How do Custom Links need to be setup to ensure they display correctly in WorldCat Discovery?

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Extra detailed useful information on how to set up these customised links, in what order & with what type of links - as its essential that certain links are set up to specific custom link numbers. While others are more flexible and can be used in a number of ways. This FAQ gives you those suggestions, along with how to select the correct settings for each option required.

Applies to

- WorldCat Discovery

Answer

- You can configure up to seven custom links to display in WorldCat Discovery.

- Some of the custom links though have to be set-up specifically with set information, while the last 4 can be set-up with other or different Link type options (e.g., links leading to your library home page, new library resources, library shelving map, a special web page, local library or your online databases etc).

- There is a 25 character limit on the label text for each link.

To set up custom links, follow these steps:

1. Sign into the [OCLC Service Configuration](https://help.oclc.org/Discovery_and_Reference/WorldCat_Discovery/Troubleshooting/How_do_Custom_Links_ne...) with your OCLC Services Account.
2. Click WorldCat Discovery and WorldCat Local > User Interface Options > Custom Links.
3. Edit current custom links or add another custom link and Save Changes.

However there are a few guidelines that need to be followed when adding your custom links in to Discovery.

**Link 1:** Must always Custom link 1 for the chat with a librarian option and can not be used for other type of links - if you do not want to use this functionality, then this link needs to be left blank with just 'library contact info' elected (then not used).

**Link 2:** If you wish to use the A - Z option this can be set up in Custom Link 2. This link allows patrons to discover electronic journals held within the WorldCat knowledgebase and can be set up also to display your print journals. If you would like to include print serials in your A to Z list, you will need to add the collection to your knowledge base via using Create a Collection in WorldShare Collection Manager.
Link 3: Must use Custom link 3 to configure the remote access login only. If you have a proxy service that allows off-site users outside your IP address to access restricted library content and services, Link type needs to be set to remote access login. If you do not have or want to use this functionality, leave type as remote access login & leave the rest of the fields blank, as this custom link can not be used for other types of links.

Note: When a resource is selected that requires remote authentication, patrons will see a box that says Authentication Required and includes a link to sign in.

Links 4 - 7 Can be set up with a variety of link types, according to your libraries requirements. Just ensure you select the correct link type for your resource.

Possible Suggestions:

Link 4: This can be set up for a range of different access you may wish to offer patrons. The Link type needs to be set to other if you would like to grant access to your Library Home page, a Web-page, a New Library Resources page or another resource you have access to via a URL.

Link 5: This can also be used as in Link 4, but you may also like to consider offering quick access to your online databases. The Link type needs to be set to online or full text databases and the URL set to your advance search page.

Link 6: This can be set up in the same way as link 4 or 5 OR if you subscribe to StackMap this can be integrated within the WorldCat Discovery Interface to enhance the user experience. [StackMap provides users with a detailed map and written directions to the location of physical items within the library]. If you have this, the Link type needs to be set to library shelving map.

Link 7: This can be set up in the same way as link 4, 5 or 6 OR you may like to also offer access to your local library, to do this you would set the Link type to local library account access.

Additional Information

For more information about setting up Custom links see User Interface Options help page.

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