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### How to enhance access with browser extensions

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# How to Enhance Access with Browser Extensions

Internet Librarian International

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# Overview

- The web browser is “where the user lives”.
- Libraries can provide tools to enhance the web browsing experience.
- I will mainly discuss extending the Firefox web browser.
- I am going to show *what* can be done, but there is not time to show *how* to do it. There is an extensive list of further reading provided.

# Bookmarklets

- Bookmarklets are pieces of JavaScript code.
- JavaScript can be used to read web pages and ***change page content and display***.
- JavaScript is substantially cross-platform, it should work in many web browsers.
- Example: LibraryLookup

# Firefox: Quick Search Keywords

- You can create a keyword that maps to a Firefox bookmark. You can even have one variable field that is added to the URL.
- Simply type the keyword in the location bar to go to the bookmark.
- Example: CISTI Catalogue ISBN Search

# Firefox: Search Plugins

- Firefox has a built-in ability to add search plugins.
- A “search plugin” is just a small text file with a simple syntax that you provide on your website for upload into Firefox.
- Your site then becomes a pull-down option in the Firefox search area.
- Example: CISTI Catalogue Search Plugin

# Toolbars

- Both Internet Explorer and Firefox can have toolbars added.
- I argue that it is easier to write a toolbar for Firefox.
- Examples: Jackson Library toolbar (for IE), Barra Maldura (Firefox), CISTI Toolbar (Firefox)



# Firefox: Sidebars

- Firefox has the ability to open bookmarks in a “sidebar”.
- You can also create extensions that open a sidebar.
- Example: CISTI Sidebar



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## Further Reading

[http://www.libsuccess.org/index.php?title=Web Browser Extensions](http://www.libsuccess.org/index.php?title=Web_Browser_Extensions)



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