

Searching PittCat for Books

Transcript

Welcome to the Pitt Libraries' ASK US series.

In this video, you will learn how to search for a book using PittCat, the libraries' online catalog.

First, navigate to the Pitt Libraries website by typing library.pitt.edu into the search bar.

Type the title, author, or keywords into the main search box.

Click the Sign In link if prompted to make sure you have access to all search results and catalog features.

Look through the search results for your item. Pay close attention to the item format as well as the title. To the left of the search results, you will see the option to apply filters. Under Resource Type, check and apply the Books filter so you only see results for books.

Still can't find what you are looking for? If you don't see your item here, that means it is not owned by the Pitt Library System, but we partner with other libraries all over the country, and even all over the world to help you get access to the resources you need!

Look to the filters on the left again. Check the option to Expand to Non-Pitt Resources

Check to see if your item is in the search results. If so, click the title to access the full record.

Under How to Get It you will see the option to Request This Item from Another Library.

This link will redirect you to the Interlibrary loan request page. Login if prompted.

Complete the online request form for the item. Fields with a red asterisk are required, but the more information you can give, the better. Once finished, click the Submit Request button.

Your request will be sent to library staff who will check two services for the books you need: EZBorrow and Interlibrary Loan. EZBorrow represents over 70 academic library partners in Pennsylvania and some surrounding states. If your requested item is available there, it will be fulfilled by this service. If not, your request will move onto InterLibrary Loan or ILL. This service expands the search to libraries worldwide.

So, never fear! Even if Pitt Libraries don't have the item you are searching for, we have lending partners that make it possible to get you the materials you need.

That's it! You now know how to search for a book using PittCat! If you ever have questions, look for the ASK US button to contact library staff by chat or email and we will be happy to help you!