WorldCat Discovery

WorldCat Discovery is a cloud-based application that helps people easily find resources available at their library and in libraries worldwide through a single search. Library users and staff use their WorldCat Discovery instance to search the WorldCat database, to identify materials they need, and to see where they are available.

1. See Introduction to WorldCat Discovery to get started.
2. See how to Configure WorldCat Discovery features and Search in WorldCat Discovery.
3. Find live and recorded Training.

• Get started

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  Get started with WorldCat Discovery.
  ◦ Add a privacy notice
  ◦ Available collections and databases
  ◦ Definitions
  ◦ Introduction to WorldCat Discovery
  ◦ My Account in WorldCat Discovery
  ◦ Staff features and accounts
  ◦ WorldCat Discovery account roles
  ◦ WorldCat Discovery screen reader compatibility

• Configure WorldCat Discovery features

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  WorldCat Discovery Services provides a suite of cloud-based applications that brings the FirstSearch and WorldCat Local services together.
  ◦ Configure content and staff features
  ◦ Configure databases to search
  ◦ Configure patron facing features
  ◦ Create a shortcut using the WorldCat Discovery icon
  ◦ Proxy settings checklist

• Display local data

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  Learn how data unique to your institution displays in WorldCat Discovery including full-text links, local
bibliographic data (LBD), and local holdings records (LHRs).

- Chat with a librarian and send feedback
- Direct linking and article clustering
- Display order of branches, shelving locations, and items
- Enable "Report a broken link" and receive emails
- Fulfillment and discovery options
- Full-text link display in WorldCat Discovery
- Local bibliographic data (LBD) field mapping
- Local holdings record (LHR) field mapping

• Search in WorldCat Discovery

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Use advanced search strategies and filter results to optimize your search results in WorldCat Discovery.

- Search and use query syntax
- Filter and refine search results
- Use the Advanced Search screen
- Search the Central Index and Remote Databases in WorldCat Discovery
- FirstSearch and WorldCat Discovery index differences

• Search results

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Learn about how WorldCat Discovery search results display.

- Browse the Shelf to view nearby items
- Display locally held formats on search results
- Format display in search results
- Image display in WorldCat Discovery
- Item bibliographic data display
- LibKey Discovery search results
- Locate items in the library with StackMap
- Open content in WorldCat Discovery search results
- Physical item availability on electronic resources
- Reading Lists and Resource Lists
- Representative record and availability display on grouped search results
- Search result record display
- Share records and create citations
• Reserve and request items

Use WorldCat Discovery’s advanced features to request and reserve discovered items.

◦ How item status displays in your OPAC
◦ Hold requests
◦ Recall items
◦ Set up and use course reserves

• Promote

Use advanced features to create search links and search boxes to promote your library’s WorldCat Discovery service.

◦ Create Advanced Search links and search boxes
◦ Promote WorldCat Discovery in your library

• Frequently asked questions

Frequently asked questions (FAQ) about WorldCat Discovery.

◦ Can I customize my library’s WorldCat Discovery URL?
◦ Can library staff view MARC records in the Discovery interface?
◦ How do I represent my subscription content?
◦ What advanced search options are provided for expert searchers?
◦ What features are included in the staff view of WorldCat Discovery?
◦ What is the difference between adding a collection in WorldShare Collection Manager and adding databases in the Metasearch Content module?
◦ What is the difference between WorldCat and WorldCat.org? What do I need to know about the central index?
◦ Which libraries should enable OCLC databases? Non-OCLC databases?
◦ Which WorldCat Discovery features are customizable?
◦ Will my ILS interoperate with WorldCat Discovery to deliver real-time availability status?
◦ Will my library’s coverage information be reflected if I enable non-OCLC databases of my subscription content?

• WorldCat Discovery release notes and known issues

Find WorldCat Discovery release notes and known issues. Release notes are documents that contain information about new product features and enhancements as installed in scheduled releases.
2021 WorldCat Discovery release notes

2020 WorldCat Discovery release notes

2019 WorldCat Discovery release notes

WorldCat Discovery release digest

Known issues

• WorldCat Discovery training

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  Find training on WorldCat Discovery.

• Troubleshooting

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  Find frequently asked questions (FAQ) and troubleshooting steps (Troubleshooting).

  ◦ Are we missing a setting to allow patrons to make ILL requests from the A-Z titles page?
  ◦ Articles from a journal in a database I subscribe to do not appear as results in Discovery when I search for them
  ◦ Why are the issues appearing out of order on a journal in WorldCat Discovery even though the order in WorldShare Circulation is correct?
  ◦ A database I see in the Complete list of databases does not appear in the Metasearch database list, where is it?
  ◦ A provider notified us that they will no longer be supporting the z39.50 protocol. What impact will this have on our WorldCat Discovery site?
  ◦ A search in WorldCat Discovery results in an error stating “There was an error while displaying your record.”
  ◦ A title in a knowledge base collection with print periodicals is not showing availability in the A-Z list
  ◦ CAMIO support ended 31 December 2018
  ◦ How can I request a database be added to WorldCat Discovery?
  ◦ Can a new record be added to a previously saved list?
  ◦ Can a user email or print a list of all results?
  ◦ Can I add a PDF to course reserves?
  ◦ Can I get cover art images via the WorldCat Search API?
  ◦ Can I get my old personal lists onto WorldCat Discovery now that WorldCat Local is no longer accessible?
  ◦ Can I suppress Ahead of Print articles from displaying in WorldCat Discovery?
  ◦ Can reCAPTCHA be disabled in WorldCat Discovery?
  ◦ What is a session ID for WorldCat Discovery and what is it for?
  ◦ Discovery doesn’t show editions and formats known to be on a title
  ◦ What do I do if I get the error message “There was a problem receiving availability information for this item. Click to try again.”?
  ◦ How do we fix links from one collection not showing our proxy URL so links remote users can access them?
Do Discovery URLs use HTTP or HTTPS?
- Do we have access to WorldCat Discovery?
- eBooks do not appear in the search results when we limit searches by branch location.
- When searching for a proceeding in Discovery, if a user clicks on “Check holdings in your Library Catalogue” then it will find the ebook in which the proceeding is contained, but the ebook link doesn’t display automatically.
- Under Editions and Formats, I found a record that shouldn’t be there
- Has a new release updated the hold parameters we have set in Service Config for Worldcat Discovery?
- How can I avoid getting article citation records in my WorldCat search results?
- How can I change the language of interface text in WorldCat Discovery?
- How can I change the order of our items that display in the item’s Holding Summary in Discovery?
- How can I correct the We are unable to get availability information for this item error?
- What determines the search indexes in my Advanced Search?
- How can I get my book images to appear in the catalog summary display?
- How can I get rid of a link to a title that doesn't match the title described in the WorldCat record?
- How can I request a quote for WorldCat Discovery?
- How can I resolve an IP Range Overlapped error, and find the institution who owns the IP address?
- How can I tell if I'm using WorldCat Discovery vs. WorldCat Local?
- How can I view other editions and formats of an item?
- How can patrons send messages from WorldCat Discovery?
- How did our symbol get added to eBook titles in Discovery? We have that setting turned off inside WorldShare Collection Manager.
- How does Google Analytics track IP addresses?
- How do I setup Custom Links to ensure they display correctly in WorldCat Discovery?
- How do I add a library to relevancy in our group catalog?
- How do I change incorrect information in a record?
- How do I change my default pickup location for holds in WorldCat Discovery if I am not a WMS library?
- How do I change my logo on Discovery?
- How do I change the display name on our WorldCat Discovery site?
- How do I change the order branch holdings display in WorldCat Discovery search results?
- How do I control the order that the Access Online links appear on an eresource record?
- How do I create and update personal lists in WorldCat Discovery?
- How do I create deep links to my library catalog if I don't have WorldCat Discovery?
- How do I fix Discovery hanging when trying to display availability or title pages?
- How do I get back to the main search page after performing a search?
- How do I go about updating the branding in Discovery?
- How do I integrate Google Analytics 4 with WorldCat Discovery?
How do I keep the place hold button from displaying for items in specific shelving locations?

◦ How do I remove a symbol from a relevancy group?

◦ How do I remove Course Reserves from the navigation bar of the WorldCat Discovery screen?

◦ How do I remove the Check Holdings button from my library's name in the Libraries Worldwide dropdown?

◦ How do I request a WSKey for the WorldCat Search API?

◦ How do I set my library's default search to Libraries Worldwide?

◦ How do I set up Z39.50 ILL linking from Discovery to SHAREit?

◦ How do I subscribe or unsubscribe from an OCLC listserv?

◦ How do I subscribe to the WorldCat Discovery Listserv?

◦ How do I update my library's link to our local catalog?

◦ How do I update my chat widget in WorldCat Discovery?

◦ How do we update our information for OCLC mailings such as post card advertisements or invoices?

◦ How to correct identical records when duplicated and displaying twice in Discovery?

◦ How do we remove an incorrect version link displaying in Discovery under the Check Availability section?

◦ I'm an author, how do I get my book published in WorldCat.org?

◦ I’m receiving an error stating I’m not subscribed to this service when I go to WorldCat.

◦ Is it okay to delete a shelving location if there are still records associated with it?

◦ Is it possible to change the default scoping in WorldCat to only our institution and not all of WorldCat?

◦ Is it possible to limit results to only microform?

◦ Is it possible to turn off the best fulfillment option in WorldCat Discovery?

◦ Is there a charge for course reserves migration from WorldCat Local to WorldCat Discovery?

◦ Is there a list of the different zs: values associated with our institutions Search Box?

◦ Is there a way in Service Config to have a Recall button placed without a Hold button?

◦ Is there a way to create a search box widget in Discovery that searches only print books in our collection?

◦ Is there a way to print a record from Discovery?

◦ Is there a way to pull the Open Access / Free database stats in Discovery statistics?

◦ Is there a way to remove the database recommendations?

◦ Items in a location that are unavailable are showing a green check mark

◦ I added a new location to the grid for Any Status, why aren't my settings working?

◦ I am an author. Why does my work include other authors' names in the WorldCat record?

◦ I am getting an error when I try and save in the Service Configuration

◦ Why am I not able to view a link to a shared list sent by email?

◦ I deselected Group related editions in WorldCat Discovery. Why aren't all of the versions of an item my library holds visible?

◦ Why am I getting error message "HTTP Status 403 - The number of requests exceeded the 24 hour quota" when I execute a search?

◦ I have gone to the Modernized UI for WorldCat Discovery. How do I get back to the current WorldCat
I just purchased access to a licensed database, what do I do now?
I searched for a title and got a result that was completely unrelated to the item I searched, why?
I see a holding in WorldCat for another library that I think is wrong, can I delete it?
I see the letters kf in the expanded search terms. What does kf mean?
I selected a journal from a collection in Collection Manager, why is it not showing as being held by my library?
How can I tell if a link is from the WorldCat Knowledgebase or is a DOI link?
I’m not able to retrieve a record in Discovery by any search except OCLC number.
Language changes don't take place in WorldCat Discovery
Why are links to open access content still showing despite being de-selected in Service Configuration?
My holdings are not displaying in WorldCat Discovery
My library is changing their ILS and we need to update our availability for WorldCat Discovery, how do we update this?
My Links Plus links display in WorldCat Local but do not display in Discovery
Why are holdings not displaying in WorldCat Discovery search results even though our holdings are attached to a record?
Our institution recently changed open URL link resolvers. How do we edit or delete our old open URL resolver and add our new one?
Our libraries share an IP address. How do I add it to both sites?
Request button isn't displaying for articles
Why is the URL in the 856 field not displaying in Discovery?
The database I want to set up for the search box feature does not appear in the drop-down list.
Why is the eBook format icon appearing in the record, when this is clearly a print record according to the description?
The item a patron requested in available so why does My Account say Not Ready For Pickup?
The “Request through Interlibrary loan” button is not appearing on search results even though we do not have access to the articles
The same record is displaying twice in Discovery
Why is the Print format icon showing on this record when it is clearly an eBook record based on the description?
This search record cannot be retrieved at this time error when trying to place an ILL request
Unable to retrieve availability error in WorldCat Discovery
Using the WorldCat Search API, documentation indicates a JSON response. But, even though I'm sending an Accept header with the value 'application/json', I keep getting the XML response.
WC has returned the error message "An error occurred on the MetaAuthentication System"
Weird title appearing in search results
We are finding “Access online” linking buttons to titles that we do not own or subscribe to. We do not have holdings in records manager, nor are the titles selected in our instance of Collection Manager.
We are transitioning from Local to Discovery, do we need to set up a new page for our patrons to login?
◦ We are unable to select “Links from Local OPAC” to be set for our WorldCat Discovery.
◦ What's the point of turning on an index-only or abstract database if they don't display full text links?
◦ What does a library do when they receive a broken link email from their patrons?
◦ What is a discrete database?
◦ What is meant by the term availability in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ What is my OCLC Link Resolver Base URL?
◦ What is the URL for my institution's WorldCat Discovery site?
◦ What link should we use for the public to do searches?
◦ What materials are included in the A-Z list?
◦ When are WorldCat Discovery statistics available each month?
◦ When a patron clicks a link to an article, they are prompted to login even on campus
◦ When I search for a title in Discovery with our library selected I get no results. But when I change to libraries worldwide, our library displays as a holding library.
◦ When using wildcards in a search, I get bad search results.
◦ Where can I create a new shelving location?
◦ Where can I find a guide to setting up Z39.50 configuration?
◦ Where does our A-Z list generate from in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Where is that text above the Report a broken link coming from?
◦ Why am I getting an “OOPS” error when going into WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why am I getting an additional permissions required message when trying to print MARC records in WorldCat Discovery
◦ Why am I getting an error message instead of additional database recommendations when searching remote databases in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why am I getting a "Cannot publish to OCLC" error when updating the OpenURL resolver?
◦ Why am I getting a "following databases are not available to this institution" error?
◦ Why am I getting a "You are not connected" error message in WorldCat Discovery when I'm inside the library?
◦ Why am I getting the error, “This endpoint supports POST requests only”?
◦ Why am I not able select one of the EBSCO databases listed on the database list?
◦ Why am I receiving a "This ILL request form requires IP authentication" error?
◦ Why am I seeing conflicting shelving information for an item in Discovery?
◦ Why am I seeing non-Latin script in a title in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why am I seeing View eBook links on numerous records with the same title - even when we don't hold them?
◦ Why am I unable to choose remote databases
◦ Why are items that are checked out or lost showing a green check mark as if they are available?
◦ Why are my database recommendations not showing in WorldCat Discovery?
Why are my Google Analytics statistics different from my OCLC Discovery Usage Statistics?

◦ Why are my OpenURL Resolver links returning a Bad Request - Invalid URL error?
◦ Why are some library names hyperlinked in the Libraries Worldwide section while others are not?
◦ Why are there different search results when searching First Search vs. searching in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why are there fewer results in WorldCat Discovery for a centrally indexed database?
◦ Why are the 856 URL links not displaying in Discovery?
◦ Why are we getting the "Try again. Populating the search results took too long" error?
◦ Why can't I see the Course Reserves link in WorldCat Discovery and why do I get an Access Denied error when using a bookmark?
◦ Why can't I see the Search box generator in Service Configuration
◦ Why can't I see the WMS Place Hold Form Display in my Service Configuration?
◦ Why can't I search by barcode in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why can I no longer edit Course Reserves when my roles have not changed?
◦ Why can't I see the availability for a print book on an eBook record of the same title in Discovery?
◦ Why doesn't Discovery include the database name when creating a citation?
◦ Why doesn't the record display options or the correct links when linking to the A-Z list?
◦ Why does our OCLC Link Resolver resolve to a dissertation and not an article?
◦ Why does our WorldCat Search API key stop working?
◦ Why does the Access Online button not display on titles I have selected in Collection Manager?
◦ Why does the A - Z list not bring up all the links to a journal when we do a partial title search as opposed to a full title search?
◦ Why does the Searches Used -- Institution report show duplicate numbers for so many of the databases?
◦ Why does WorldCat Discovery show that we do not have v.1 and v.2, followed by an indication that we do have those items available?
◦ Why don't I get newspaper articles in my results when I filter to Newspapers or eNewspapers?
◦ Why don't I see my call numbers in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why don't the results match between the A-Z Link Resolver and the WorldCat knowledge base when searching by journal title?
◦ Why don't all the authors and contributors available display in the facet column in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why don't I see all of the volumes in a multi-volume set in WorldCat Discovery availability?
◦ Why do articles appear as Peer-Reviewed?
◦ Why do I get the Error "Oops! Something went wrong." when I search WorldCat Discovery from the Search Box widget?
◦ Why do I keep getting a "Preview not available for this collection" error when I open a collection in the A-Z list?
◦ Why isn't a link showing to our local catalog from the A to Z list?
◦ Why isn't the audience filter displaying in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why aren't the links to my library's catalog resolving correctly in the A-Z list?
Why isn't the My Account link working?
◦ Why isn't WorldCat Discovery searching the databases set in the default database group?
◦ Why is an item that we do not hold shown as being held in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why is Available listed twice for the status of an item?
◦ Why is a link appearing in WorldCat Discovery that is not from a collection selected in Collection Manager?
◦ Why is call number searching failing in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why is WorldCat Discovery not searching a newly selected database?
◦ Why is my course reserves search box no longer working?
◦ Why is my item record showing a "Circulation information is unavailable" or "Item status unavailable" availability error?
◦ Why is there no place hold button when an item is checked out?
◦ Why is there no "View Full Text" button on an article in Discovery?
◦ Why is the A-Z Link Resolver taking users to a journal provider who doesn't have the full text for the article?
◦ Why is the ILL Request button showing up in Discovery on one computer but not another?
◦ Why is the Libraries Worldwide accordion in Discovery showing 0 holdings for all results?
◦ Why is our custom message for the sign-in username box truncated?
◦ Why is the message "Please visit your library to get this item" appearing above our library's availability?
◦ Why is the option to turn on WorldCat knowledge base links in WorldCat Discovery greyed out?
◦ Why is the title I'm searching for not appearing as the first result?
◦ Why is the WorldCat Search API not pulling back results for certain OCLC Symbols?
◦ Why is this item showing as an ebook in WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Why is WorldCat.org linking to an item which has the same title but a different format?
◦ Why is WorldShare or Discovery taking so long to load?
◦ Why there are fewer total results when truncating a search in Discovery?
◦ Why was I able to find a record in WorldCat Discovery and not Record Manager?
◦ Why won't my logo display properly on WorldCat Discovery?
◦ Will lists that are not moved to WorldCat Discovery be deleted?