21.12 Release Notes

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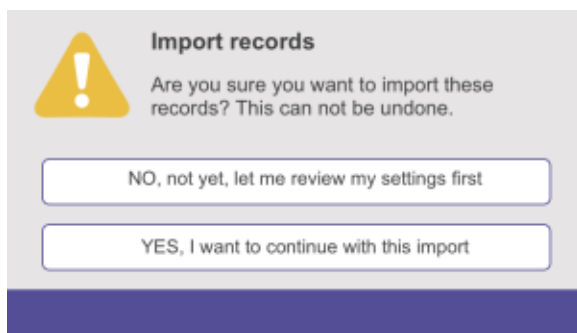
New & Improved

21 May 2022

Highlights

We've redesigned our login screen for all newer areas of Alexandria. It's a little cleaner, a little prettier, and a little more like our Makeover. Your patrons will see this now in Researcher, and you can check it out in Offline, Self-Service, Activity, and all of the Makeover interfaces.

When importing item files (e.g. from a vendor), you can select multiple files to import at the same time.

On the other hand, sometimes folks accidentally import a file and it causes all sorts of problems. So now there's a nice little checkbox to make doubly-triply sure you are sure you are ready to import!

IMPORTANT: There are changes to authentication when using Gmail as your SMTP. Does that sound like something you do? You will need to authenticate. Read more.

We've updated our Terms of Service to reflect these changes.

Improvements

- You can place reservations on up to 50 copies at a time when registered for Advanced Bookings.

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- In the Discarded Copies report, you can now select by Copy Location. This allows you to report on information per location.
- We support a new sync format through GG4L.

Fixed

Circulation

- The Daily Operations output wording has been corrected for In-Stock and On-Shelf holds from "Removed" to "Processed."

Reports

- Advanced Booking reservations are no longer being canceled.

Export

- Exporting patrons in Alexandria and Textbook Tracker now correctly exports the patron policy short code.

Textbooks

- Textbook Tracker item barcodes can now end in alpha characters.

How to Update

> ⚠ This page has been moved over to https://support.goalexandria.com/release-notes/
>
> All release notes 23.9 and onward are on the new Support Center.

Latest Release

Release Notes
Feb 20, 2024 • updated by Myra • view change

Cloud-Hosted Updates

When you host with us, we take care of all updates! During these updates—the second to last or last weekend every month (Saturday and Sunday)—please plan for possible downtimes with Alexandria. And if you need to contact Customer Support over the weekend, please call us (emails are only responded to during regular business hours Monday–Friday).

Self-Hosted Updates

Once all of the Cloud-Hosted servers have been updated, we will make the update available to Self-Hosted servers.

> ⓘ We highly recommend you consider [Cloud Hosting](#).

Not every version is able to update to the newest version, so the Available Updates window will only include those versions that meet your machine and version requirements.

> ⊘ **Self-Hosted Notice - Mac**
>
> If you self-host on a Mac, hold off updating your servers to macOS 10.15 Catalina until you can update to Alexandria 22.8 or later (64-bit compatible releases).
>
> If you self-host on a Mac, here's how to install the update on your Self-Hosted server:
>
> 1. [Log in to Alexandria](#).
> 2. Append **/admin** to the end of your Alexandria URL.
> 3. Click the **Actions** menu, then select **Check For Updates**.
> 4. Select the update version from the list, then click **Update**. Your update will now download.
> 5. The update screen will close automatically and you will be redirected to the login window.

> ⊘ **Self-Hosted Notice - Windows**
>
> As of 2023 our self-hosted update process has changed.
>
> If you self-host on a Windows machine and are on Alexandria 22.6 or earlier: [Contact us](#) for instructions and assistance updating to the latest version.
>
> If you self-host on a Windows machine and are on Alexandria 22.12 or later, here's how to install the update on your Self-Hosted server:
>
> 1. [Log in to Alexandria](#).
> 2. Append **/admin** to the end of your Alexandria URL.
> 3. Click the **Actions** menu, then select **Check For Updates**.
> 4. Select the update version from the list, then click **Update**. Your update will download to the Updates folder in your Alexandria Support folder.
>   a. The download may take several minutes.
> 5. The update screen will close automatically and you will be redirected to the login window.
> 6. Once the installer has downloaded, and not before, quit Alexandria.
> 7. Remove your existing Alexandria application using **Add or Remove Programs** in System Settings.
> 8. Run the newly-downloaded Alexandria Installer.

Important Information

Version Numbering Change

As of 20.1, we've simplified our versioning scheme by dropping the series version. We now use the following:

- xx = academic year, beginning in June; yy = month

For example, 20.1 means:

- 20 = 2020 academic year
- 1 = The first monthly update (June)

> ⓘ **Centralized Catalogs**
>
> If you have more sites than you are licensed for, contact our Sales team immediately at 1-800-347-6439. You can check this in Sites Management; the number of total sites plus the Union Site shows at the top, and the number you have licensed is at the bottom. The Union Site does not require an additional license.

Data Conversion

> ⚠ These Data Conversion notes are for Self Hosted users updating from v7 and switching from v6. If you are cloud-hosted or moving to cloud-hosted, we do everything for you!

Data conversions from older versions may not be supported. Before updating, please check the version you're currently running.

Updating from v7

If you're already running 7.17.12 or newer, you can update to the latest version. But if you're running an older version, you'll need to update a few times.

- **Running 7.16.3?** Update to 7.17.12 before updating to the latest version.

- **Running 7.16.2?** Update to 7.16.3, then to 7.17.12, before updating to the latest version.

- **Running an even older version?** Contact COMPanion Support for assistance. Depending on your current version, your upgrade path may go through one or more of the following: 7.15.3 7.16.2.6 7.16.3 7.17.12 Current Version

Upgrading from v6

The process to update from 6.23.1 to v7 is quite a bit different than updating from a more recent version. Check out our v6 to v7 Conversion Guide for more information.

- **Running 6.22.9 or older?** Update to 6.23.1, then to 7.17.12, before updating to the latest version.

ⓘ Data conversion can take up to 10 minutes for a single database of average size or longer for larger collections and Centralized Catalogs, during which time the program will be inaccessible in your browser. Do not fear; it's still working. If you're concerned, check your server logs for a progress update.

Link