

http://www.goalexandria.com/v7Docs/index.php/Preferences:_Configuration:_Z39.50:_Z39.50_Servers
<http://irspy.indexdata.com>

z39.50 Server Sets for Adding Titles

So you know how to use Title Assistant to add item records in Alexandria, but searching the Default set of Z39.50 servers for MARC records hasn't been working the best for you. In this video I will show you how to create your own z39.50 sets to optimize your cataloging.

**Note: z39.50 configurability is available only to customers on an "A" License.*

At this time, the z39.50 set that Title Assistant uses, **COMPanion Default**, contains the Library of Congress, OhioLink, and Salt Lake City Public library databases. These particular servers are almost always available.

Note: The Salt Lake library has changed their z39.50 address, so their results aren't showing up in searches.

Library of Congress has a huge number of well-formatted records, and you will want this database, especially if you are going to be adding records using the LCCN (such as older books without ISBNs).

OhioLink also has a huge number of records, but the cataloging of some of these records may not meet your standards.

Creating Your Own z39.50 Set

Open Preferences, and under Configuration, click on z39.50.

To create your own z39.50 set to use as a search group, at the bottom of the list of Sets (the list to the left) click the add icon.

Name your new search group. I'll name it MARC Search for this example. Click on Save.

A z39.50 Set must have at least one available z39.50 server to be useful for Title Assistant, and no matter what you have entered here, Title Assistant will automatically search your Local collection.

As you select servers for your new z39.50 set, consider the reliability of the database, and quality of its catalog records. Also, you may want to include at least one in-state z39.50 server to easier find MARC records for materials on your state.

If the database you want is listed under the Z39.50 servers here, you can click on it and 'Add To Set'.

To add a new z39.50 server, on the right, click on the Actions menu, Add, then you will need to enter the Name, Server (or IP) Address, Database, and Port.

I've included a few sets in the Show Notes, so you can copy from there. You can find more sites at IRSpy.indexdata.com.

(all of these are in the standard set)

*Name: OH - Special - OhioLINK
Server Address: olc1.ohiolink.edu
Database: INNOPAC
Port: 210*

*Name: DC - Special - Library of Congress
Server Address: lx2.loc.gov
Database: LCDB
Port: 210*

*Name: CA - Academic - University of Southern California
Server Address: library.usc.edu
Database: SIRSI
Port: 2200*

While you may have as many servers as you want, you probably won't need any more than 5.

Selecting the New z39.50 Set

Open Item Management and add a new item.

In Title Assistant, you can change the default Z39.50 Set to your custom set, in this case the one I named MARC Search.

When I search for an item, the returned results will come from the specified set of databases.

Using Multiple z39.50 Sets

Whether you choose to keep the Default as your search group or create your own for normal cataloging, you could create several extra z39.50 sets for specific types of items.

For example, you could create a set with z39.50 MARC databases that are best to search when adding Music CDs, another for DVDs, another for local items not likely found in most databases.

To create multiple sets, from the z39.50 Preference click on the Add icon on the left-hand side and give them names you will recognize from Title Assistant -- for example Audio Visual, State Materials, and so on.

Add addresses to these sets, and you are finished.

State Materials

Name: UT - Academic - Brigham Young University

IP Address: catalog.lib.byu.edu

Database: SIRSI

Port: 2200

When you open Title Assistant, you can select the z39.50 set appropriate for the type of item you are adding.

Notice you must also uncheck the 'Search for books only' checkbox in order to get non-book results.

Title Assistant will remember your z39.50 Server settings for the next time you add an item.

Now you are ready to use Title Assistant.