

Bookmark Fact Sheet

Using Open Library to Catalogue

June 2026

Open Library is a free large online database of books.

Wikipedia entry: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_Library

The URL is <https://openlibrary.org/>

Bookmark can download and import limited cataloguing data, and book cover images, from Open Library. It is part of Bookmark's Z-Cataloguing system.

Activate

To be used, Z-Cataloguing must be active.

Open Settings.

Click on Cataloguing.

Click on the Z-Cataloguing tab.

Make sure the "Use z39.50" checkbox is ticked. This must be done even if z39.50 is not used.

In the "Open library" frame, click on "Test download". This will attempt to order one book. If successful, Z-Cataloguing using Open Library can be used.

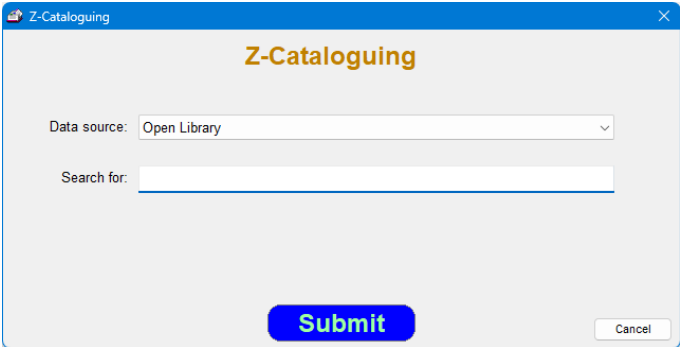
Note: the openlibrary.org URL can be blocked by network security. It must be available for both download and upload.

Cataloguing

Open Library can provide data when cataloguing.

Open Bookmark's Cataloguing module. Click on Add/Edit Items. Enter a book's new barcode as normal.

Click on the Z-Cataloguing button at the top.



Use the "Data source" dropdown list to select Open Libraray.

email

education.bookmark@sa.gov.au

website

<http://bookmark.central.sa.edu.au/>

Next to Search for, scan or type the book's ISBN or type a few words from the title.

If one entry is found – usually when an ISBN is entered – the cataloguing data is downloaded and displayed.

If multiple entries are found – different editions of a title – click on the correct one in the list then OK.

Add / Edit Items - New Item

File Record Lists

Save Z-cataloguing List titles Copy Find Print Import from Clipboard History Cancel

Item Number: 4
Barcode: 11234000042 Generate
Title: Betrayal of Worlds (Ringworld) Check
Subtitle:
Responsibility:
Media (GMD):
Series: F5-check
Volume: Serial number:
Author(s): LARRY NIVEN, Edward M. Lerner F5-check
Subjects: Space warfare F5-check
Fiction
Fiction, science fiction, space opera
Collection:
Call number:
Content type: text
Media type: unmediated Carrier type: volume
Pub.place:
Publisher: Tor Science Fiction, Tor, Tor Trade, Blackstone Audiobooks, Blackstone Au
Pub.year: 2010, C
ISBN: 9780765326089 SCIS number:
Edition:
Description: 401 pages
Lexile: PRC: Level:
URL:
Other:

Status: 1 - Available
Item type: FIC - Fiction
Location: Library
Sublocation:
Supplier:
Cost:
Replacement cost:
Order number:
Cost centre:
Purchase date: 24/06/2026
Accession date: 24/06/2026
Due date category: 0 - Normal
Loan restrictions: 0
☒ Visible in search
☐ Exclude from stocktake
☐ Do not count against loan limit
Copies: 0 List Link
Box: Make Add
Alt.ID:
Cover:
Circulation Information

Notes Contents Synopsis Loan note Return note Reviews Save Cancel

Editing

Data may require cleaning.

Check the title and tidy up if needed.

Check Series, and especially author. Multiple authors may appear on one line and need to be separated.

Subjects may also appear on a single line and need separating.

Publishers and pub.year can have many multiple entries and require editing.

Fill out the right side with copy details.

Save.

Book Cover Image

Bookmark will attempt to automatically download the cover image if available. It will assign the ISBN as the image filename.

You can also ask Bookmark to look for an Open Library image even when cataloguing a different book. Click on the Record dropdown menu at the top, then Check for cover (open library). Or hold down the ALT key and press F12. Bookmark looks at the ISBN line to locate the image file.

Mass Download Book Cover Images

Open Library may have images not available through SCIS.

Open Cataloguing.

Click on Cover Images then on 2 – Download covers.

Source 3 is Open Library.

Warning: Bookmark collects all the ISBNs for which you have no images then attempts to find and download each one. This can take a very long time for hundreds of thousands of images. Click on the cross or press ESC to cancel.