Set up Extras: Overdrive

Alexandria integrates with Overdrive Digital Distribution. Records will import automatically, and your patrons will have access to the Overdrive ebooks through the Researcher modules.

Just as with your other resources, patrons can add the ebooks to lists and write reviews. By clicking on the cover art or link, the patron will be taken to your library's Overdrive account where they can check books out or place them on hold if no copies are available.

Overdrive will authenticate this patron with Alexandria to ensure they are in good standing with your library, and are allowed checkouts of this type according to Alexandria preferences and policies.

To set this up, go to your **Preferences**, the Extras area, and select OverDrive from the list on the left.

Check the box to Enable Overdrive Features for this site.

There are three steps to allow Overdrive integration with Alexandria:
1. Provide your Alexandria Data Station server IP Address (or domain name), web port, and Serial Number to Overdrive. Note that your Data Station *must* be publicly accessible outside of your site or district firewall.
2. Create your OverDrive Code and provide it to your OverDrive account representative.
3. Enter your OverDrive Account ID so that Alexandria can automatically obtain title information, cover art, and availability.

Enter your Overdrive Account ID here. If you don't know your Account ID, please contact OverDrive. *(216)-573-6886*

OverDrive Advantage lets you purchase additional copies of popular or unique titles that your union does not own. Enter your Advantage Account Name here — or, if you don't know your account name, contact OverDrive.

The Overdrive Code, which Overdrive refers to as an ILS Vendor Authentication or Terminal Password, is essentially a password which you create and provide to Overdrive. It allows Overdrive to communicate with Alexandria in order to authenticate Alexandria patrons.
Be sure the code is no less than seven alphanumerics (letters or numbers), without spaces, punctuation, or special characters.

Once you've provided that information to Overdrive and filled out these fields in your preferences, you are set to use Overdrive with Alexandria. The following options are for your convenience.

The Vendor URL is mainly for reference, you can fill in the Overdrive website. http://overdrive.com.

Enable checksum error handling, is an SIP2 standard; this should be enabled, and only disabled under the direction of Technical Support.

Last, you can set a default policy for Overdrive items when they are imported. Set this to your eBook or eBook equivalent policy.

Under the Contact tab, you can enter the contact information for your Overdrive representative.

Save the preference.

If you have any questions or require assistance, contact COMPanion Technical Support at *(800) 347-4942.*

Now you are ready to use Overdrive ebooks with Alexandria!

Additional Information

Be aware that OverDrive eBooks will import as title records, and they do *not* need copies.

OverDrive ebooks can not be directly viewed from Alexandria. Patrons will need to sign in to OverDrive with their personal log-ins in order to view and check out Overdrive materials.

Patrons can use the Overdrive app to manage and read their Overdrive ebooks.

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