

Books & Authors

How to configure links to library holdings

Version 6

System Requirements

You have two options for using links to holdings: 1) library Catalog URL configuration, or 2) z39.50 server configuration. This document covers both options.

Your library can't use the z39.50 links to holdings unless you have a Z39.50 server configured to use one of the following record formats:

- MARC21
- USMARC
- SUTRS

If you do have a Z server using one of the supported formats, you'll need to make sure that access to the server isn't blocked by a firewall. If it is, you'll need to grant *Books & Authors* access to your server. In addition, you'll need the following information:

- Your administrative **username** and **password**
- The **URI** (uniform resource identifier) of your Z39.50 server. The URI could be text, such as *z3950.loc.gov* (the URI for the Library of Congress), or it could be an IP (Internet protocol) address, such as *140.147.249.38* (once again, the Library of Congress). The URI might be associated with a web page URL such as <http://z3950.loc.gov>, but this is not a requirement for using links to holdings.
- The **port number** the Z39.50 server uses to process incoming requests. This is a positive number, and could be as high as 49151. Some common numbers are 210, 2200, and 7090.
- The **database name**. The database name could be anything, but some common names are "Unicorn" (SIRSI), "Innopac" (III), "Horizon", and "Voyager".
- If your Z39.50 server requires a **username** and **password** (most don't), you will need those as well.

If your library has an online public access catalog (OPAC) URL that can be searched by passing an ISBN, author and title, or title to it, you'll want to have that information available. *Books & Authors* can't query your OPAC if it requires session variable or other authentication information in the URL string, but it supports most other formats.

If you don't know the configuration information for your Z39.50 server or OPAC, you'll need to check with your library network administrator.

Entering the Configuration Information

Step 1

Open up the main page of *Books & Authors* and click on the “Library Administration” link at the bottom of the page. If the link does not appear, please contact customer service.

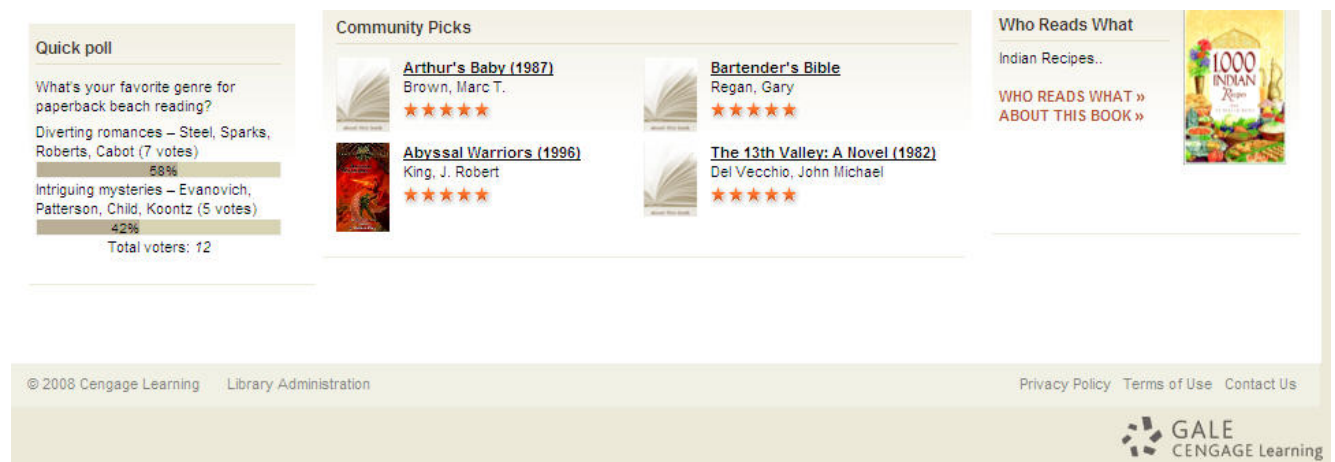


Figure 1: Books & Authors Main Page

Step 2

The Library Administration Login page opens. Enter a valid User name and Password, and click on the “Login” button. If you get an error message when trying to log in as an administrator, first make sure you correctly entered your username and password. If not, you may not be configured as an administrator – please contact customer support.

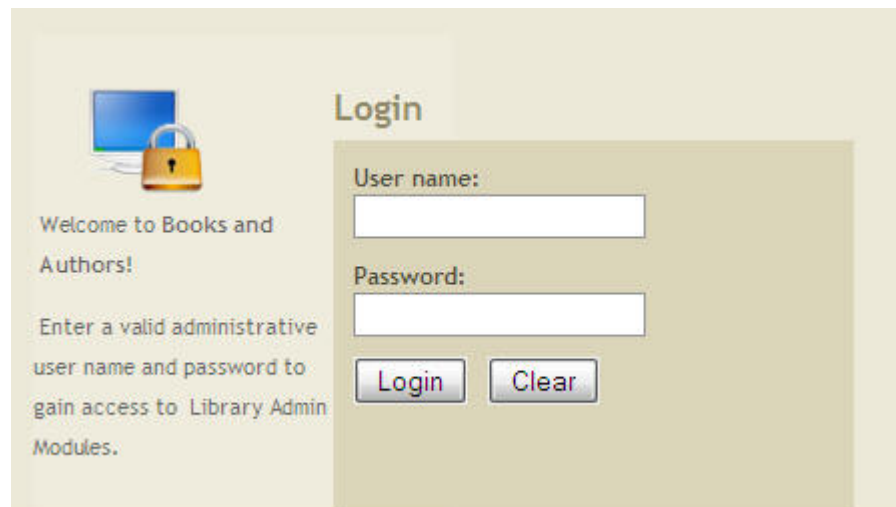


Figure 2: Books & Authors Library Admin Login Page

Step 3

The Library Tool Kit page opens. Click on the “Database Integration” link.

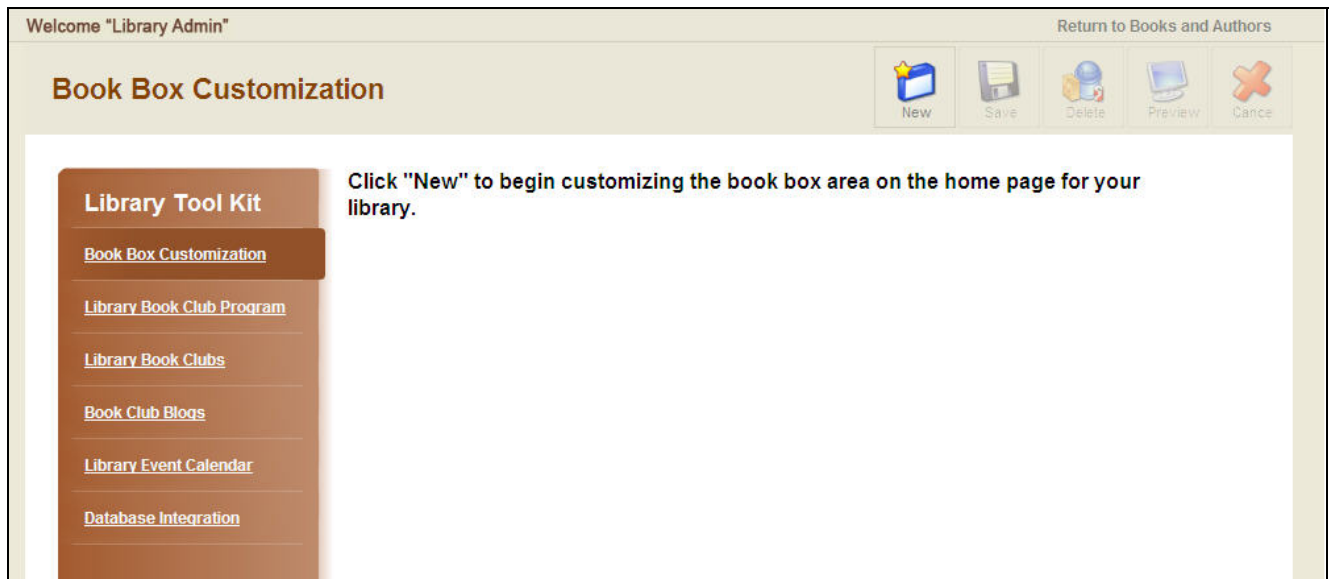


Figure 3: Library Tool Kit page

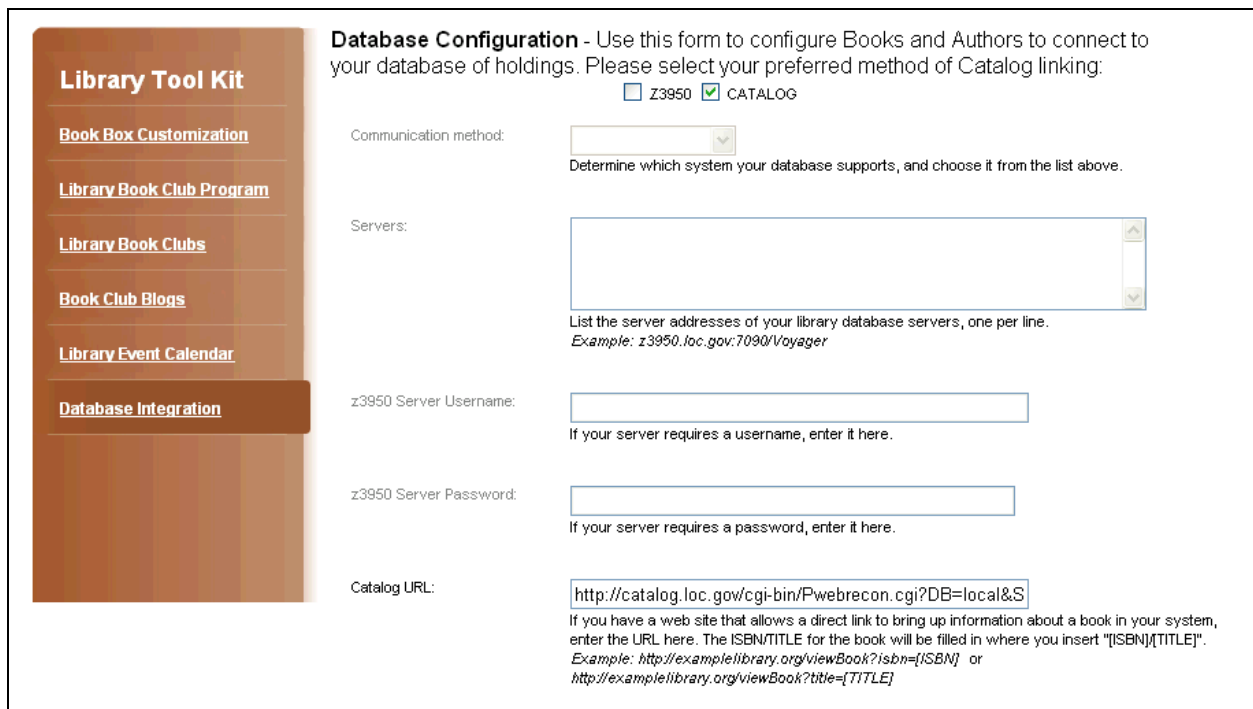


Figure 4: Database Configuration page

Step 4:

The Database Integration page opens.

Choose which links to holdings method you would like to configure. To configure Catalog URL linking, see the directions directly below; to configure z39.50 linking, skip to the z39.50 Configuration section on the next page.

Catalog URL Configuration

To configure Catalog URL linking, make sure the Catalog box is checked under “Please select your preferred method of Catalog linking.” Then enter the information as explained below:

Catalog URL

If you have a searchable catalog URL, enter it here, using brackets and the name of the field in place of the ISBN, author and title, or title, depending on how you want it searched. For example, if you are searching by ISBN, you would enter *[ISBN]* instead of an actual ISBN as shown below.

- [http://examplelibrary.org/viewBook?isbn=\[ISBN\]](http://examplelibrary.org/viewBook?isbn=[ISBN])
- [http://examplelibrary.org/opac.exe/search?au=\[AUTHOR\]&ti=\[TITLE\]](http://examplelibrary.org/opac.exe/search?au=[AUTHOR]&ti=[TITLE])
- [http://examplelibrary.org/catalog/search.cgi? ti=\[TITLE\]](http://examplelibrary.org/catalog/search.cgi? ti=[TITLE])

Step 5

Once you are satisfied that your Catalog URL configuration is correct, click on the “Save” button to save your changes. A confirmation message will appear – click on the “OK” button to continue.

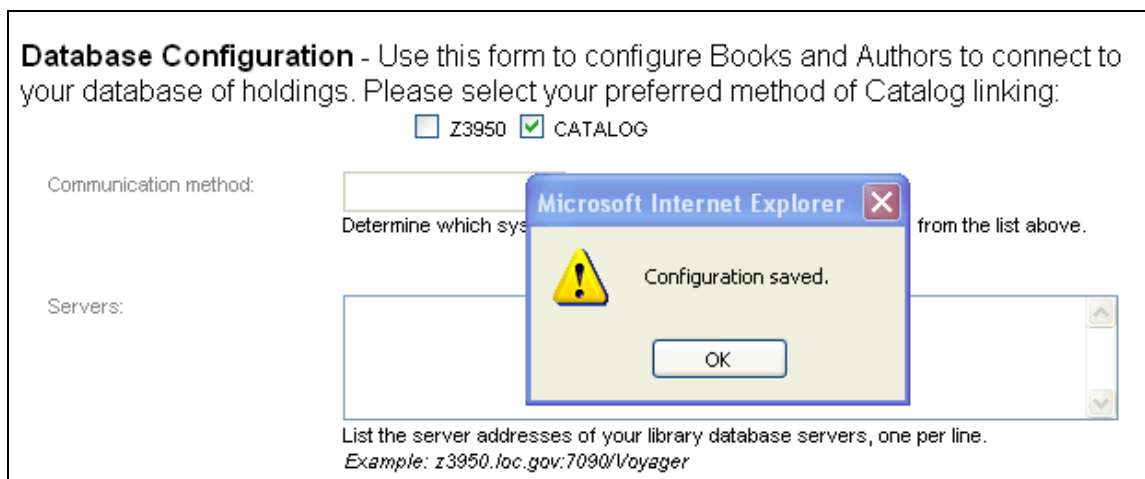


Figure 6: Confirmation dialog

Step 6

Click on the “Return to Books & Authors” link to return to the main page.



Figure 7: Return to Books & Authors

Z39.50 Configuration

If you want to configure links to holdings using your z39.50 server, click on the z39.50 box under “Please select your preferred method of Catalog linking.” Enter information into the fields as explained below:

Communication Method:

The available options are “Z39.50 / MARC21”, “Z39.50 / USMARC”, and “Z39.50 / SUTRS”. Choose the option that matches the record type used by your Z39.50 server.

Servers

Enter the Z39.50 server URI or IP address, followed by a colon, then the port number, a slash, and finally the database name. In the example of the Library of Congress shown below, the user enters “z3950.loc.gov:7090/Voyager”

Z3950 Username

If the Z39.50 server requires a username, enter it here.

Z3950 Password

If the Z39.50 server requires a password, enter it here.

Catalog URL

If you have a catalog URL searchable by ISBN number, enter it here, using brackets and the name of the field in place of the ISBN, author and title, or title. For example, if you are searching by ISBN, you would enter *[ISBN]* instead of an actual ISBN as shown below.

- [http://examplelibrary.org/viewBook?isbn=\[ISBN\]](http://examplelibrary.org/viewBook?isbn=[ISBN])
- [http://examplelibrary.org/opac.exe/search?au=\[AUTHOR\]&ti=\[TITLE\]](http://examplelibrary.org/opac.exe/search?au=[AUTHOR]&ti=[TITLE])
- [http://examplelibrary.org/catalog/search.cgi? ti=\[TITLE\]](http://examplelibrary.org/catalog/search.cgi? ti=[TITLE])

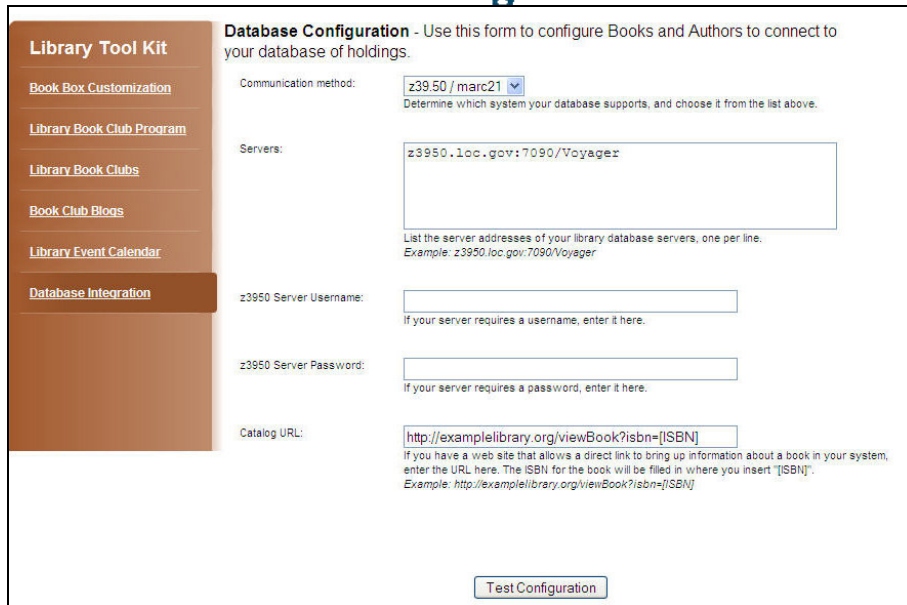


Figure 4: Database Integration Page

Step 7

After you have entered all the information, click on the “Test Configuration” button. Books & Authors will perform some basic checks on your configuration information. While the test is running, you will see a “Verifying...” message. When the test is complete, the application will display a “Test Successful” message if the test passes, and a “Test Failed!! Please check your configuration” message if the test fails. If the test fails, you should double-check your configuration settings to make sure they are correct. If you are sure your configuration settings are correct, please contact Gale customer support for further assistance.

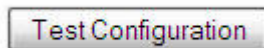


Figure 5A: “Test Configuration” button

Verifying...

Figure 5B: Verification message

Test Successful !!

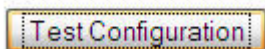


Figure 5C: Success message

Test Failed !! Please check your configuration.

Figure 5D: Failure message

Step 8

Once you are satisfied that your configuration is correct, click on the “Save” button to save your changes. A confirmation message will appear – click on the “OK” button to continue.

Figure 6: Confirmation dialog

Step 9

Click on the “Return to Books & Authors” link to return to the main page.

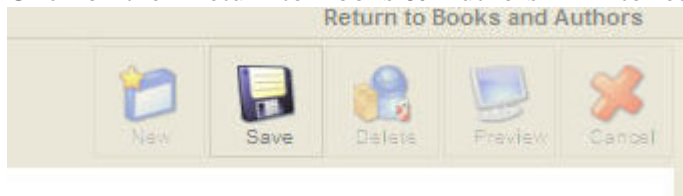


Figure 7: Return to Books & Authors

TROUBLESHOOTING

My z39.50 configuration test failed

- Make sure your library has a Z39.50 server.
- Make sure that the URI you entered points to a Z39.50 server and not a web catalog.
- Make sure that you entered a URI and not a URL – do not use “http://”
- If your Z39.50 server is behind a firewall, you may need to configure it so it accepts incoming requests from *Books & Authors*. Check with your network administrator.
- Your library may have a custom configuration setting not supported by *Books & Authors*. Contact Gale customer support for assistance.

I am using the z39.50 configuration method, and every book I check comes back as not available

- This could be a symptom of a crashed Z39.50 server. Check to make sure your database is still online.

I don’t get a “View Details” link on the “View Results” page

- If you didn’t enter a Catalog URL into the database integration page, the “View Details” link will not appear on the “View Results” page.
- Make sure your link searches for ISBN. Make sure you replace your example ISBN with [ISBN]
- If an ISBN search fails, Books & Authors will try a Title and Author search. Try replacing the ISBN search URL with a title and author search URL. Make sure you replace your sample author with [AUTHOR] and your sample title with [TITLE].
- If the title and author URL search fails, Books & Authors will try a title search only. Try replacing the ISBN search URL with a title search URL. Make sure you replace your example title with [TITLE].

- If your web catalog requires a session ID, library card number, or similar authentication information, *Books & Authors* will not be able to link directly to your catalog. Users will need to enter the catalog through the usual home page.