

WEBPAC GUIDELINES FOR DALNET LIBRARIES

Recommendations of the DALNET WebPAC Design Task Force

There is a DALNET WebPAC that may be used as a template, just by changing the DALNET logo to your institution's logo, and making the search functions applicable to your library. If your institution is creating its own WebPAC, here are some guidelines to follow, so there is a similar look among DALNET member libraries.

1. Keep graphics to a minimum; a logo should be the only graphic.
2. There should be a link to the DALNET catalog at the top of the first search screen, or on whatever preliminary catalog page you might have.
3. Use pop-up menus instead of menus that scroll.
4. Search screens should be designed and formatted to fit on one screen, whether monitor resolution is 640 x 480 or higher.
5. Headings should be in bold, caps or larger font size with color optional, to take into account monochrome monitors.
6. Only one other color should be used in text, as in DALNET model.
7. Do not use the Horizon default buttons; use text menus instead to move users among screens. It is desirable to have buttons, however the WebPAC Design Task Force must approve the design. "Forward," "Back," and "Search" buttons should be uniform among all DALNET libraries.
8. Each screen should identify the particular library.
9. The "Brief View" should include author (or editor)/title/imprint/date/edition, the intent being that a user obtain full citation information from this screen.
10. The "Brief View" should display 20 records.
11. On the "Brief View", any links to other screens (such as "View Full Record") should be at the end of the record, so citations may be easily read.
12. Location/Availability information should be readily apparent to user, either by displaying it on the "Brief View" or by making a clear link from the "Brief View." Do not assume that user knows the status information is in the "Full Record."
13. The "Basic Search" screen can follow either the DALNET model, with keyword and browse searches in one column, or the UD/Mercy model with keyword and browse searches detailed separately.