diesel Locomotive, Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Electrification	Electric Railroad (Electrified RR, or Electric Commuter RR)	Information Sources	RR Type
Elevated	A rapid transit railroad; its tracks are elevated above street level	Information Sources	RR Type
EMD	Query: EMD, or Electro-Motive Divison of GM. pr Electro Motive (Three forms used)	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
Employee	Employee related materials; and Employee Magazines	Information Sources	Employee
Employee Name	See also Employee Magazines; See comments	Information Sources	Person
Employee Records	Information about specific employees: date hired, promotions, seniority, deaths, etc	Information Sources	Employee
Employee RR Magazine	also "employes magazine"	Information Sources	Employee
Employment	Alt Query: Employee, Labor; See comments	Information Sources	Employee
Employment opportunities	See comments	Information Sources	Employee
Encyclopedia	Alt Query: Cyclopedia	Information Sources	Encyclopedia
Engine House	A small engine house, having usually 1 to 3 stalls	Information Sources	Structure
Engineer	meaning varies: Locomotive Engineer, Engineering Magazine, Design Engineer	Information Sources	Employee
Engineer	See also Brakeman, Conductor, Fireman	Information Sources	Job Description
England	also use "Britain", "UK "	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Erie	Query: Erie this query will return info about the Erie RR and Erie, PA	Information Sources	RR Name
Erie-Lackawanna or Erie	Search using either of above	Information Sources	RR Name
Europe		Information Sources	Geographic
Excursion	Vacations, Special Train Trips	Information Sources	Travel
Exploration	Alt Query: Survey	Information Sources	Geographic
Exposition	also: World's Fair, Celebration, Exhibition, Fair, Special Trains, Anniversary, Centennial	Information Sources	Exposition
Express Car	also: Express Refrigerator Car, Express Train, Express Company, Express Agency	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
F unit	Electro-Motive (EMD) F3, F7, F9 etc	Information Sources	Locomotive-Diesel
Facilities in color	Title key word used by Morning Sun Books (Stations, Roundhouses, Interlockings)	Information Sources	Books
Fairbanks-Morse	Query: Fairbanks-Morse or Fairbanks Morse: diesel locomotive builder (both forms used)	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
Fast	Query pulls "Fast Freight" "Fast Mail" "Fastest Locomotive" "Fastest Train" etc	Information Sources	Speed
Fast Mail	Alt Query: Railway Mail Service, Railway Post Office, RPO, High Speed Rail	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
FE&MV	Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley (C&NW subsidiary)	Information Sources	RR Name
FEC	Query: Florida East Coast	Information Sources	RR Name
Ferry Boat	Alt Query: Ferryboat, Car Ferry, (also "Car Ferries") Car Float, marine, mole,	Information Sources+RR Master	Marine

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Fireman	See also Brakeman, Conductor, Engineer	Information Sources	Locomotive-Diesel
Flanger	Snow removal	Information Sources	MofW Car
Flat Car	see comments for types	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
FM	Preferred Query: Fairbanks-Morse	Information Sources-Key Term	RR Name
FM	Fairbanks-Morse	Information Sources	Locomotive Mfg
Folklore	Alt Query: Folk Lore, Customs, Traditions, Songs, Celebrations, Stories	Information Sources	Folklore
Forbes	John Murray Forbes financed the Michigan Central + Burlington RR	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Foreign	alt query: International, World see comment	Information Sources	Geographic
FRA	Federal Railroad Administration	Information Sources	Government
France		Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Fred Harvey	Established many restaurants and hotels, mainly on the Santa Fe	Information Sources	Historic Event
Freight	Alt Query: Freight Train, Freight Car	Information Sources-Key Term	Car: Freight Car
Frisco	St. Louis-San Francisco Ry	Information Sources	RR Name
Fuel	Fuel type, source or cost	Information Sources	Locomotive
Furniture Car	A large box car used for transportation of furniture. Often w/double doors	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Galloping Goose	Also: Rail Bus	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Gas Electric	Same definition as "Gas-Electric" also "Doodlebug", "Motor Car", "Galloping Goose"	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Gas Turbine	also less frequent: Gas-Turbine	Information Sources	Locomotive
Gas-Electric	also "Gas Electric", Rail Bus, Motor Car, Doodlebug	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: Motor
Gazette	Railway Gazette and other publications	Information Sources	Railroad Publications
Gazetteer	See comments	Information Sources	Travel
GE	Query: GE or General Electric (both forms used)	Information Sources-Key Term	Locomotive Mfg
Geared Locomotives	Incl Heisler, Climax and Shay Locomotives; also the Willamette Shay	Information Sources	
Genealogy	Alt Query: "Employee Name", "Employee Records" "Employee RR Magazine"	Information Sources	Employee
Ghost	Alt Query: Ghost Railroads, Abandoned	Information Sources	RR Type
Gilded Age	1880-1910 wealth, luxury travel (also hotels, Steamships, Vanderbilt, Morgan see comment)	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Glacier	i.e., Glacier National Park	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Glossary		Information Sources	Glossary
GM&O	Query: Gulf, Mobile & Ohio	Information Sources	RR Name
GN	Query: Great Northern	Information Sources	RR Name
Gold	"Gold Mine" Search will also return Golden West, Golden Spike, etc	Information Sources	Industry
Gold	Alt Query; Gold Mining	Information Sources	Industry
Golden Age	Golden Age of Travel, etc Gilded Age	Information Sources	Travel
Gondola	Also: "Gon " See comments for sub types	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Gould	Jay and George Gould controlled many important railroads	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Grade	Mountain Grade, Grading, Grade Crossing	Information Sources	Geographic
Grain	Grain and Grain Elevators, Farmers	Information Sources	Economic
Grand Canyon		Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Great Britain	also "GB" or "GBR"	Information Sources	Geographic-Intl Country
Great Lakes	Lake Superior, Lake Michigan, Lake Huron, Lake Erie, Lake Ontario; see comments	Information Sources	Geographic
GRR	Georgia Railroad	Information Sources	RR Name
GT	Query: Grand Trunk; also returns "Grand Trunk Western"	Information Sources	RR Name
Guide	A Guide To; The WPA Guide To; or "Guide" plus state name	Information Sources	History
HABS	Historic American Building Survey	RR Master	History
HAER	Historic American Engineering Record	RR Master	History
Hand Car	Alt Query: Handcar	Information Sources	MofW Car
Harriman	E.H. Harriman: purchased Union Pacific; controlled IC, SP, UP, Chicago & Alton	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Harvey	Harvey House, Harvey Girls, Fred Harvey	Information Sources	Structure
Heavy Rail	A Commuter Railroad operating over Class I railroad tracks: see comments	Information Sources	RR Type

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Key Words highlighted in bold face with yellow background are frequently found terms.

Key Word	Description	Where Used	Category
Heavyweight	A Pullman Steel Sleeping Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Heisler	A steam locomotive primarily used for logging, mining, and agricultural purposes	Information Sources	Locomotive
Herald	Related terms: Logo, Emblem, Flag, Paint/Painting, Color, Lettering, Billboard	Information Sources	Advertising
Heritage	See comments	Information Sources	Car or Locomotive
Hi-Cube or Hi Cube	An extra high and/or extra long box car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Hiawatha	A Milwaukee RR passenger Train	Information Sources	Passenger Train
High Speed	See comments for alternate searches	Information Sources	RR Operation
Hill	Query as "James J. Hill" or "J. Hill" Founded Great Northern RR	Information Sources	Person-Famous
HiRail	Also: Hi Rail, Hi-Rail, HyRail, Hy-Rail, Hi Rail	Information Sources	Non Revenue Car
Historic		RR Master	History
History	Alt Query: "History of" or "Corporate Hist"	Information Sources	History
Hobo	Hobo - an itinerant who rides the rails for free	Information Sources	Person
Hopper Car	See comments for sub types	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Horsecar of Horse Car	A streetcar pulled by horses prior to electrification of street railways beginning 1890	Information Sources	RR Type
Horseshoe curve		Information Sources	Geographic
Hotel	Also: Resort, Luxury Travel	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Hudson	Hudson River or New York Central 4-6-4 Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Huntington (Collis P.)	Founded Central Pacific, part of Big Four financed C&O expansion	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Huntington (Henry E.)	nephew of Collis P. Huntington; founded Pacific Electric	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Hurricane	Storms	Information Sources	Weather
IC	Query: Illinois Central	Information Sources	RR Name
ICC	Alt Query: Interstate Commerce Commission	Information Sources	Government Laws
ICC Valuation	ICC Valuation records	Information Sources	Government Laws
Ice	Ice Dock, or (alternate) Icing Station, Ice House; Alt Query: Refrigerator car	Information Sources	Industry
Immigrants; Immigrant Trains	Alt Query: Orphan Train, Touris Car, Land Grant, Transcontinental Railroad]	Information Sources	Person
Incline	Incline Railway Alternative Query: Mountain Pass and Grade	Information Sources	RR Type
Inclined Plane		Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Income	Revenues, Costs, Labor, Employment	Information Sources	RR Economics
Index	Periodical Index	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
India		Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Indiana	Query returns Interurban lines and local railroads	Information Sources	Geographic-US State
Industrial	Privately owned railroads serving mfg, mines, etc	Information Sources	Type-Railroad
Inspection	Includes Inspection Locomotive; Inspection Car and related terms	Information Sources	MofW Car
Insulated	An insulated Box car or less frequently Refrigerator car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Interlocking Tower	Query: "Interlocking", "Cabin" or "Signal Station" or "SS"	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Intermodal	Definition includes COFC, TOFC, Intermodal Yard, Piggy Back see comments below	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
International	also query: World or Foreign	Information Sources	Geographic
International Railroads	Tap "Country Search" menu at upper right corner of this form with your cursor	Information Sources	Geographic
Interurban	A high speed railway car designed for operation between cities.	Information Sources	RR Type
Invention		Information Sources	Person-Famous
Ireland or Irish	Railways in Ireland	Information Sources	Geographic
Iron Horse	Archaic term generally applied to steam locomotives or RR prior to the Civil War	Information Sources	RR Type
Iron Mountain	St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern	Information Sources	RR Name
Iron Ore	Alt Query: Steel, Mining	Information Sources	Industry
Japan		Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Jersey Central	common name for Central Railroad of New Jersey (CNJ)	Information Sources	RR Name
Jim Crow	Alt Query: Colored People, Segregation, African-American (see comments for addtl)	Information Sources+RR	Passenger
Joint	Joint Line, Joint use	Information Sources	RR Operation
Junction	Junction Point (also Interlocking Tower)	Information Sources	Geographic

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Key Word	Description	Where Used	Category
Katy	Query: Missouri-Kansas-Texas	Information Sources	RR Name
KCS	Query: Kansas City Southern	Information Sources	RR Name
Korean War		Information Sources	War
L&N	Query: Louisville & Nashville	Information Sources	RR Name
L&NE	Lehigh & New England	Information Sources	RR Name
Labor	Labor Cost, Employment, #Employees; Alt Query: Brotherhood, Union,	Information Sources	RR Economics
Lackawanna	Query: Delaware, Lackawanna & Western	Information Sources	RR Name
Lake	Alt Query: River, Canal, Water	Information Sources	Marine
Land Grant		Information Sources+RR Master	Finance
Lesson Plan	See also: "Classroom Guides" "Course", "Teacher"	Information Sources	Education
Lettering, Letters, Numerals	Lettering Guide - categorized under "Paint-Color Schemes" Info Type	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
LH	Query: Lima-Hamilton or Lima Hamilton; both forms used	Information Sources	RR Name
Light Rail	See also Traction, Streetcar, Street Railway, Rapid transit	Information Sources	RR Type
Lightweight Passenger Car	Lightweight Passenger Car; Alt "Lightweight" or "Streamlined"	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
LIMA	Query: Lima Locomotive Works	Information Sources	RR Name
Lionel	Lionel model railroad	Information Sources	Model Railroad
LIRR	Query: Long Island RR or Long Island	Information Sources	RR Name
Lnge	Lounge Car (or Lounge-Observation, Buffet-Lounge, etc)	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Locomotive	See also Electric Locomotive, Diesel Locomotive, Steam Locomotive, Gas-Turbine	Information Sources	Locomotive
Log Car	Also: Log Rack Car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Logging	Alt Query: lumber. Lumber Comapnies, Logging RR, Sawmill	Information Sources	Industry
Logging	Logging Railroad or Logging Locomotive	Information Sources	RR Type
Lounge	Lounge car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
LS&MS	Query: Lake Shore & Michigan Southern RR	Information Sources	RR Name
Lumber	Alt Query: Logging. Lumber Comapnies, Logging RR, Sawmill	Information Sources	Industry
Luxury	Luxury Travel, Escorted Tours	Information Sources	Travel
LV	Query: Lehigh Valley	Information Sources	RR Name
M&StL	Query: Minneapolis & St. Louis	Information Sources	RR Name
Mallet	An articulated compound steam locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Map	Maps	Information Sources	Geographic
Marine	Tug Boats, Ferry Boats, Steamboats, etc	Information Sources+RR Master	Marine
Marine Corps	U.S. Marine Corps	Information Sources	Military
MC	Query: Michigan Central	Information Sources	RR Name
Mears	Otto Mears: Founder of Rio Grande Southern	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Meat Packer, Meat Packing	See also Branch House, Stock Yard, Stock Car, Refrigerator Car	Information Sources	Industry-Meat
MEC	Query: Maine Central	Information Sources	RR Name
Menu	Menu from a dining car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Menu	Dining Car Menu	Information Sources	Passenger Car
Merger	Also: Acquisitions, Reorganizations, Sale	Information Sources	Finance
Mexico		Information Sources	Geographic
Midwest	extends from Ohio to Nebraska	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Mile	Miles of Track, Mileage, Mileposts (Mile Posts)	Information Sources	Track
Military	See comments	Alt Query: War; US Army	RR Type
Milk Car or Milk Train	Alt Query: "Dairy Car" A tank car or express car or carrying fluid milk Search for "Milk"; Milk	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
MILW	Search for: Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific OR Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul	Information Sources	RR Name
Milwaukee Road	Search for: Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific OR Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul	Information Sources	RR Name
Mine/Mining	see also Coal/Coal Mine, Gold, Silver, Lead	Information Sources	Industry
Missabe	Missabe Iron mining area in Minnesota 50 miles northwest of Duluth, MN	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
MKT or M-K-T	Query: Missouri-Kansas-Texas	Information Sources	RR Name

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Key Word	Description	Where Used	Category
MLW	Montreal Locomotive Works	Information Sources	RR Name
Model Railroad	Alternate search: "Model RR", "Lionel", "American Flyer"	Information Sources	Model Railroad
MoFW	Alt Query: M-of-W, Maintenance of Way	Information Sources	MoFW Car
Motive Power	Also Locomotive; Pulls "Motive Power Review", "Motive Power Annual", See comment	Information Sources	Locomotive
Motor Car	Also: Gas-Electric/Gas Electric, Rail Bus, Doodlebug	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: Motor
Mountain	Alt Query: Mountain Pass	Information Sources	Geographic
Movie	includes Hollywood Movies	Information Sources	Publication Type
MP or MoPac	Query: Missouri Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
MU	An electrically powered commuter car (also "Multiple-Unit")	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: MU
Multiple Unit or MU	An electrically powered commuter car (also "Multiple-Unit")	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: MU
Muni	San Francisco Municipal Railway	Information Sources	RR Name
Museum		Information Sources	Geographic
N&W	Query: Norfolk & Western	Information Sources	RR Name
Narrow Gauge		Information Sources	RR Type
National Park		Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
National Park Service		Information Sources	History
Navy	U.S. Navy	Information Sources	Military
NC&StL	Query: Nashville, Chattanooga & St. Louis (Dixie Line)	Information Sources	RR Name
NdeM	Ferrocarriles Nacionales de México (National Railroad of Mexico)	Information Sources	RR Name
New England		Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
New Haven	Query: New York, New Haven & Hartford (RR) or New Haven, CT	Information Sources	RR Name
NG (Narrow Gauge)		Information Sources	RR Type
NH	Query: New York, New Haven & Hartford	Information Sources	RR Name
NHRP		RR Mast	History
Niagara	Niagara Falls, NY or New York Central 4-8-4 Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Nickel Plate	Query: Nickel Plate or New York, Chicago & St. Louis (RR) (both forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
NKP	Query: Nickel Plate or New York, Chicago & St. Louis (RR) (both forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
North	see comment below	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
North East	alternate form of Northeast	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
North West	alternate form of Northwest	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Northeast	Alt Query: North East	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Northeastern		Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Northwest	see also North West see comment	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Northwestern		Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
NP	Query: Northern Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
NS or NSX	Query: Norfolk Southern	Information Sources	RR Name
Numbering	Lettering of Car+Loco Numbers. see "Paint-Color Schemes" Info Type	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
NYC	Query: New York Central	Information Sources	RR Name
NYNH&H	Query: New York, New Haven & Hartford	Information Sources	RR Name
NYO&W	Query: New York, Ontario & Western	Information Sources	RR Name
NYS&Q "Susie Q"	New York, Susquehanna & Western	Information Sources	RR Name
OBS	Observation Car (or Observation Lounge)	Information Sources + Pullman	Car: Passenger Car
Observation		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Official Guide	"Official Guide of the Railways" known as the ORG Provides maps, timetables	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Open Platform	A common Passenger Car design used between 1830s and 1930.	Information Sources	Passenger Car
Open Platform (Business car)	A common Business Car and Private car design used up through the 1960s	Information Sources	Passenger Car-Business
Ore	Iron Mine, ron Mining or Ore Dock, Ore Car	Information Sources	Industry
Ore Dock		Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Orient Express	Famous European Luxury Passenger Train	Information Sources	Passenger Train

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Outside braced	A type of box car with bracing outside the sheathing; typical of early 20th Century	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
P&LE	Query: Pittsburgh & Lake Erie	Information Sources	RR Name
P&R	Query: Philadelphia & Reading	Information Sources	RR Name
Packing House	Packing of Fruits and Vegetables or Meat Packing	Information Sources	Industry
Paint or Color Scheme	Painting and Colors used with paint; Alt Search: "Color Guide"	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Painting	Paint Schemes; will also return art works, paintings for calendars, etc	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Paintings	Art work used on calendars, or for advertising purposes	Information Sources	Advertising
Pan Handle	Query: Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis	Information Sources	RR Name
Parlor	Parlor Car (or Parlor-Lounge, Parlor-Lounge-Observation, etc)	Information Sources + Pullman	Car: Passenger Car
Pass	Railroad Pass and Mountain Passes (ie, Hagerman Pass, etc)	Information Sources+Location	Passenger Train
Passenger Car		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Passenger Train		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Passenger Train	Alt Query: "Streamlined Passenger Train"	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Passenger Train Names	You may search for specific train names: ie: "20th Century Limited" See note	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
Pay	include a space after the last letter	Information Sources	Employee
PC	Query: Penn Central	Information Sources	RR Name
PC&StL	Query: Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis	Information Sources	RR Name
PCC	Alt Query: President's Conference Committee, Streetcar	Information Sources	Streetcar
PCC&StL	Query: Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis	Information Sources	RR Name
PE	Pacific Electric	Information Sources	RR Name
Pennsylvania	Query: Pennsylvania RR; not the state but the railroad!!	Information Sources	RR Name
Periodical		Information Sources	Publication
Peru		Information Sources	Geographic
Photograph		Information Sources	Publication type
Pickle Car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Pictorial	A book consisting primarily of photographs	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Plan	Alt Search=Drawing or Diagram; A scaled drawing of a locomotive, car or structure	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Plane	An Inclined Plane see comment below	Information Sources	RR Type
Plant	Query as "Henry B. Plant" or "Plant System" owned RR in southeast sold to ACL	Information Sources	Person-Famous
PM	Query: Pere Marquette	Information Sources	RR Name
Poors	Poors Manual of the Railroads provides RR histories: date incorp, route, financial data	Information Sources	Railroad Publications
Portage	Portage Railroad: Query Information Sources, Glossary, and Railroad names	Information Sources	RR Type
Porter (Pullman)	See comment	Information Sources	Job Description
Postcard		Information Sources	Publication Type
Poster	Alt Query: Advertising-Prints-Photographs, Art work, Paintings	Information Sources	Advertising
Postmark	Also: Post Office (pulls Railway Post Office/RPO cars), Railway Mail Service	Information Sources	Post Office
Poultry Car	A type of stock car for transportation of poultry	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Power	A term used to describe Locomotives	Information Sources	Locomotive
Prince Plan	Alt Query: Consolidation, Merger	Information Sources	Merger
Problem		Information Sources	RR Operation
Profit	Economy, Economics, Revenue, Costs	Information Sources	RR Economics
Progress	See comment	Information Sources	History
PRR	Query: Pennsylvania Railroad or Pennsylvania RR	Information Sources	RR Name
PS	Query: Pullman-Standard (not "Pullman")	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Pssgr	Passenger Car, type undefined; or Abbrev: Passenger Train or Passenger Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Pullman	Query: Pullman (the sleeping car builder) includes George Pullman founder	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Pullman	Query: Pullman Company (Sleeping Cars) or Pullman-Standard (Frt Car Mfg)	Information Sources	RR Name
Radio		Information Sources	Communications
Railbus	also Rail Bus, Motor Car, Gas-Electric, Doodlebug	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: Motor

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Railroad Pass	Query will also return Mountain Pass Names	Information Sources	Employee
Railway Express Agency	alt: Railway Express	Information Sources	RR Type
Railway Mail Service	Alt Query: Railway Post Office, RPO, Mail Car	Information Sources	Post Office
Railway Postal Service	Alt Query: Railway Mail Service, Railway Post Office, RPO, Mail Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
Rapid Transit	A subway or elevated train; also Bus, Light Rail, Commuter Rail	Information Sources	RR Type
Rate	Freight Rates, Passenger Far, Ticket Prices	Information Sources	Economic
Raton Pass		Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
RDC	Budd Rail Diesel Car	Information Sources	RR Name
RDG	Query: Reading (RR)	Information Sources	RR Name
Reading	Query: Reading (RR) query will also return city of Reading, PA see comment	Information Sources	RR Name
Recollections	Stories and remembrances of the past; see also "Memories"	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Records	Collections of papers, timetables, maps, annual reports + other materials	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Reefer	Use "Refrigerator Car" for search query	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Refrigerator Car	Also: Ice Bunker, Ice Cool, Mechanical Refrigerator, Ventilated Refrigerator	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Regional Railroad		Information Sources	RR Type
Regulation+Laws	ICC, Interstate Commerce Commission, STB, Surface Transportation Board see comments	Information Sources	Government
Reorganization	Also: Acquisitions, Reorganizations, Sale	Information Sources	Finance
Restaurant	See also Harvey House, Fred Harvey	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
RF&P	Query: Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac	Information Sources	RR Name
RFC	Reconstruction Finance Corporation; Also Reorganization, Recievership	Information Sources	Finance
Rio Grande	Denver & Rio Grande RR or Denver & Rio Grande Western RR	Information Sources	RR Name
River	Alt Query: Canal, Lake, Water, Boat (River boat/riverboat, steamboat, canal boat)	Information Sources	Marine
Road Railer	Also query: "Road-Railer"	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Rocky Mountain	Rocky Mountains west of Denver	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Rocky Mountain	i.e., Rocky Mountain National Park	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Roster	Locomotive or Equipment Roster	Information Sources-Key term	Info Source Descrip
Rotary Snow Plow		Information Sources	MofW Car
Roundhouse	Alt Query: Round House	Information Sources	Structure
Route	See comments Related queries: "Map", "Timetable" "Advertising" "Slogan" "Travel"	Information Sources	Travel
Route Guide	A traveler's guide describing points of interest along the route	Information Sources	Travel
Royal Gorge	or Royal Gorge War	Information Sources	Geographic
RPO	Alt Query: Railway Post Office, RPO, Mail Car, Railway Mail Service	Information Sources-Key Term	Car: Passenger Train
Rule, Rules, Rule Book,	See also "Signal" and "Safety"	Information Sources	RR Operation
Russia		Information Sources	Geographic
Safety		Information Sources	RR Operation
SAL	Query: Seaboard Air Line	Information Sources	RR Name
Sale	Also: Acquisitions, Reorganizations, Sale	Information Sources	Finance
Sanborn Maps	Maps of Railroad structures and facilities in the U.S.	Information Sources	Geographic-US City
Santa Fe	Query: Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Ry	Information Sources	RR Name
Sawmill	see also Logging, Lumber, Timber	Information Sources	Industry
Scenic	Query: Scenic Train Trips; Aly Query Vacation, Tour, Travel, Travelog	Information Sources	Travel
SCL	Query: Seaboard Coast Line	Information Sources	RR Name
Seaboard Air Line	Query: Seaboard Air Line (not Seaboard Airline)	Information Sources	RR Name
Sec	Section accomodation in a Pullman car	Information Sources + Pullman	Car: Passenger Car
Section	Section type sleeping car accomodation	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Segregation	Alt Query: Colored, Jim Crow (see comments for addtl)	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Seniority		Information Sources	Employee
Settler	Early farmers and other people who established homesteads on undeveloped land	Information Sources	Historic Event
Shasta	Returns "Shasta Lts" "Shasta Daylight" and references to northern Calif + Oregon	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region

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Key Word	Description	Where Used	Category
Shay	A steam locomotive primarily used for logging, mining, and agricultural purposes	Information Sources	Locomotive
Sherman Hill	in Wyoming: Union Pacific	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Ship	also Marine, Steamship, Steamboat	Information Sources	Marine
Shop	Also: Machine Shop, Erecting Shop, Repair Shop	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Short Line or Shortline		Information Sources	RR Type
Signal, Signaling	See also CTC, Positive Train Control, Dispatcher/Dispatching	Information Sources	RR Operation
Silver	Alt Query: Silver Mine, Silver Mining; also Gold Mlne, Gold Mining	Information Sources	Industry
Sleeping Car	Alt Query: Pullman Car	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
SLSF, StLSF or Frisco	Query: St. Louis-San Francisco Railroad	Information Sources	RR Name
Smoker	A passenger car designated for smoking; may be partitioned: smoking section	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Snow	A more general term; includes "Snow", "Snowstorm" "Snow Removal" "Snow Plow"	Information Sources	Weather-Snow Storm
Snow Plow	also "Rotary Snow Plow", Snow Blower, Leslie Rotary, Jull, Russell, Wedge	Information Sources	MofW Car
Snowshed	Alt Query: Snow Shed	Information Sources	Structure
Song	Music, Folklore (Folk Lore)	Information Sources	Folklore
Soo	Query: Minneapolis, St. Paul & Sault Ste. Marie or Soo Line; see comment	Information Sources	RR Name
South	Also: Southern, or Dixie: See comment below	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
South East	alternate form of Southeast	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
South Park	Query: Denver, South Park & Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
South West	alternate form to Southwest	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Southeast	see also South East	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Southeastern		Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Southwest	see also South West	Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
Southwestern		Information Sources+RR Master	Geographic-US Region
SP	Query: Southern Pacific RR	Information Sources	RR Name
Specifications	For locomotives (usually steam: Tractive Effort, Driver Diam, Cyl size, Boiler Pressure)	Information Sources	Locomotive
Speed	Speed Records, and High Speed Rail; search also returns "Speeder"	Information Sources	RR Operation
Speeder		Information Sources	MofW Car
SPng	Southern Pacific Narrow Gauge (Carson & Colorado)	Information Sources	RR Name
Spreader		Information Sources	MofW Car
SR	Query: Southern Ry, Southern RR or Southern (all three forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
SR&RL	Sandy River & Rangeley Lakes	Information Sources	RR Name
SSW	Query: St. Louis-Southwestern Railway or St. Louis Southwestern (Cotton Belt)	Information Sources	RR Name
Standard Plans		Information Sources	Facility/Struc
State Name	Search using any state or Canadian Province or Territory name; see comment	Information Sources	Geographic-State
Station	also Depot, Union Station	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Station List	also Depot, Union Station	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Statistics	See comments	Information Sources	Industry
STB	Alt Query: Surface Transportation Board: successor to the ICC	Information Sources	Government
Steam Locomotive	Search="Steam" See also Locomotive, Diesel Locomotive, Electric Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Steam Turbine	also less frequent: Steam-Turbine	Information Sources	Locomotive
Steamboat	See also Ship, Marine, Steamship	Information Sources+RR Master	Marine
Steamship	Also See Ship, Marine; Steamboat	Information Sources	Industry
Steel	See also Iron, Ore	Information Sources	Industry
Stenciling	Alt form of Lettering	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Stephenson	Query returns George, John, Robert: one of the 1st steam locomotive builders	Information Sources	Person-Famous
StL&SF	Query: St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad	Information Sources	RR Name
StLSW	Query: St. Louis-Southwestern Railway or St. Louis Southwestern (Cotton Belt)	Information Sources	RR Name
Stock Car	Also: Cattle Car, Branch House, Meat Packer, Meat Packing, Stock Yard, Refrigerator Car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Stock Certificate	Alternate search: Bond or Security/Securities	Information Sources	Finance

Commonly used Abbreviations and Key Word Search Terms

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Stock/Bond Cert	Provides a good way of fining obscure railroads	Information Sources	Finance
Stockyard	also Stock Yard; Stock Car, Cattle Car, Branch House, Meat Packer, Meat Packing, Stock	Information Sources	Industry-Meat
Story of	Railroad histories and biographies	Information Sources	History
Stream Styled	A conventional heavyweight car or Steam loco modified with some streamlined appearance	Information Sources	Locomotive-Steam
Streamline	Alt Query: Streamlined Passenger Car, Streamlined Steam Locomotive, see comment	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Streamlined Passenger Train		Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
Streamlined Steam	Streamlined Steam Locomotive	Information Sources	Locomotive
Street Railway	A railroad designed for city use.	Information Sources	RR Type
Streetcar	See also Streetcar, or Street Railway/Street Ry SEE COMMENTS	Information Sources	RR Type
Striping	Painting of Car/Loco Stripes; see "Paint-Color Schemes" Info Type	Information Sources	Lettering+Painting
Subway	A rapid transit railroad designed for commuter use, operating under the street	Information Sources	RR Type
Sugar	includes Sugar (industry), Sugar Beets, Sugar Cane	Information Sources	Industry-Sugar
Sugar Beets		Information Sources	Industry-Sugar
Sugar Cane		Information Sources	Industry-Sugar
Sunset		Information Sources	Passenger Train
Super Chief	Luxury Passenger Train on the Santa Fe	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Survey	Alt Query: Exploration	Information Sources	Geographic
Switzerland	Primarily refers to the country; alternate: "Switzerland Trail of America"	Information Sources+RR	Geographic-Intl Country
Tail Sign	An end of passenger train sign, also called a "Drumhead"	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
Tank Car	Also: Double Dome, Triple Dome, Vinegar, Pickle, Water Car, Helium car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
TCZ	Twin Cities Zephyr (CB&Q)	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Teacher	See also: "Classroom Guides" "Course" "Lesson Plan"	Information Sources	Education
Tehachapi	Tehachapi Pass	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Telegraph		Information Sources	Communications
Tender	most references are primarily of the steam locomotive with tender	Information Sources	Locomotive
Tennessee Pass	in Colorado: Denver & Rio Grande	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Thesis		Information Sources	Publication Type
Ticket		Information Sources	Passenger Train
Ties or Cross Ties		Information Sources	Track
Timber	See also Sawmill, Logging, Lumber, Tram	Information Sources	Industry
Timeline/Chronol	Chronology of events	Information Sources	Historic Event
Timetable (also Time Table)	See also: "Official Guide" (ORG) A printed schedule showing towns served and times of	Information Sources	Info Source Descrip
Tonnage	Volume of shipments Alt Query: Freight car, Freight train	Information Sources	RR Economics
Track	Search returns Track Plans, Track Diagrams, Track Profile See comments	Information Sources	Geographic-US City
Track Diagram		Information Sources	Track
Trackside	A keyword for Morning Sun Books and some other publishers (see comment)	Information Sources	Books
Traction	A term encompassing street railways, streetcars, Light Rail and interurban RR	Information Sources	RR Type
Traffic	Railroad shipment volumes, car loads,	Information Sources	RR Operation
Train Consist		Information Sources	Train
Train Names	You may search for specific train names: ie: "20th Century Limited"	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Train
Train Orders		Information Sources	RR Operation
Tram, Tramcar or Tramway	alt word for Street Railway or (often) Narrow gauge Logging/Mining Railroad (See	Information Sources	RR Type
Transcontinental	Transcontinental Railroad (query returns Central Pacific, Union Pacific and related)	Information Sources	RR Name
Travel	Alt Query: Scenery, Vacation, Scenic Train Trips; Tour, Travelog, Luxury, Charter	Information Sources	Travel
Trestle	See also Bridge, Viaduct	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Triple Deck Stock Car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Trolley	Archiac term used to describe a streetcar or interurban car or street/interurban railway	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car: Street
Troop	Troop Kitchen, Troop Sleeper, Troop Train	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
Truck	Railroad truck to support a car (or) A highway vehicle for hauling freight	Information Sources	Car

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Truss Rod	Used with Wood sheathed Freight + Passenger cars for underbody strength	Information Sources	Car
Truss Rod	Used with Wood sheathed Freight + Passenger cars for underbody strength	Information Sources	Passenger Car
Tug Boat	Alt Query: Tugboat; See also Marine	Information Sources	Marine
Tunnel		Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Turbine	Query pulls Steam and Gas Turbine locomotives; also "GTEL"	Information Sources	Locomotive
Turbo	Amtrak Turbo Train	Information Sources	Passenger Train
Twentieth Century	Alt Query: 20th Century Limited, Twentieth Century Ltd, Twentieth Century Limited	Information Sources	Passenger Train
TXZ	Texas Zephyr (CB&Q)	Information Sources	Passenger Train
UK	Always specify "England" when searching for British, Britain, or UK"; see comments	Information Sources	Geographic-Intl Country
UNESCO		RR Master	History
Union	Alt Query: Labor, Brotherhood (see comment)	Information Sources	Employee
Union Station	also Depot, Station	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type
Union, Labor Brotherhood	See Comments: Query also returns: "Union Pacific", "Union Depot", "Union Station"	Information Sources	Union
UP	Query: Union Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
USRA	Search returns USRA designed Steam Locomotives and Freight Cars (see comment)	Information Sources	Government
USRA	A USRA common standard design car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
V&T	Virginia & Truckee	Information Sources	RR Name
Vacation	Alt Query: Travel, Scenery, Scenic Train Trips; Tour, Travelog, Luxury, Charter	Information Sources	Travel
Vandalia Line	Query: Vandalia Railroad or Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis (both forms used)	Information Sources	RR Name
Vanderbilt	New York Central founder and family members	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Ventilated	A Ventilated Box car used for transportation of fruits and veg; ie watermelons, etc	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
VGN	Virginian Ry	Information Sources	RR Name
Via Rail		Information Sources	RR Name
Video		Information Sources	Publication Type
Vietnam War	Infrequently referenced in railroad literature.	Information Sources	War
Vinegar Car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Vista Dome	Alt Query: Dome Car or Observation, Strata-Dome	Information Sources	Car: Passenger Car
W&LE	Wheeling & Lake Erie	Information Sources	RR Name
WAB	Query: Wabash	Information Sources	RR Name
Wage	Wages earned; Alt Query Employment, Employee	Information Sources	RR Economics
War	Civil War, World War I, World War II, Korean War; also Railway Gun; See comments	Information Sources	War
Water	Alt Query: Canal, River, Lake	Information Sources	Marine
Water Car	An auxiliary water tender; or company service water car	Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
West	See comment below	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
West Virginia	Query returns Coal mining, ogging, and local railroadss	Information Sources	Geographic-US State
Westinghouse	Developed Air Brake, a key safety development; founded Westinghouse Air Brake Co.	Information Sources	Person-Famous
Wheel	RR Car or Locomotive Wheel	Information Sources	Freight Car
Whyte Steam Loco classific	Loco Designation ie, "2-8-2" See Comments and "AAR Wheel Arrangement"	Information Sources	Locomotive
Wine car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Women		Information Sources	Employee
Wood	Mult meanings: Wooden RR, Wood Car, Wood fuel (for engine), Lumber/Sawmill	Information Sources	
Wood Chip Car		Information Sources	Car: Freight Car
Woodruff	Founded Early sleeping car company	Information Sources	Person-Famous
World	Also International, Foreign (False positive hits=World War I, World War II)	Information Sources	Geographic
World War I	World War I (not World War 1); alt: WWI or WW I	Information Sources	War
World War II	World War II (Not World War 2; alt: WWII or WW II)	Information Sources	War
WP	Query: Western Pacific	Information Sources	RR Name
Wreck	also Accident Disaster Boiler Explosion	Information Sources	Accident-Disaster
Yard	Definition includes Hump Yard, Intermodal Yard	Information Sources	Facility/Struc Type

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Yellowstone	i.e., Yellowstone National Park	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
YMCA	See comment	Locations+Train Names	Facility/Struc Type
Yosemite	i.e. Yosemite Nationa Park	Information Sources	Geographic-US Region
Zephyr (CB&Q Pssgr train)		Information Sources	Passenger Train
Zinc	Zinc Mine or processing facility	Information Sources	Industry