An Online Public Access Catalog (often abbreviated as OPAC or simply Library Catalog) is an online database of materials held by a library or group of libraries. It is a computerized library catalog available to the public. Most OPACs are accessible over the Internet to users all over the world. Users search a library catalog principally to locate books and other material physically located at a library.

Why use a catalog instead of just browsing the shelves of the library to find a book?

• Books that contain information on a particular topic may be shelved in several different areas of the library, in special collections, or even in different libraries altogether.
• Books are shelved in the library by call number order (a unique number for each book), so you would have to be very familiar with the either the Dewey Decimal or Library of Congress Classification System to find the small area devoted to your topic.

The patrons in the library can search the bibliographic database and find specific information online. The search facility also aprises the user about the availability of each item for circulation, including current status of individual copies of a title and reserve status. It also shows titles on order displaying current status in acquisition. The scope of these services include:

**Online Catalogues: The following catalogues are available online:**

- Title Catalogue
- Author Catalogue
- Subject Catalogue
- Classified Catalogue
- Publisher
- Place of Publication

**Boolean Searches:** The boolean searches can be made on words from any of the bibliographic fields. The use of the logical connectors ‘OR’, ‘AND’ and ‘AND NOT’ is allowed. The search is facilitated by using:

- Truncation
- Use of parentheses
- Proximity connectors (same as provided by 'DIALOG')
OPAC in DELHI TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY is accessible with homepage
http://192.168.7.3:8080/jopacv06/html/logout
SEARCH TECHNIQUE:

OPAC in libsys provides three kinds of searches:

1. Simple Search
2. Advance Search
3. Additional Search

1. SIMPLE SEARCH

The user can make a simple search using this option. The fields to be entered are:

**Database**: Select from the combo box the database on which the search is to be made.

**Field**: Select from the combo box the field on which the search is to be made.

**Enter word(s) or phrase**: Give the word(s) or phrase on the basis of which the search is to be made.

**Connector**: Select from the combo box the connector required between the search words.

**Specify Year(s) of Publication**: Give the time frame within which a search has to be made.

Click Search and the result is displayed. Thus, a simple search can be made on any field, title-wise, author-wise or subject-wise.
e.g. Search for “management” title: It display all the available information related with management in the library. (as below)
2. **ADVANCE SEARCH**

This function helps in making an advance search. The data fields are:

- **Database**: Select from the combo box the database on which the search is to be made.
- **Field**: Select from the combo box the field on which the search is to be made.
- **Enter word(s) or phrase**: Give the word(s) or phrase on the basis of which the search is to be made.
- **Connector**: Select from the combo box the connector required between the search words.
- **Specify Year(s) of Publication**: Give the time frame within which a search has to be made.

Click Search and the result is displayed. This function of Advance Search facilitates the user to refine a search using a combination of search fields.
e.g. search for “computer” “mathematics” “management” Title. It display all the available information related with “computer” “mathematics” “management” in the library. (as below)
3. **ADDITIONAL SEARCH**

This function helps in making an additional search. The data fields are:

- **Database**: Select from the combo box the database on which the search is to be made.
- **Field**: Enter the words or phrase in each of the search fields.
- **Connector**: Select the connector from the combo box.

**Specify Year(s) of Publication**: Give the time frame within which a search has to be made.

Click Search and the result is displayed. This function of Additional Search facilitates the user to refine a search using a combination of search fields.
SEARCH BY ISBN

There is a facility of search by ISBN in OPAC. The system asks for the ISBN and click Search
SEARCH BY ACCESSION NUMBER

There is a facility of search by accession number in OPAC. The system asks for the accession number and click Search.
BROWSE

This function helps in browsing the database. The browsing can be done on different catalogues such as, author, title and subject and on different databases such as, books, journals, articles, reports, etc.

The data fields are:

**Catalogue**: Select from the combo box either author, title, classified, subject, place or publisher.

**Enter beginning character(s)**: Enter the search word(s)

**Database**: Select the database from the combo box.

The screen displays the author, title and call number if 'Author' is selected as the catalogue to be searched on. The details of a selected title are also displayed. The following options are available:
NEW ARRIVALS

This option facilitates the member to view the new additions to the holdings of the library. In the case of serials, the issue details and the date of receipt are displayed. In the case of books, the title, author, year of publication and the accession number are displayed.
JOURNALS

This option displays the list of serials in a library. The list is arranged in an alphabetic order and it displays the name of the publisher also.
PATRON or USERS or MEMBERS

This option enables a member to know how many check-outs are in his name, along with their details, and due date, reserves made along with details, change the password and put in a request for the purchase of a title.

Check Out.
Reservation:

Delhi Technological University

MEMBER HAS NO RESERVATIONS
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Recommendation:

SEARCH TIPS

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**Connector**: Select from the combo box the connector required between the search words.

**Specify Year(s) of Publication**: Give the publishing year(s) within which a search has to be made.

Click Search and the result is displayed. Thus, a simple search can be made on any field, title-wise, author-wise or subject-wise.