

## Make a Search Box using Primo Deep Links (dlSearch.do)

- **Product:** Primo Classic (for **Primo VE**, please see the Primo VE Guide: "[Creating a Search Box with Deep Links to Primo VE](#)")

### Desired Outcome Goal

Make a Search Box using Primo Deep Links ([dlSearch.do](#)) that can be embedded on a Library's main web page. Direct linking to Primo Classic's [search.do](#) function from outside sites (such as from a search box on a Library's main web page) is neither recommended nor supported. It can only be used from the Primo user interface.

### Procedure

1. Copy and paste the HTML below into an \*.html file on your desktop (or web server...)

For example, save it to a file called searchbox.html .

2. To test it, open the html file in your browser, or if on a web server, go to:

http://{\_\_web\_server\_\_}/{\_\_path\_\_}/searchbox.html

3. HTML

```
<html>
<head>
<meta http-equiv="Content-Type" content="text/html; charset=UTF-8">
<!-- Script that converts the query string into dlSearch.do valid parameter -->
<script type="text/javascript">
function searchPrimo() {
document.getElementById("primoQuery").value = "any,contains," + document.getElementById("primoQueryTemp").
value.replace(/[.,]/g, " ");
document.forms["searchForm"].submit();
}
</script>
</head>
<body>
<form id="simple" name="searchForm" method="get" target="_self" action="http://<HOST_NAME>/primo_library/
libweb/action/dlSearch.do" enctype="application/x-www-form-urlencoded; charset=utf-8"
onsubmit="searchPrimo()">
<!-- Customizable Parameters -->
<input type="hidden" name="institution" value="<INSTITUTION CODE>">
<input type="hidden" name="vid" value="<VIEW CODE>">
<input type="hidden" name="tab" value="<TAB CODE>">
<input type="hidden" name="search_scope" value="<SCOPE NAME>">
<input type="hidden" name="mode" value="Basic">

<!-- Fixed parameters -->
<input type="hidden" name="displayMode" value="full">
<input type="hidden" name="bulkSize" value="<RECORDS PER PAGE, e.g. 10>">
<input type="hidden" name="highlight" value="true">
<input type="hidden" name="dum" value="true">
<input type="hidden" name="query" id="primoQuery">
<input type="hidden" name="displayField" value="all">
```

```
<!-- Enable this if "Expand My Results" is enabled by default in Views Wizard -->
<input type="hidden" name="pcAvailabilityMode" value="true">

<input type="text" id="primoQueryTemp" value="" size="35">

<!-- Search Button -->
<input id="go" title="Search" onclick="searchPrimo()" type="button" value="Search" alt="Search" style="height:
22px; font-size: 12px; font-weight: bold; background: #DE6E17; color: #ffffff; border: 1px solid;">
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

This example creates a search box that uses a deep link to search your institution's catalog. For more details, see [Brief Search Deep](#)

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### Note

Primo TotalCare customers may submit a case to request the Back Office codes needed for the above example.

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## New UI

The New UI is setup pretty close to the Classic UI. However, the baseURL changes. See the documentation [Creating a Search Box With Deep Links to the New UI](#), for full code and other changes to the Deep Link in the New UI.

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## Additional Information

- Direct linking to Primo's search.do function from sites outside of Primo is neither recommended nor supported.
- Values for form action, Institution, vid, search\_scope, tab should be replaced (including the { } braces) with customer-specific values for these codes.
- NOTE that the tab value MUST be in lowercase, even if the tab value in Primo is upper or mixed case.
- Query parameter is often problematic because it requires 3 arguments that are separated by commas.
- An HTML form does not handle this natively, which is why the extra javascript function (validateForm()) is needed.
- ValidateForm function checks for empty searchterm and adds 'any,contains,' arguments to query parameter.
- The template in this article only represents a simple working example. The HTML, form, javascript, and Deep Link parameters may be customized as needed, including adding or removing Deep Link parameters.
- To make "expand beyond library collections" enabled, add this parameter to the form: <input type="hidden" name="pcAvailabilityMode" value="true">
- <input type="hidden" id="bulkSize" name="bulkSize" value="10"/> allows the library to set a different default number of results returned from the default defined in the Views Wizard.
- Add this to the "Customizable Parameters" section (optional).
- Additional functionality and parameters for Primo Deep Links are documented in Ex Libris Developer Network: <https://developers.exlibrisgroup.com/primo/apis/deeplinks/brief>

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- **Article last edited:** 4-Jun-2024