

Q: What type of ensembles does MusicLibrarian.net cater for?

A: MusicLibrarian.net is fully configurable by you and can handle any instruments, voices and combinations you want. There's no limit on either the number of instruments or ensembles you can define, or on the number of pieces of music you can catalogue.

Q: Do I need to be a computer expert to use the system?

A: No. MusicLibrarian.net has been designed to be used by anyone.

Q: What type of computer do I need to use?

A: You can use any computer that is connected to the internet¹ and has a web-browser installed. That includes Windows PCs, Apple Macs and a host of other computers.

Q: Do I need to load any software on my computer?

A: The only software you need on your computer is a web browser and a PDF file viewer. Most computers have these already installed – if you're reading this document on-line you're already using the required software! If not, these programs are free, and easy to install – there are links on the MusicLibrarian.net home page to sites where you can get them.

Q: How much disk space do I need on my computer?

A: MusicLibrarian.net is a web-based system and doesn't store any data on your computer. It's all stored on the MusicLibrarian server and regularly backed-up.

Q: Who can access my library?

A: There are two modes of logging into your library. One (the administrator login) will be for the librarian and allows them to add, change and delete data in the system. The other only allows browsing. Many MusicLibrarian libraries are set up for public access (and are listed on the login page) and no password is needed to view them. But if you prefer, your library won't be listed, and instead you'll get a read-only login and password too, which you can give to anyone you want to be able to view your library.

¹ A connection speed of 256kbps or faster is recommended

Q: Can I create reports from my library data?

A: Yes. There are several files you can download in .csv format which are compatible with spreadsheet programs such as Microsoft Excel.

Q: I currently have my library data in a spreadsheet. Do I need to enter it all again?

A: It's usually possible for the ML team to load data from a spreadsheet into the system to get you started more quickly. Please ask for more details.

Q: What's all this about barcodes?

A: One of MusicLibrarian's main features is the ability for you to print labels with barcodes and attach them to all the individual copies of music in your library. When you collect in your music, you scan the barcode² on each copy (in the same way that supermarkets scan goods at the check-out) to quickly find out which copies have been returned and, more importantly, which haven't!

Q: Do I have to use barcoded labels and a scanner?

A: No. In some cases you can't stick labels onto music – when it doesn't belong to you, for example. You can still catalogue this music in the system and click buttons on the screen instead of scanning the barcodes.

Q: How much does it cost?

A: MusicLibrarian.net currently relies on donations to cover costs. There's a PayPal button on the home page for making donations. Any donation, no matter how small, is appreciated.

Q: How do I get started?

A: Email the webmaster on the address below and ask for an account to be created for you.

I still have more questions...

Email the webmaster at webmaster@musiclibrarian.net with any other enquiries and we'll do our best to reply as quickly as possible.

² A barcode scanner is required to use this feature. This must be purchased separately.