How to Create a Stable Link to Library Resources

While you can always contact library@usa.edu to have a library team member give you a stable link to a specific library resource, we know that some people will want to do this on their own. Please use the following information as your guide in creating a stable link to a library online resource (article, eBook, etc.) to post in a Blackboard course or share with students or faculty members.

General Information

- All links to library resources must start with the following prefix: https://prx-usa.lirn.net/login?url=
  - This is what prompts the user to login before accessing the resource. It is called a “proxy”
- A link that does not start with that prefix may not work long-term
- Do not simply copy the link that shows up in the browser address bar
- Creating the link looks slightly different depending on which platform hosts the specific resource
- This guide assumes that you have already found the specific resource within the library resources and the resource is available through one of our various subscriptions
- Always test a link in a different browser or on a different computer before putting it in your course
- When in doubt, ask us for help! library@usa.edu

eBooks

The best way to link to library eBooks is to find the link that has already been created for that book in our Library Catalog. Search for the book in the Library Catalog and under holdings, find the “Click here” message. Do a right click over “here” and click “Copy Link Address”. That is the best link to use when connecting users to eBooks.

If you want to link a user directly to a particular chapter in the eBook, still copy the link from the Library Catalog, but then add the chapter details to the end as appropriate. For example, for the following eBook hosted on the R2 platform, Musculoskeletal Examination (2016), the best link (taken from the Library Catalog) is:


When looking specifically at chapter 3, the link in the browser bar is:

https://0b34id8mm-mp01-y-https-www-r2library-com-prx-usa.lirn.net/resource/detail/1118962761/ch0003s0052

Change just the end of the best link to match the end of the browser link:

EBSCO

EBSCO is the easiest platform for linking. When you are on the page for the record you want to share, simply click the Permalink icon on the Tools menu on the right side of the page. A permalink will appear above the record title. By default, that link will be correctly formatted. Simply copy it.

Gale

If the item you want to share is located on the Gale platform, the best way to link is to click on the “Get Link” icon in the upper right:

This will give you a non-proxed link. Add the proxy prefix (https://prx-usa.lirn.net/login?url=) to the front:

In Ovid, use the “Email Jumpstart” link to get a non-proxied link to the page:

Then, add the proxy prefix (https://prx-usa.lirn.net/login?url=) to the front:

In ProQuest, getting a good permanent link takes a few more steps.

On the page for the item in ProQuest, click on the “Cite” link on the right side of the screen:

When the pop-up box comes up, select to see the citation in AMA style:

Copy the link given within that citation (not the DOI link, but the one that starts with search.proquest.com). This is a non-proxied link. Add the proxy prefix (https://prx-usa.lirn.net/login?url=) to the front:

Publishers’ Web Sites for Journals

For any article on a publisher’s website (e.g., IOS Press, MIT Press, Sage, ScienceDirect, Taylor & Francis, Thieme, or Wiley), the best way to set a permanent link is to put the proxy prefix (https://prx-usa.lirn.net/login?url=) in front of the DOI link.

You can typically find the DOI link easily on the article access page:

For example:


If the site only lists the DOI number (i.e., not as a hyperlink), simply put that number after https://doi.org/

Alternately, look for a “Share” button or icon – you may need to add the proxy prefix to the link it gives you.