OPAC on EBSCOhost

Bringing your catalog, databases and readers’ advisory resources together in a single search experience

www.ebscohost.com/opac
How would your patrons describe the search experience of your catalog?

State of the OPAC
Libraries have long been concerned with the usefulness of the interfaces through which patrons, students and researchers access the library catalog. Over the years, several studies have been conducted on the usage of library OPACs from both the librarian standpoint and user perspective. These studies have looked at the cost to implement and maintain library catalogs (including vendor costs, staffing, hardware, etc.), as well as the value of the user experience, and have drawn similar conclusions—the OPAC search experience is far from ideal, and is often criticized as being outdated and cumbersome.

The typical OPAC search experience is far from ideal, and is often criticized.

A Search for Something Better
More and more, library patrons expect their library catalogs to function like the websites and the search engines they use everyday. In order to meet user demand, librarians are searching for ways to offer an improved OPAC experience, including:

- Single Search Box capability
- Inclusion of other electronic resources
- Improved/modern “look & feel”
- Robust features & functionality

With so much time and so many resources put into the development of a library catalog, shouldn’t librarians feel confident that the OPAC search experience provides all of the information that the end user is seeking in a straight-forward and easy-to-use manner?

EBSCO thinks so.

With your OPAC on EBSCOhost, you can maximize the investment you’ve made in your catalog.

Heighten the Value and Usability of Your Catalog with the EBSCOhost OPAC Experience
EBSCO Publishing is leveraging its expertise in loading and enriching data along with the popularity of the EBSCOhost® interface to enable libraries to use EBSCOhost as the front end of their online catalog. While EBSCO won’t replace an integrated library system (ILS) vendor, implementing the library’s catalog on EBSCOhost will allow users to explore their library resources with ease as patrons are presented with a fast and familiar search experience already optimized for end users accustomed to Web searching.

One-Stop Searching with Direct Links to Related Information
With OPAC on EBSCOhost, libraries can elect to include many other resources for a more complete experience, such as links to library resources, subscription content or external content, including:

- EBSCOhost databases
- NoveList recommendations (via NoveList® Select, etc.)
- Related information such as:
  - Book reviews
  - Author services
  - Tagging services
- EBSCOhost® Integrated Search™ (to include non-EBSCO resources)

Additional EBSCOhost Features that Support Optimal Searching
EBSCO offers many features that are not available on any other catalog search experience:

- Reporting
- Guest Access
- Customization options
  - Branding
  - Skinning
  - Toolbar
  - Book carousel
- Widgets (on the Result List or Detailed Record)
- Mobile access from an array of devices (iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, BlackBerry, Android, etc.)
- Enhanced catalog record related information
- Composite Book Records (coming soon)
- Enhanced library catalog record with a consolidated SmartLinked list of available editions and manifestations (i.e., FRBR)
  - Links to all copies/formats—eBooks, audiobooks, ILL, etc.
- EBSCOhost database, eBook & audiobook integration
  - Image Quick View
  - Enhanced PDF Viewer
  - Text-to-Speech

EBSCOhost Supports OPAC for Consortia, Regional Library Systems and Union Catalogs
Set up a demo account — ask EBSCO for more information
A better way to search your catalog— features & functionality on

True Customization
Customizing your catalog on EBSCOhost doesn't restrict the level of customization to a few select features—EBSCO offers numerous options to make the catalog search experience your own. Below are just some of the many customization features that EBSCO provides.

Basic Search

Custom Toolbar/Links
Fully-customizable toolbar allows you to decide the link wording and destination

Enhanced Branding
Bring more visibility to your library and institution brand by adding your library’s logo and collection name

Promote Library Content/Services
Prominently feature elements of your collection through simple HTML and JavaScript links

Advanced Search

Boolean/Nesting
Select a Boolean operator (AND, OR, NOT) to combine the two Find field entries. You can enter another Boolean operator, keyword and search field in the third set of fields.

Location Limiters
Limit your search to certain locations in the library or library catalogs in your consortium. The primary catalog is listed first—EBSCOadmin can default to a single library or a set of locations.

Refine Your Results
Choose to display subject mapping terms, search modes and limiters to narrow the search

Results

Limiters
Refine a search without navigating away from the results page. Limit results by catalog only, full text, publication date, etc.

Facets
Refine search results by selecting suggested subject matter such as Source Types, Subject, Publication, Author, Location, Content Provider, etc. Selected facets are presented in the Breadbox, allowing users to selectively remove individual terms from their search.

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The comprehensive results screen allows the library administrator to display or hide limiters, facets and widgets for simple yet comprehensive searching. In addition, by making EBSCOhost resources available alongside the catalog, patrons will be able to find up-to-date and reliable information through EBSCO’s popular full-text research databases, integrated with the catalog results in a single search.

Skinnability
Choose the color combinations of the interface, font and script sizes

Folders
Both users and librarians can organize articles of interest—articles can be added or removed directly from the results list or from the preview pane

EBSCOhost® Integrated Search™
A fully-integrated federated search option that can bring even more of your resources into the catalog search experience—ask EBSCO for details

Related Images
Preview relevant thumbnail images from EBSCO’s Image Collection

Widgets
Tiny bits of functionality that can be “imported” or “exported,” including content from Flickr, RSS feeds, instant messaging, LibGuides, Wikipedia, etc.
Catalog features & functionality on

Detailed Record
When users click through to the detailed record, they will not only find the latest in-depth record information, but they will also see contextually-related items of interest that add value to the record. These enhancements offer links for one-click access to relevant content, such as related items from your catalog, book reviews, similar books of interest and other applicable information. The related content is—like most other features—customizable and tailored to meet the research needs of your end users.

Real-Time Availability Checking
Users can view holding information to quickly see if the publication they want is available in your library. Or, if your library is part of a system or consortium and the title is not currently available at your library, users will be able to see if the title is available in multiple library locations.

Social Features
Bookmark and share search results via numerous social media links, including Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn, Delicious, Digg, etc.

Author Catalog
Display other books by this author from your catalog

Recommendations from NovelList
Libraries subscribing to NovelList (and NovelList Select) can help patrons discover new books that meet their interests and are already on your shelves. When you subscribe to NovelList resources, EBSCOhost can display series information, similar authors and similar titles from your catalog directly on the record, ensuring that readers will learn about relevant books that are sitting on your shelves 100% of the time.

Coming Soon: Enhanced NovelList Select display

Title Reviews
Reviews from such sources as Library Journal and School Library Journal via MasterFILE™ or NoveList

Recommendations from NoveList
Libraries subscribing to NoveList® and NoveList® Select can help patrons discover new books that meet their interests and are already on your shelves. When you subscribe to NoveList resources, EBSCOhost can display series information, similar authors and similar titles from your catalog directly on the record, ensuring that readers will learn about relevant books that are sitting on your shelves 100% of the time.

Support Multilingual Searching
By offering your catalog on EBSCOhost, your library will be better equipped to reach out to non-English speaking patrons/students in your community as searching will be supported in over 40 different languages. Advanced limiters, clusters and search aids will also be available to assist multi-language searching.

Widgets for Detailed Records
Admin-controlled HTML or URLs that can pull related content into the detailed record (e.g., Google Books, ChiliFresh, Social Tagging Services, Goodreads)

Support Multilingual Searching

- Arabic
- Bahasa Indonesian
- Bengali
- Bulgarian
- Chinese, Simplified
- Chinese, Traditional
- Croatian
- Czech
- Danish
- Dutch
- English
- Estonian
- Farsi
- Finnish
- French
- German
- Greek
- Hebrew
- Hindi
- Hungarian
- Irish Gaelic
- Italian
- Japanese
- Korean
- Latin
- Slovenian
- Spanish
- Swedish
- Tagalog
- Thai
- Turkish
- Vietnamese
- Yiddish

More than 40 languages supported, including:

Customization
Library administrators who don’t have a technology background will find the EBSCOadmin customization screen easy to use. Customize the OPAC experience on EBSCOhost through simple options to add widgets, colors, branding, linking options and much more.

Reporting
EBSCOadmin Usage Reporting provides:

- Reports for Searches, Abstract Views and Link Outs for Catalogs
- Reports for Searches and Link Outs to EHIS connectors
- Standard EBSCOhost full-text database reports

Title Reviews
Reviews from such sources as Library Journal and School Library Journal via MasterFILE™ or NoveList

Enhanced Catalog Records
Automatically enriches your catalog records with book jackets, TOC information and more.

Related Information from EBSCOhost Databases
Provides links to relevant content from EBSCOhost databases to which a library subscribes (e.g., Literary Reference Center, Biography Reference Center®)

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Automatically enriches your catalog records with book jackets, TOC information and more.

Real-Time Availability Checking
Users can view holding information to quickly see if the publication they want is available in your library. Or, if your library is part of a system or consortium and the title is not currently available at your library, users will be able to see if the title is available in multiple library locations.

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Usage Counts by Month

2010-October
2011-November
2011-December

Syngapah Bold Library

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Syngapah Bold Library
Support, Training & Services

OPAC Integration Service & Support

EBSCO has a dedicated team of support representatives specializing in OPAC services to make the initial implementation (load and set up) of your catalog on EBSCOhost® simple and efficient. Once loaded, the catalog can be updated as frequently as needed—even daily.

EBSCO’s team of representatives are ready to offer support for your library at any time, and are able to provide knowledgeable and timely responses to service inquiries. All customers worldwide have access to a toll-free Customer Support line seven days a week via phone, email or the Support Site.

Imagine your catalog searchable on virtually any smartphone…

Search Box Builder

This tool enables library administrators to create a customized search box, which can be placed on any page of a library’s website, to provide users with instant access to the library’s catalog and EBSCOhost resources.

Notable EBSCOhost® Feature

EBSCOhost® Mobile™

Designed for usability on mobile devices, EBSCOhost Mobile is optimized for smartphone systems—including iPhone, BlackBerry, Android, etc.—focusing on the core searching and viewing functions for fast and easy searching of your catalog on the go.

Coming Soon:
Download the free app for iPhone and iPod touch

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