

# Items Preferences

## Preferences

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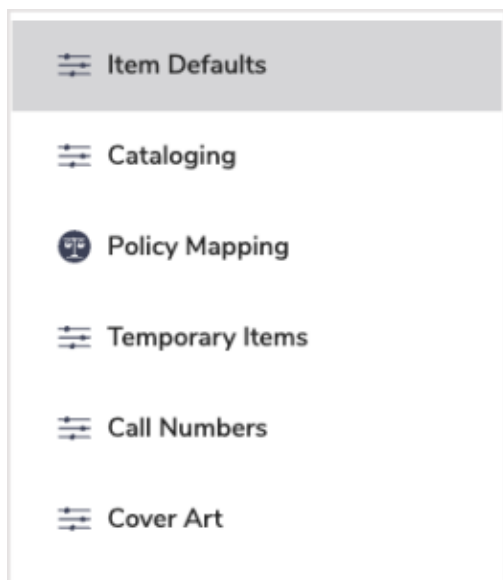
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This page has been moved over to <https://support.goalexandria.com/preferences/items-preferences/>

These preferences configure some of the default settings that are applied to new items (i.e. title and copy records) when they are added to your collection.



Click the tabs below to expand for more information.

## Item Defaults

### Item Defaults

SITE-A

**Alexandria** Hi, Demo COMPanion Demo

**Preferences - Items** Still getting used to it? Switch to the old view. SITE-A

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### Barcode

New copies are assigned the next available barcode number unless you assign them a number manually. Set this field when you first configure Alexandria so that new copies are assigned barcodes that coincide with your numbering strategy.

Next Barcode \*  
1300000

### Policy & Medium

Policies control the rules of circulation and statistic groups, and mediums are filterable and visible to your patrons in Researcher.

Default Policy: Standard Item  
Default Medium: book

### Copy Location

Do copies added from your site belong to that same site? Do these copies have a typical location?

Copy Site: COMP | COMPanion Demo  
Copy Location: Mysterious Passage  
Copy Shelving: Bookcase behind Fluffy

## Barcode

- **Next Barcode.** New copies are assigned the next available barcode number (shown here) unless you assign them a number manually. Setting this field when you first configure Alexandria will ensure new copies are assigned barcodes that coincide with your numbering strategy. The code will increment automatically as new barcodes are assigned.

## Policy & Medium

Select the default item policy and medium to use for new title records.

- **Default Policy.** This drop-down menu allows you to select the default item Policy for newly added title records. The default is **Standard Item**. If an operator-created item policy is applied and later removed from the system, this setting will revert back to Standard Item.
- **Default Medium.** This drop-down menu allows you to select the default item Medium for newly added title records; the program default is Book.

## Copy Location

Values entered here will be used as defaults when adding new copies, and when changing copy locations using the Circulation command: "CH".

NOTE: The copy site will always default to the user's logged-in site.

- **Copy Location.** Default value for the copy location field when changing copy locations; the term used for "copy location" can be modified in your Localization preferences.
- **Copy Shelving.** Default value for the copy sublocation field when changing copy locations; the term used for "copy shelving" can be modified in your Localization preferences.

# Cataloging Cataloging

SITE-A

These preferences are used to help manage and configure your catalog classification system so that you can allocate call numbers to your resources.

## Title Assistant

### Default Z39.50 Set

Select the default Z39.50 set you want to use when adding new items with Title Assistant. Sets are configured in **Preferences > z39.50**.

### New Copy Status

Select if new copies are available immediately, or require processing.

## Policy Mapping

SYSTEM-A

Centralized Catalog users often want items at their location to use their own policies (for better statistics reporting); the Policy Mapping preference tab allows you to input lists of call number ranges which can be used to link import items (i.e. items entered via import only) to existing policies at your site. Provide an alphabetic value for call numbers beginning with letters of the alphabet (e.g. ABC) or a numeric value to designate call numbers that fall within a numeric range (e.g. 300-310).

For example, in a Centralized Catalog, a call number range (FIC A-FIC Z) with a library identification code of CDL get mapped to CDL's Fiction Policy and a call number range (FIC A-FIC Z) with a library identification code of ADL get mapped to ADL's Fiction Policy.

When importing an item, Alexandria will attempt to match Call Number and Site code first. If both are present (and match) in the item record, then that policy is mapped. However, if there is no match between Call Number and Site code, then Alexandria will try for a straight call number match, regardless of library. If Alexandria can not find a match on either the Call Number or the Site code, then the default policy (e.g. Standard Item) will be applied.

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SYSTEM-A

Preferences - Items

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On import, if an item falls in one of the call number ranges you have entered here, that item will be assigned the corresponding policy.

Call Number Range	Policy	Site
Fic A - Fic Z	System Item	COMP
ER A - ER Z	Easy Reader	COMP

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DUPLICATE

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Temporary Items

SITE-A

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Try the Intro tutorial from the help menu!

Read More

Hi, DemoMia Middle School

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Any item with a barcode in this range will be automatically assigned temporary status. Use temporary items to due dates and get statistics on items that you normally wouldn't add to your permanent catalog (e.g. magazine)

Beginning Temporary Barcode

90000000

Ending Temporary Barcode

99999999

Default Temporary Item Policy

Standard Item

Temporary Items

Use these settings to establish a “temporary item” barcode range. Any item loaned using a temporary item barcode number is considered a “temporary” check out—but only if that number hasn’t been previously assigned to a patron or an item.

A temporary item check out requires a barcode number that falls within this specified Beginning / Ending Barcode Number range:

- **Beginning Temporary Barcode Number.** Enter the first number of the barcode range that you want dedicated to temporary items. Default is 90000000.
- **Ending Temporary Barcode Number.** Enter the last number of the barcode range you want dedicated to temporary items. Default is 99999999.
- **Default Temporary Item Policy.** Select the default policy that Alexandria will use when calculating due dates and fines for temporary items. Review your Policies preferences for more information on Standard Item and System Item policies. Default is Standard Item.

## How to Use Temporary Items

You can use “temporary” check outs to keep track of items in your library that can be loaned, but don’t want part of your permanent collection. For example, you may want to track when newspapers, brochures, magazines, and other items are loaned and returned, but not inventory them due to their limited shelf life.

Temporary items are checked in and out the same as other items; they may be renewed and they can even elicit overdue fines. However, once the temporary item is checked back in, the transaction record and temporary item (barcode) information is removed from Alexandria without a trace.

While they are checked out, temporary items may appear in Loaned Item reports, Patron Overdue Lists, Charges and Overdue Fines, and Lost Copies reports. However, because they are not inventoried, they will not show on Inventory reports or Shelf List Cards reports. Additionally, a temporary item can never be found when searching your catalog. If you find that your “temporary” items circulate frequently, it may be better to permanently catalog them; otherwise information about them will need to be re-entered from scratch each time they are loaned.

There are several ways to check out temporary items:

- You can prepare several temporary item check out cards with barcode numbers taken from your temporary barcode range (see above). When a temporary item is checked out, attach one of these cards. When the item is returned, remove the card and return it to the stack of temporary item check out cards to be reused for other temporary items.
- Another way to perform temporary checks out is to place a temporary item barcode number on all temporary items that might be checked out. The barcode is then used only for that item, but never permanently entered into Alexandria. For example, as newspapers are received daily, place a new temporary barcode label on them.

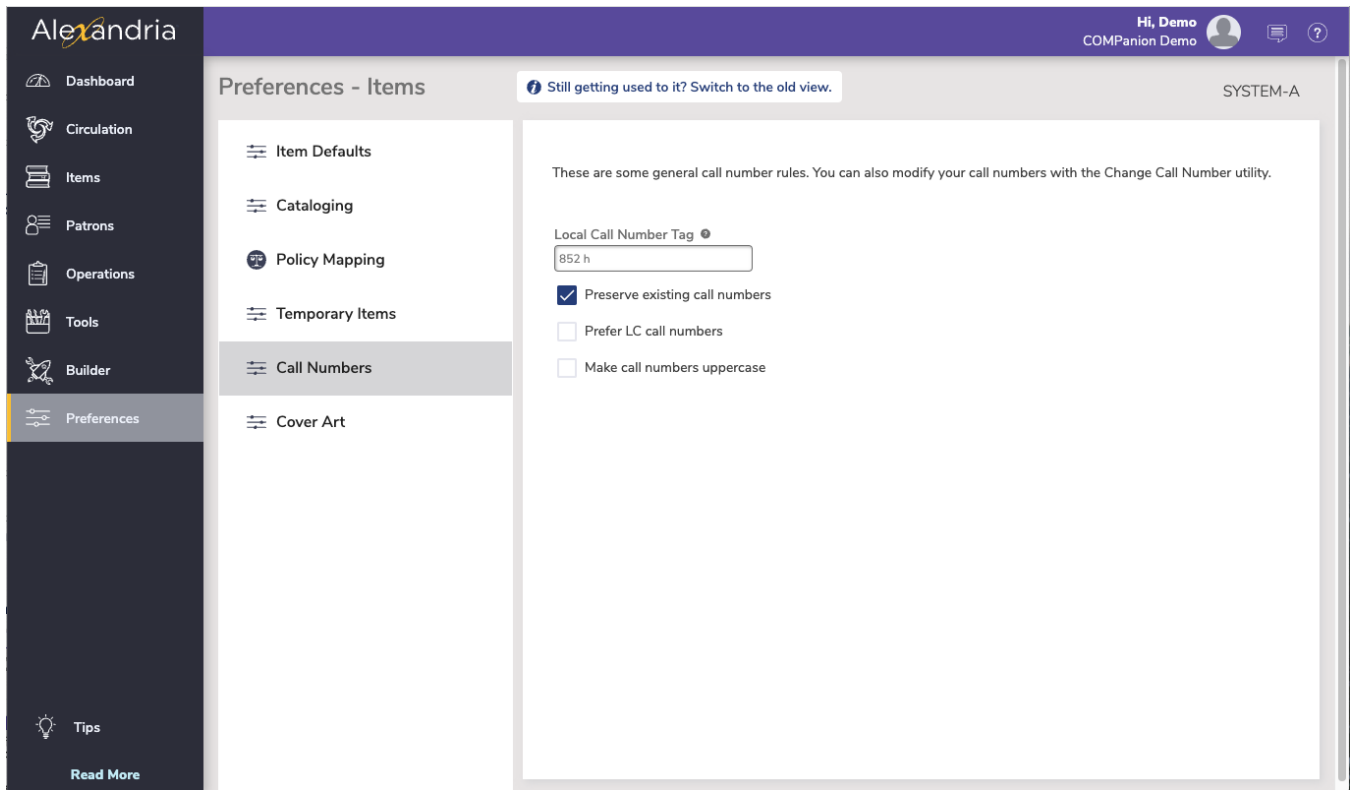


You can print temporary item barcode labels using the [Copy Labels \(3x10\)](#) report.

## Call Numbers

## Call Numbers

SYSTEM-A



## Local Call Number Tag

During import, if your call numbers are not kept in the customary location within the MARC record (Alexandria uses 852\_h), this preference is used to configure where Alexandria should check first for the call number. If you enter a valid "tag\_subfield," Alexandria will scan that point in the MARC record to find the call number. If your call numbers are typically in tag 900\_a, enter "900 a" (omitting the quotation marks) in this field.

Please note that you must include a space to separate the tag and subfield; for example: "852 h" or "082 a". To specify more than one Local Call Number subfield, separate each entry with a semicolon (e.g. "082 a; 082 2"). If you don't use a local call number tag, leave this field blank.

## Preserve Existing Call Numbers

Existing call numbers will never be modified during an import or during automatic SmartMARC record updating. Default is checked.

## Prefer LC Call Numbers

When searching for call numbers in an imported MARC record, if the import file does not contain local Alexandria Call Numbers in the a 900\_a or 852\_h tag, Alexandria will look for an LC call number in the 050 tag. If no 050 tag is found, Alexandria will then search for call numbers in other tags, such as the 082. Do not check this preference if you use Dewey call numbers. Default is unchecked.

## Uppercase Call Numbers

Alphabetic characters in call numbers will be saved and displayed in uppercase (e.g. FIC A).

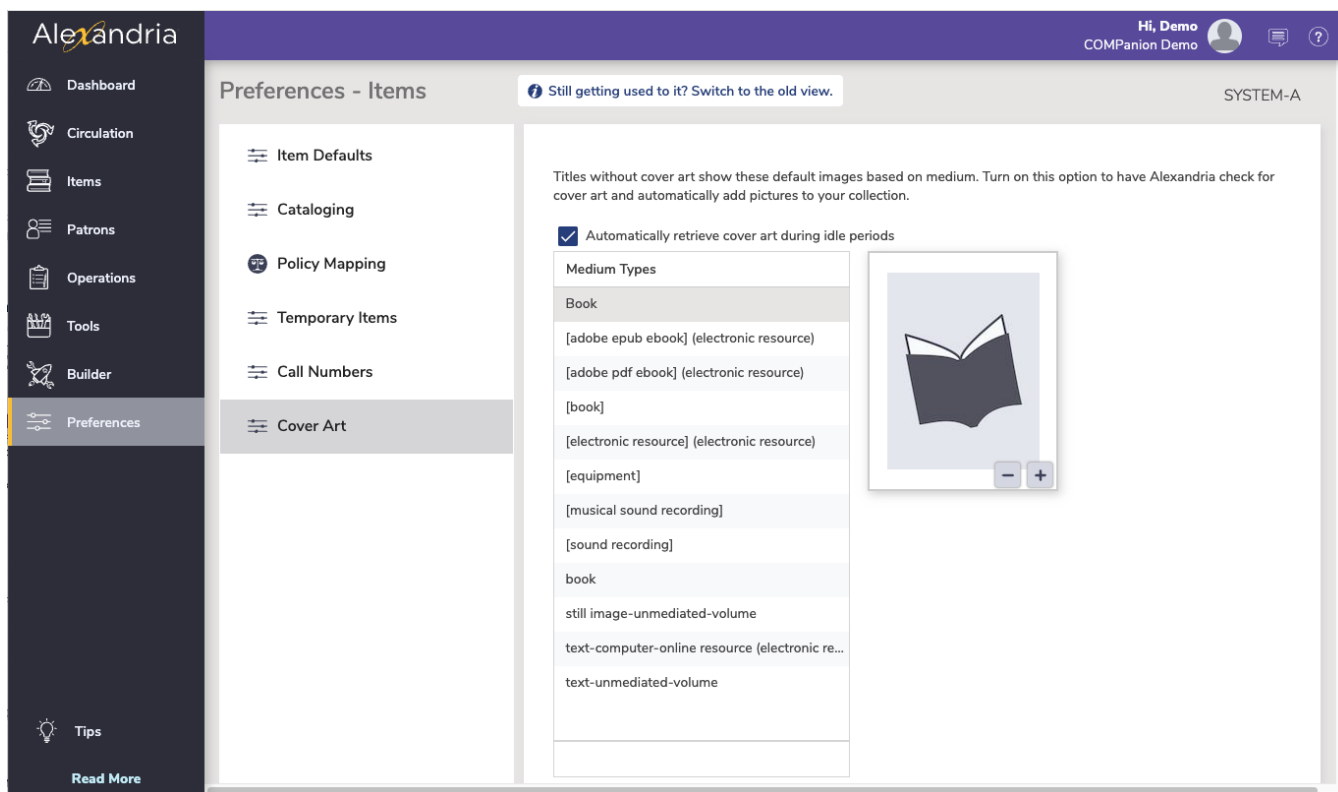
# Cover Art

SYSTEM-A

This tab allows you to see Alexandria's default medium pictures. Medium pictures are used in several areas of the program, including the Circulation window every time an item is made current. Medium pictures won't appear when an item has been assigned its own cover art from the Items Management window.

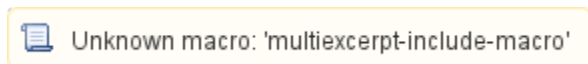
## Automatically Retrieve Cover Art During Idle Periods

When checked, Alexandria will automatically add cover art for items that don't already have it. The utility will run in the background and search the internet during idle times.



## Default Medium Images

The following is a list of mediums that Alexandria supports by default; entering any of the terms exactly as they're shown below in the New Medium roll-down will populate the medium with a default image.



## Download Medium Images

If you would like to have different medium images, you can right click and save the images below.

## New Medium Images



