


Introduction to VuFind

Demian Katz,
Falvey Memorial Library,
Villanova University

What It Is

- A customizable, user-friendly web interface for key library functions.
 - Search
 - Account management
- A flexible search engine for finding metadata and full text.
- A front-end for several third-party services (Summon, WorldCat, etc.)

VuFind in Action



The library OPAC meets Web 2.0!

Language: English [Login](#)


nicholas nickleby All Fields Find [Advanced](#)


[Home](#) Search: Nicholas Nickleby

Suggested Topics... within your search.
[Criticism and interpretation](#) (2) [Amateur theater](#) (1) [City and town life in literature](#) (1)
[Civilization](#) (1) [Creation \(Literary, artistic, etc.\)](#) (1) [English drama](#) (1)
[more...](#)

Showing 1 - 15 of 15 for search: 'nicholas nickleby', query time: 3.06s Sort: Relevance

Search alternatives:
nickleby » [bickleby](#), [nickle](#), [nickles](#)

1  [Nicholas Nickleby /](#) [Add to Favorites](#)
by [Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870](#), Published 1978
Book
● **Checked Out**

2  [Nicholas Nickleby](#) [Add to Favorites](#)
Published 1996
...Nicholas Nickleby...
Call Number: K957.6091
Located: Reserves - Ask at Circulation
VHS
● **Available**

Narrow Search

Institution
[MyInstitution](#) (15)

Library
[Library A](#) (15)

Format
[Book](#) (13)
[VHS](#) (2)

Call Number
[P - Language and Literature](#) (15)

Author
[Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870](#) (7)
[Bradbury, Ray, 1920-](#) (1)
[Edgar, David, 1948-](#) (1)
[Hardy, Barbara Nathan](#) (1)
[Parker, David](#) (1)

VuFind in Action

vufind
The library OPAC meets Web 2.0!

[Your Account](#) | [Log Out](#)
Language: English

All Fields [Advanced](#)

[Home](#) > [Your Account](#) > Holds

Your Holds and Recalls

[Cancel Selected Holds](#) [Cancel All Holds](#)

NO IMAGE AVAILABLE

[The ladies delight; or, A rich closet of choice experiments & curiosities, containing the art of preserving & candying both fruits and flowers ; together with The great cook; or, The art of dressing all sorts of flesh, fowl, and fish. /](#)
by: [Woolley, Hannah, fl. 1670.](#)
 Electronic
Pickup Library: Campus A
Created: 17-Sep-12 | **Expires:** 17-Oct-12

NO IMAGE AVAILABLE

[Grace abounding to the chief of sinners in a faithful account of the life and death of John Bunyan, or, A brief relation of the exceeding mercy of God in Christ in him namely in His taking of him out of the dunghill and converting of him to the faith of His blessed son Jesus Christ.... /](#)
by: [Bunyan, John, 1628-1688.](#)
 Electronic
Pickup Library: Campus A
Created: 10-Sep-12 | **Expires:** 17-Oct-12

Your Account

- [Favorites](#)
- [Checked Out Items](#)
- [Holds and Recalls](#)
- [Fines](#)
- [Profile](#)
- [Your Saved Searches](#)

What It Is Not

- A full Integrated Library System / Library Management System
 - You provide your own ILS/LMS back-end; VuFind pulls data in real-time.
- A source of index data
 - You provide your own data, either by indexing locally or subscribing to a third-party provider

Some Key Features

- Faceted searching
- Alphabetic heading browse
- “More like this” suggestions
- Third-party book covers/reviews
- User tagging/commenting/favorites
- Persistent URLs (for easy bookmarking/linking)
- Alternate theme for mobile devices

Underlying Technologies

- Apache and PHP for front-end web interface
- Solr for searchable index
- MySQL database for persistent data (user accounts, etc.)
- SolrMarc (a Java application) for MARC indexing
- PHP/XSLT command-line tools for non-MARC indexing

System Requirements

- Works on most operating systems (64-bit Linux recommended)
- Exact requirements depend on index size
- More memory = better performance
- Solr is scalable – you can start small and build out as needed.

Installation Process

- Install prerequisites (Apache, PHP, etc.)
- Install VuFind (easiest in Ubuntu using .deb package)
- Configure VuFind (by editing text .ini files)
- Index records (usually using SolrMarc)

Care and Feeding

- Set up automatic processes to keep the index up to date
- Back up database/index as needed
- Keep an eye on performance and adjust Java settings as needed

VuFind 1 vs. VuFind 2

VuFind 1

- PHP 5.2+
- Smarty + PEAR libraries
- Current stable release:
VuFind 1.3
- Will be phased out after
release 1.4

VuFind 2

- PHP 5.3+
- Zend Framework 2
- Beta code due on
October 1, 2012
- Stable release expected
during 2013

More Information

- Online Demo: <http://vufind.org/demo>
- Other Sites Using VuFind:
http://vufind.org/wiki/installation_status
- VuFind Documentation:
<http://vufind.org/wiki/>
- VuFind Online Support:
<http://vufind.org/support.php>
- Demian Katz: demian.katz@villanova.edu