

## Bookmark Fact Sheet

# Updating Bookmark Queensland State Schools

August 2024

After updating Bookmark, many Queensland state schools find the version number of Bookmark is still the same as before. It has not changed to the new version.

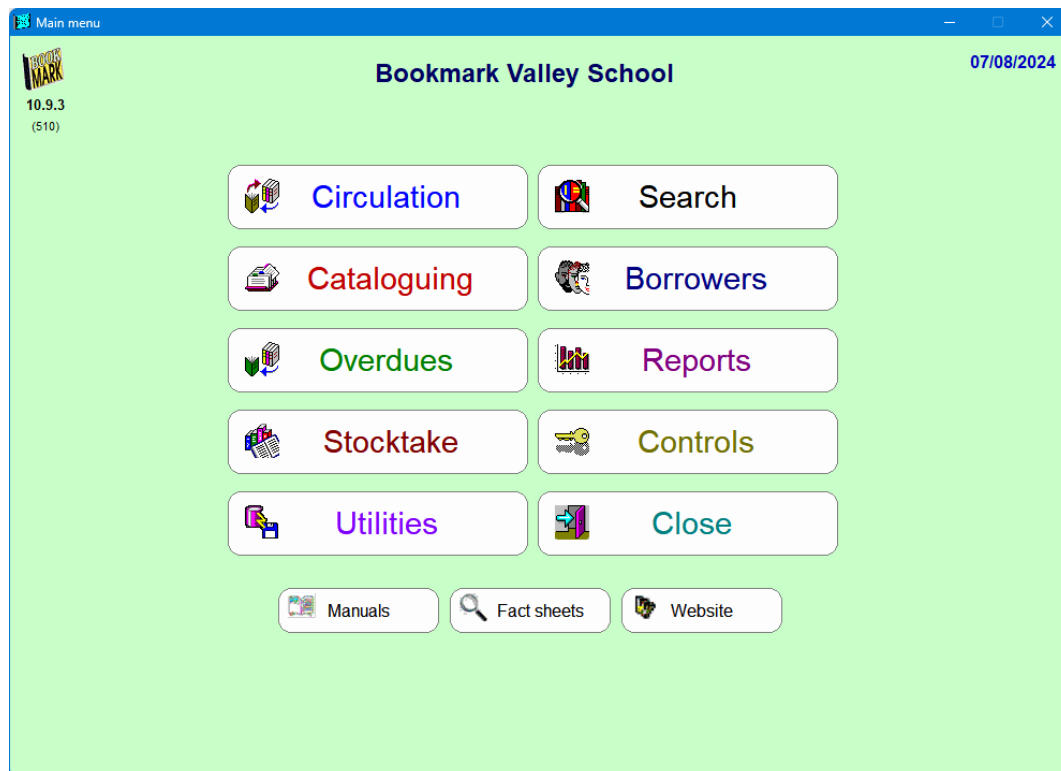
The security system used by Queensland state schools can interfere with updating Bookmark.

The interference is specific and cannot be stopped. It can be worked around using the information presented below.

Most, but not all Queensland state schools are affected.

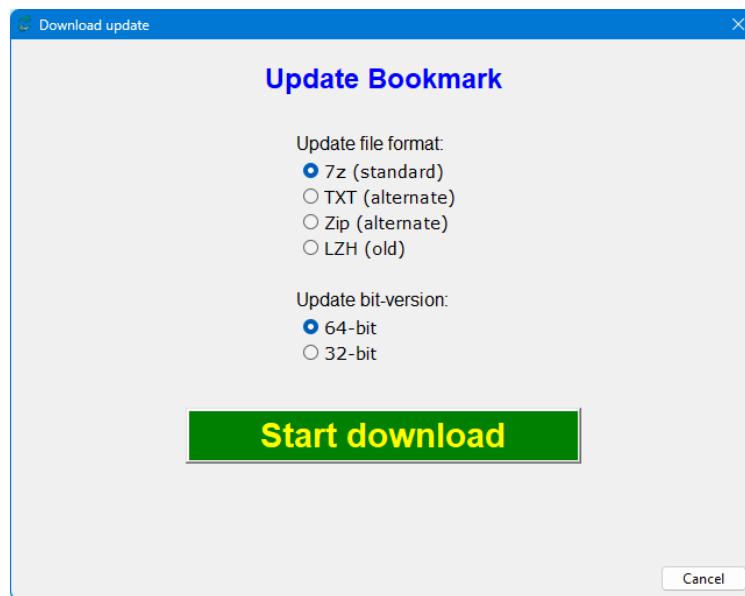
### The Interference

Bookmark consists of over a dozen separate "exe" modules. Each is a separate program. Each is opened by clicking on a button on the Main Menu.



When Bookmark updates, it downloads a container file called *Bmupdate*. This file is available in different formats, which users can select when updating. It has been found that the new 7z

format and the older TXT format have the least interference when updating. The format can be selected before clicking on Start Download.



After the file downloads, Bookmark counts to 10 then extracts all the different exe modules and other files.

Normally these newer files automatically over-write existing files of the same name.

The security system can block four files from being over-written. These are:

- Bm.exe
- BmMainMenu.exe
- Bmx.exe
- BmxMainMenu.exe

Usually only one is blocked.

All the other modules are updated. It is only the Main Menu modules that are affected.

### **What do these files do?**

*Bm.exe* is a small program that launches (opens) *BmMainMenu.exe*.

*BmMainMenu.exe* is the actual Main Menu. This is often the file blocked, although the launcher can be blocked, too.

*Bmx.exe* is a copy of *Bm.exe* with an 'x' added to the filename.  
*BmxMainMenu.exe* is a copy of *BmMainMenu.exe* with an 'x' added.

These copy files exist to deal with the interference.

**email**  
[decd.bookmark@sa.gov.au](mailto:decd.bookmark@sa.gov.au)

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

After updating Bookmark normally, if you find the version and build numbers have not changed to the latest but are still the previous, that indicates interference has happened.

The solution is to tell the computer to switch to opening one of the copies.

### How to Change the Copy that is Opened

Left-double-clicking on the Bookmark desktop icon opens the icon when then opens the program.

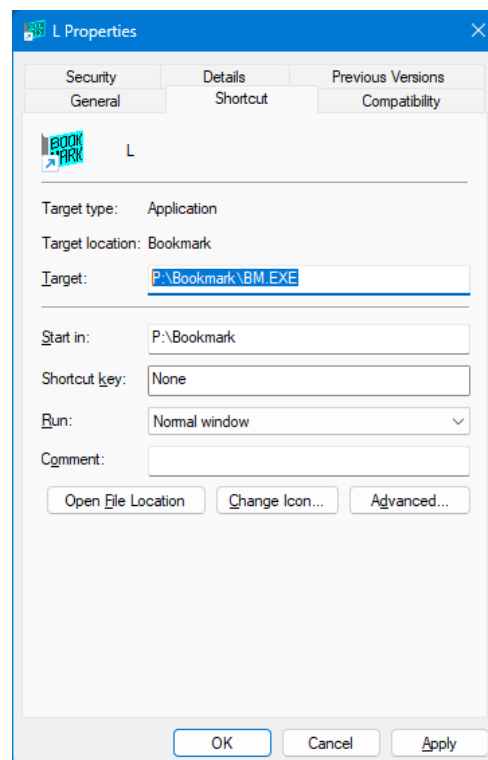
The icon contains “properties” that tell the computer which program to open and where it is located.

The trick to work around the interference is to make a small change to the properties.

This procedure is the same for Windows 7, 8, 10, and 11.

To see the icon properties, place the mouse arrow on the icon picture then right-click. (Or, place the mouse arrow then hold down the Alt key and press Enter at the same time.)

On the popup menu that appears, left-click on *Properties*.



The important part is the line with the heading *Target:* .

The Target line tells the icon which program it is supposed to open.

The Start in line tells the computer where the program is located and to use that drive/folder as the default after opening. It contains the location of Bookmark and is the same as the Target but without the last \Bm.exe part.

For most Queensland state schools – but not all – the Target line often reads:

**P:\BOOKMARK\BM.EXE**

Bookmark is located in the "Bookmark" folder which is on the P: drive. That drive is on the school's server.

BM.EXE is the part of Bookmark being opened.

The Target could look different. It may begin with two backslashes. Example:

\\EQSOC0520010\Apps\Bookmark\BM.EXE

The filename is not case sensitive. Letters can be upper, lower, or a combination.

The filename may also have double-quotes around the start and end if there are blank spaces.

In the above examples, Bm.exe is the launcher program that then opens BmMainMenu.exe.

### **Tick 1 – The '1' Gambit**

For the first try, add a blank space then the numeral 1. Like this:

P:\Bookmark\Bm.exe 1

Click OK to save.

The 1 tells the launcher program to open the copy BmxMainMenu.exe instead of the original.

If you already see the space 1 after the exe part, remove both the numeral and the space then click OK. Try it now.

Then open Bookmark. If it opens to the new version, it works. Hooray! No need to go further.

Often, adding or removing the 1 parameter is enough to work around the block.

### **Trick 2 – the 'X' Gambit**

If the above does not work, the next trick is to tell the icon to open the copy of Bm.exe.

Add the letter X so it looks like BMX.EXE instead of BM.EXE . Keep the rest.

If the X is already there, try removing it.

OK again and try it.

Sometimes, after trying this, going back to the '1' Gambit will then work.

### **Trick 3 – the 'Main Menu' Gambit**

Another trick that can work is to bypass the launcher program and directly open the Main Menu.

Example: P:\Bookmark\BmMainMenu.exe

If it looks like that, add the 'X' in between Bm and MainMenu.

Example: P:\Bookmark\BmxMainMenu.exe

Or, if you see the X, remove it, OK and try.

OK and try it.

### **Try 4 – The Bookmark Help Desk**

There is a chance something else may be interfering or not working.

If none of the above works, *call the Bookmark Help Desk*. They can usually set things right.

We are here to help!