

# **AbeBooks Search Web Services End User Guide**

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# Introduction

## When to Use Search Web Services

AbeBooks is an online marketplace listing millions of new, used, rare and out-of-print books from thousands of sellers in over fifty countries worldwide. AbeBooks Search Web Services (SWS) puts real-time access to our inventory into your hands, allowing developers to build custom applications or re-create our search functionality on your own website. With millions of books in our database, including many international titles from our global seller base, you can promote books from all over the world, via [any of our domains](#), using one simple process.

## How it Works

Users can run search requests on various parameters such as ISBN, author, title, keyword, or publisher to obtain information about book prices, shipping prices, images, descriptions, and more. Users can also fine-tune their search results by applying filters such as new or used books, seller location, book condition and seller rating. [Add affiliate network tracking](#) to receive commission on sales you generate.

# Getting Started

To gain access to Search Web Services, you must first join our Affiliate Program and then request a Client Key.

## Step 1: Join Our Affiliate Program

AbeBooks SWS can only be used by members of our Affiliate Program, providing your users with the books they need, us with valuable traffic, and you with a great source of income. Up to 5% in commission can be earned. Find out more and join our Affiliate Program here: <http://www.abebooks.com/books/AffiliateProgram/>

## Step 2: Request a Client Key

Once you have joined our Affiliate Program, please send an email to [affiliate@abebooks.com](mailto:affiliate@abebooks.com) containing the following information:

1. The IP address you'll use to make the requests
2. URL
3. Email address
4. Technical contact name
5. Affiliate ID

We will evaluate your application and provide you with instructions for how to generate your Client Key.

# Creating Search Requests

## How to Build a Search Request

Each search request is a URL that contains request parameters. A typical search request looks like this:

<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?clientkey=<your client key here>&title=things>

- <http://search2.abebooks.com/search?> This is a URL where all search requests are performed.
- [clientkey=<your client key here>](#) Fill in your Client Key after the = sign. This tells our system that you are authorized to search our inventory. **Note: the Client Key is case sensitive.**
- [&](#) This sign separates the various parameters such as title, ISBN, author etc.
- [title=](#) This is a parameter name. Use this to tell our system which parameter to search. **Note: parameter names are case sensitive.**
- [things](#) This is a parameter value. Use this to tell our system which value to search.

## Request Parameters

Request parameters fall into the following categories:

- Book Search Criteria (Primary and Secondary Parameters)
- Output Value Parameters
- Book Record Format
- Sort Order

Note: Appendix II contains a list of all parameters in alphabetical order.

## Book Search Criteria

### Primary Search Parameters

There are five primary search parameters, of which **at least one** must be specified in every search request.

<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Example Values</b>
isbn	A 10 or 13 character ISBN value.	9780708915110, 3799503005
author	The name or names of all authors of a book. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.	Margaret+Atwood
title	The title of a book. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.	Bluebeard%27s+Egg+and+Other+Stories
keyword	This word is searched against all text fields in a book listing, including author, title, publisher, description and the keywords assigned by a seller. Search using this field if you need to scan the entire listing, rather than a specific field. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.	cooking
pubname	Search by publisher name. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.	Random+house

[See examples here.](#)

### Secondary Search Parameters

Secondary search parameters are optional criteria that may be added to any search request to refine a search. Secondary search parameters that are not provided in the search request will be automatically set to the default values, as outlined below, e.g.,

minprice is assumed to be 0 for any search where the minprice parameter is not provided.

<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accepted Values (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Default Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
maxprice	Limits the search to only books below the value specified by this parameter.	0 – max integer	No limit, USD	Must be a positive number. This value is in USD only.
vendorlocation	Limits the search to only books being sold by sellers who are located in the country specified.	<a href="#">Two</a> or <a href="#">three letter</a> ISO country code	Search all countries.	ISO3 codes are recommended. As of August 1, 2008, we no longer accept the two-letter country code gb. Use uk instead. If this changes in the future, we will maintain compatibility with uk.
bookcondition	Filters results by book condition.	newonly,usedonly	Search all book conditions.	newonly means new books only, usedonly means used books only.
minsellerrating	Filters results by seller rating.	1, 2, 3, 4, 5	Search all ratings.	AbeBooks' seller ratings are based on a seller's completion rate. <a href="#">More detail about seller ratings here.</a>
binding	Filters results by cover type.	softcover, hardcover	Search all bindings.	
signed	Limits results to signed books.	yes	Search both signed and unsigned.	

<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accepted Values (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Default Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
freeshipping	Limits results to books which are shipped without cost to the USA.	yes	Search all shipping rates.	Only applies to USA. Free shipping prices may not be cheaper than prices including the shipping cost. Use total price plus relevant shipping destination in order to identify the best price.



<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accepted Values (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Default Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
groupcode	Limits results to books from sellers in a particular group by supplying the group code.	FREESHIP (free shipping to the USA), FREESHIPFR (free shipping to France), FREESHIPDE (free shipping to Germany), FSIRL (free shipping to Ireland), FREESHIPIT (free shipping to Italy), FREESHIPNZ (free shipping to New Zealand), FREESHIPES (free shipping to Spain), FREESHIPUK (free shipping to the UK), FREESHIPAU (free shipping to Australia), FREESHIPCA (free shipping to Canada), FREESHIPWW (free shipping worldwide)	Search all sellers.	Free shipping prices may not be cheaper than prices including the shipping cost. Use total price plus relevant shipping destination in order to identify the best price.
minpubyear	Filters results by minimum publication year.	1 - 9999	Search all publication years.	
maxpubyear	Filters results by maximum publication year.	1 - 9999	Search all publication years.	

<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accepted Values (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Default Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
firstedition	Limits results to first edition books.	yes	Search all editions.	
dustjacket	Limits results to books with a dust jacket.	yes	Search books both with and without dust jackets.	
vendorid	Searches for books from a particular seller by supplying their AbeBooks seller ID number.	Any AbeBooks seller ID number. Use integers only.	Search all AbeBooks sellers.	Look up a seller's ID number in the URL of the seller's storefront on the AbeBooks website.

[See examples here.](#)

## Output Value Parameters

Output value parameters are optional parameters that determine how certain output values, such as shipping price, are calculated. Output value parameters that are not provided in the search request will be automatically set to the default values, as outlined below.

<b>Parameter Name (case sensitive)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Accepted Values</b>	<b>Default Value</b>	<b>Notes</b>
currency	Item price and shipping cost(s) will be returned in the currency specified by this parameter.	<a href="#">Three letter ISO currency code</a>	USD	Each AbeBooks domain uses a single base currency (AbeBooks.com uses USD, AbeBooks.co.uk uses GBP and AbeBooks.de, AbeBooks.fr, AbeBooks.it and Iberlibro.com use EUR). Conversions to other currencies are an approximation.
destinationcountry	All shipping prices will be calculated with the destination country set to the country specified by this parameter.	<a href="#">Two</a> or <a href="#">three letter</a> ISO country code	USA	Only the following countries are available: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, USA and UK. All other countries will use the "International" shipping price, as specified by the seller.
shippingdetails	Includes second book ship cost, min/max ship days and standard/priority shipping rates.	yes	Search all shipping rates.	If this parameter is not set then second book ship cost, min/max ship days will all = 0 and shirate parameter will be ignored.

shiprate	Either <b>S</b> or <b>P</b> . All shipping rates will be calculated as either <b>S</b> (standard) or <b>P</b> (priority) rates.	S, P	S	To use this parameter, shippingdetails=yes must also be included in the search request.
targetsite	Sets the listing URL to the requested AbeBooks domain as well as the corresponding country and currency (e.g., UK and GBP for abebooks.co.uk, Germany and EUR for abebooks.de). Excludes certain books where advertising is prohibited in the country corresponding to the domain.	abebooks.com, abebooks.co.uk, abebooks.fr, abebooks.de, abebooks.it, iberlibro.com, zvab.com	abebooks.com	To change the country from the one corresponding to the target domain, set the destinationcountry parameter. To change the currency from the one corresponding to the target domain, set the currency parameter. For full instructions, see the <a href="#">Specifying Domains</a> section below.

[See examples here.](#)

## Book Record Format

The **outputsize** parameter is used to determine how much detail is included in each search result. The less data that is requested, the faster the results will be returned. All search requests may include one of the following values:

outputsize=micro

outputsize=short

outputsize=medium (default value if no outputsize is specified in the search request)

outputsize=long

**Note:** If a particular field is not populated for a listing in the search result, that field will be omitted from the record.

<b>Output Name</b>	<b>Micro Record Format (outputsize=micro)</b>	<b>Short Record Format (outputsize=short)</b>	<b>Medium Record Format (outputsize=medium)</b>	<b>Long Record Format (outputsize=long)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Result count	Y	Y	Y	Y	How many books are returned given specific criteria.
Book ID	Y	Y	Y	Y	An AbeBooks internal listing ID. This number is also in the Listing URL below.
ISBN 10 and 13	Y	Y	Y	Y	International Standard Book Number assigned by the book's publisher.
Listing condition	Y	Y	Y	Y	Returns value NEW or NOT NEW.
Item condition	Y	Y	Y	Y	Returns values new, as new, fine, very good, good, fair or poor. This is a more granular version of the "Listing condition".

<b>Output Name</b>	<b>Micro Record Format (outputsize=micro)</b>	<b>Short Record Format (outputsize=short)</b>	<b>Medium Record Format (outputsize=medium)</b>	<b>Long Record Format (outputsize=long)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Quantity	Y	Y	Y	Y	Indicates if a seller offers multiple copies of the same book ID.
Vendor currency	Y	Y	Y	Y	The currency in which the seller uploaded their inventory.
Listing price	Y	Y	Y	Y	Default listing price is the price as seen on the AbeBooks.com site. If the currency parameter has been set the listing price is in the currency specified.
Total book price	Y	Y	Y	Y	Total book price plus shipping.
First book shipping cost	Y	Y	Y	Y	
Extra book shipping cost	Y	Y	Y	Y	Some sellers offer cheaper shipping rates on multiple items in the same order. shippingdetails=y es parameter must be included.
Min and max shipping days	Y	Y	Y	Y	shippingdetails=y es parameter must be included.

<b>Output Name</b>	<b>Micro Record Format (outputsize=micro)</b>	<b>Short Record Format (outputsize=short)</b>	<b>Medium Record Format (outputsize=medium)</b>	<b>Long Record Format (outputsize=long)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Listing URL	Y	Y	Y	Y	Link to AbeBooks listing detail page on AbeBooks.com domain. <a href="#">You can display the listing on any other AbeBooks site by switching the domain accordingly.</a>
Author	N	Y	Y	Y	
Title	N	Y	Y	Y	
Publisher name	N	Y	Y	Y	
Catalogue image	N	Y	Y	Y	URL for publisher provided image of book cover.
Vendor name	N	N	Y	Y	
Vendor location	N	N	Y	Y	City and country.
Vendor ID	N	N	Y	Y	A unique ID that identifies a seller on AbeBooks.
Seller rating	N	N	Y	Y	A number between 1 and 5, indicating a seller's completion rate. <a href="#">More details about seller ratings here.</a>
Keywords	N	N	Y	Y	Additional searchable keywords that a seller provided for a listing.

<b>Output Name</b>	<b>Micro Record Format (outputsize=micro)</b>	<b>Short Record Format (outputsize=short)</b>	<b>Medium Record Format (outputsize=medium)</b>	<b>Long Record Format (outputsize=long)</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Subjects	N	N	Y	Y	The browse subject(s) of the book, assigned by the seller.
Binding type	N	N	Y	Y	S indicates softcover binding. H indicates hardcover binding.
Edition type	N	N	Y	Y	F indicates the seller has listed the book as a first edition.
Book jacket	N	N	N	Y	J indicates the seller has listed the book as having a dust jacket.
Publication year	N	N	N	Y	
Vendor price	N	N	N	Y	The price as originally specified by the seller, in the original currency.
Vendor description	N	N	N	Y	Listing description as provided by the seller.
Vendor image	N	N	N	Y	URL for seller provided image of book cover.

[See examples here.](#)



## Sort Order

The parameter **sortorder** is an optional parameter that indicates how the results should be sorted. The parameter accepts a sort order integer (listed below). If this parameter is not provided, the default sort order will be 2 (by price, ascending).

Sort order integer	Description
0	Newly listed books first.
1	Price, descending.
2	Price, ascending. This is the default sort order.
3	Sellers in the United Kingdom first. Sorted by price, ascending.
4	Author names, descending.
5	Author names, ascending.
6	Book title, descending.
7	Book title, ascending.
8	Sellers in Germany first. Sorted by price, ascending.
9	Sellers in France first. Sorted by price, ascending.
10	Sellers in Spain first. Sorted by price, ascending.
11	Sellers in Italy first. Sorted by price, ascending.
15	Seller rating, descending.
17	Total price, ascending (this is book price plus shipping. Include the destinationcountry parameter to get shipping costs for the following countries: Australia, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, Switzerland, USA and UK. All other countries will use the "International" shipping price, as specified by the seller).
20	Relevance (Beta)

[See examples here.](#)

## Limiting Search Results

The number of matching search results returned for each request can be controlled by the **maxresults** parameter. The fewer results that are requested, the faster the results will be returned. If not provided in the search request, the default number of search results returned will be 20. The maximum number of results that can be returned is 200.

[See examples here.](#)

# Interpreting Error Messages

## Validation Errors

Error	Example	Error Message
Invalid parameter	Misspelling a search parameter, or using upper case instead of lower case letters in a parameter, e.g., sororder=2 instead of sortorder=2 or OUtputSizE=long instead of outpusize=long	Invalid parameter name provided: sororder  Invalid parameter name provided: OUtputSizE
Invalid sortorder value	Entering a sortorder value that is not recognized by the system, such as sortorder=12	Invalid sortorder value provided: 12
No parameters included	Not supplying any primary search parameters.	Please enter at least one search term.
Malformed parameter value	Entering a parameter value in the incorrect format, e.g., isbn=isbn-01-234567-34 instead of isbn=0123456734	Invalid ISBN value provided: isbn-01-234567-34
Invalid value for numeric field with minimum and maximum limits	Entering an invalid value for a numeric field with minimum and maximum limits, e.g., maxresults=500 when the maximum value permitted is 200.	Illegal value for maxresults: 500. Value must be an integer between 0 and 200.
Invalid value for a numeric field with a minimum limit only	Entering a value for a numeric field with a minimum limit only, e.g., minprice=-20 when the minimum value permitted is 0.	Illegal value for minprice: -20. Value must be an integer greater than or equal to 0.
Invalid value for a numeric field with a maximum limit only	Entering a value for a numeric field with a maximum limit only, e.g., maxprice=-20 when the minimum value permitted is 0.	Illegal value for maxprice: -20. Value must be an integer greater than or equal to 0.
Invalid parameter value	Entering an invalid parameter value, e.g., outputsize=macro	Invalid outputsize parameter specified (macro).
More than one value for the same parameter	Entering multiple values for the same parameter, e.g., outputsize=micro&outputsize=long.	Too many outputsize parameters specified.

<b>Error</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Error Message</b>
Entering a blank word in a primary search field	Entering a non-searchable word, e.g., "the", in the author search parameter.	Words such as "the", "&", "in", etc. are not searched. Please enter some "content" words, i.e. nouns or verbs and try again.
Entering a minimum price greater than maximum price	Entering a value for minimum price that is greater than the maximum price, e.g., minprice=30&maxprice=20	Please enter only whole numbers greater than zero in the 'Price' fields. The 'max' value must be larger than the 'min' value.
Entering a word in a number field	Entering a word instead of an integer, e.g., minprice=fifty	Only enter numbers when using the price fields. The max value (i.e. the highest price) must be greater than min value (i.e. the lowest price).
Entering an invalid ISO country code	Entering a country's name instead of the ISO country code, e.g., destinationcountry=france instead of destinationcountry=FRA	Invalid country ISO code provided: france
Entering an invalid ISO currency code	Entering a currency name instead of the ISO currency code, e.g., currency=euro instead of currency=EUR	Invalid currency ISO code provided: euro
Entering an invalid book condition value	Entering a book condition value other than those recognized by the system (newonly,usedonly), e.g., bookcondition=new	Invalid bookcondition value: new
Entering an invalid value for the minimum seller rating	Entering a minimum seller rating other than those recognized by the system (1, 2, 3, 4, 5), e.g., minsellerrating=77	Invalid minsellerrating value: 77
Entering an invalid value for binding type	Entering a book condition value other than those recognized by the system (softcover, hardcover), e.g., binding=paperback	Invalid binding value: paperback
Entering an invalid value for signed books	Entering a value for signed other than those recognized by the system (yes, no), e.g., signed=ok	Illegal value for signed: ok. Value must be yes or no.
Entering an invalid value for free shipping to the USA	Entering a value for freeshipping other than those recognized by the system (yes, no), e.g., freeshipping=ok	Illegal value for freeshipping: ok. Value must be yes or no.
Entering an invalid value for first edition books	Entering a value for first editon other than those recognized by the system (yes, no), e.g., firstedition=ok	Illegal value for firstedition: ok. Value must be yes or no.

<b>Error</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Error Message</b>
Entering an invalid value for dust jacket	Entering a value for dust jacket other than those recognized by the system (yes, no), e.g., dustjacket=ok	Illegal value for dustjacket: ok. Value must be yes or no.
Entering an invalid minimum publication year	Entering a publication year below the minimum limit, e.g., minpubyear=0 when the minimum value permitted is 1.	Illegal value for minpubyear: 0. Value must be an integer between 1 and 9999
Entering an invalid maximum publication year	Entering a publication year above the maximum limit, e.g., maxpubyear=10000 when the maximum value permitted is 9999.	Illegal value for maxpubyear: 10000. Value must be an integer between 1 and 9999
Entering a seller name instead of ID number	Entering a seller name instead of seller ID number, e.g., vendorid=russells	Illegal value for vendorid: russells. Value must be a long integer.
Entering an invalid seller ID number	Entering an invalid seller ID number, e.g., vendorid=2147483650	Illegal value for vendorid: 2147483650. Value must be a long integer.
Entering an invalid value for shipping rate	Entering a value for shipping rate other than those recognized by the system (S, P), e.g., shiprate=standard	Invalid shiprate value: standard
Entering an invalid value for group code	Entering a value for seller group code that is less than 1 character and more than 10 characters, e.g., groupcode=ZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZ	The seller group code parameter must be at least 1 character and at most 10 characters.
Entering an invalid value for target site	Entering a value for the target site that is not one of the following: zvab.com, abebooks.com, abebooks.de, abebooks.co.uk, abebooks.fr, iberlibro.com, abebooks.it, e.g., targetsite=google.com	Invalid targetsite value 'google.com'. Expected one of [zvab.com, abebooks.com, abebooks.de, abebooks.co.uk, abebooks.fr, iberlibro.com, abebooks.it]

## Authorization Errors

<b>Error</b>	<b>Example</b>	<b>Error Message</b>
Invalid Client Key	Including an invalid or unrecognized Client Key in the search request.	HTTP status code 401 (SC_UNAUTHORIZED)

## Service Level Errors

<b>Error</b>	<b>Error Message</b>	<b>Notes</b>
Search Web Services is unresponsive	HTTP status code 503 (SC_SERVICE_UNAVAILABLE)	Please contact your AbeBooks representative if you notice this issue.
Query rate limit exceeded	HTTP status code 429 "Too Many Requests"	The default query rate is 4 - 5 queries per second. If you exceed this rate, your throughput is being throttled and you will receive this error message.

# Additional Features

## Specifying Domains

AbeBooks has a number of different domains, each with their own default country and currency:

<b>Domain</b>	<b>Default Country</b>	<b>Default Currency</b>
AbeBooks.com	USA	USD
AbeBooks.co.uk	GBR	GBP
AbeBooks.fr	FRA	EUR
AbeBooks.de	DEU	EUR
ZVAB.com	DEU	EUR
AbeBooks.it	ITA	EUR
IberLibro.com	ESP	EUR

Search Web Services searches AbeBooks.com in USD by default. To search a different domain, in a different currency, use the following steps:

1. Use the targetsite parameter.
2. The item price and shipping cost(s) will be returned in the default currency for the chosen domain. To choose a different currency, include the currency parameter in the search request and set the correct ISO currency code, e.g., EUR, USD or GBP.
3. The shipping cost(s) value will be calculated for the default country for the chosen domain. To choose a different country, include the destinationcountry parameter in the search request and set the correct ISO country code, e.g., GBR, DEU, JPN or MEX.

## Adding Affiliate Tracking Code

To track Search Web Services links to your affiliate ID, encode the redirect URL returned under listingURL. For an example of a free URL Decoder/Encoder, please see here: <http://meyerweb.com/eric/tools/dencoder/>  
You may also use the encoding system you prefer.

There are different URL templates, which vary depending on which affiliate network you belong to. Here are instructions for each.

## Impact Radius

1. Use the following link as a template:  
`http://affiliates.abebooks.com/c/[Impact_Radius_ID]/77798/2029?u=[ENCODED_REDIRECT_LINK]`
2. Replace [ENCODED\_REDIRECT\_LINK] with the encoded redirect link.

3. Replace [Impact\_Radius\_ID] with your Impact Radius ID number, e.g., 12345.

### **Commission Junction**

1. Use the following link as a template:  
[http://www.dpbolvw.net/click-\[COMMISSION\\_JUNCTION\\_PID\]-5435709?url=\[ENCODED\\_REDIRECT\\_LINK\]](http://www.dpbolvw.net/click-[COMMISSION_JUNCTION_PID]-5435709?url=[ENCODED_REDIRECT_LINK])
2. Replace [ENCODED\_REDIRECT\_LINK] with the encoded redirect link.
3. Replace [COMMISSION\_JUNCTION\_ID] with your Commission Junction PID number, e.g., 1234567.

### **Affilinet**

1. Use the following link as a template, depending on your location:  
Germany:  
[http://partners.webmasterplan.com/click.asp?ref=\[AFFILINET\\_ID\]&site=1300&diurl=\[ENCODED\\_REDIRECT\\_LINK\]](http://partners.webmasterplan.com/click.asp?ref=[AFFILINET_ID]&site=1300&diurl=[ENCODED_REDIRECT_LINK])  
France:  
[http://partners.webmasterplan.com/click.asp?ref=\[AFFILINET\\_ID\]&site=4409&diurl=\[ENCODED\\_REDIRECT\\_LINK\]](http://partners.webmasterplan.com/click.asp?ref=[AFFILINET_ID]&site=4409&diurl=[ENCODED_REDIRECT_LINK])
2. Replace [ENCODED\_REDIRECT\_LINK] with the encoded redirect link.
3. Replace [AFFILINET\_ID] with your Affilinet ID, e.g., 208970.

### **Zanox**

1. Use the following link as a template:  
[http://www.zanox-affiliate.de/ppc/?\[ZANOX\\_ID\]&ULP=\[ENCODED\\_REDIRECT\\_LINK\]](http://www.zanox-affiliate.de/ppc/?[ZANOX_ID]&ULP=[ENCODED_REDIRECT_LINK])
2. Replace [ENCODED\_REDIRECT\_LINK] with the encoded redirect link.
3. Replace [ZANOX\_ID] with your eighteen character Zanox ID, e.g., 16503939C931699197.

### **Adding Books to Basket**

To send a user directly through to the shopping basket, use the following URL structure: <http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/ShopBasketPL?ac=a&ik=14083099173> where the ik= parameter specifies the Book ID for the book to be added.

To add more than one copy, simply repeat the same ik= parameter:  
<http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/ShopBasketPL?ac=a&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173>

The above URL would add five copies of Book ID 14083099173 to the basket.

To add multiple copies of more than one item, use the following structure:

<http://www.abebooks.com/servlet/ShopBasketPL?ac=a&ik=10023099123&ik=10023099123&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173&ik=14083099173>

The above URL would add two copies of Book ID 10023099123 and three copies of Book ID 14083099173 to the basket.

Note: The maximum number of copies that can be added directly to the basket is fifty. If the quantity requested for a given Book ID exceeds availability, the maximum quantity available for the Book ID will be added to the basket.

## **Compressed Search Results**

Search Web Services outputs in XML and in faster compressed format (GZIP). To get results in compressed format, include a header indicating that you accept compressed output. This is done by setting the Accept-Encoding HTTP Request header to "gzip, deflate". When compression is properly enabled, the response header will contain "Content-Encoding: gzip".



# Appendix I: Sample Search Requests

## Primary Search Parameters

- Search for the ISBN '9780140707052':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=9780140707052&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for the author 'William Shakespeare':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?author=william+shakespeare&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for the title 'Macbeth':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for the author 'William Shakespeare' and the title 'Macbeth':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?author=william+shakespeare&title=macbeth&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for the keyword 'tragedy':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?keyword=tragedy&clientkey=<your client key here>>

## Secondary Search Parameters

- Search for copies of *Macbeth* that are listed for U\$10.00 or more:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&minprice=10&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* that are listed for U\$10.00 or less:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&maxprice=10&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* that are listed for between U\$1.00 and U\$10.00:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&minprice=1&maxprice=10&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for new copies of *Macbeth*:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&bookcondition=newonly&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* sold by sellers with a minimum rating of 4 stars:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&minsellerrating=4&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* with hard cover binding:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&binding=hardcover&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for only signed copies of *1984*:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=1984&signed=yes&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* with free shipping to the USA:

<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&freeshipping=yes&clientkey=<your client key here>>

- Search for copies of *Macbeth* published between 1990 and 1995:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&minpubyear=1990&maxpubyear=1995&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for first editions of *1984*:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=1984&firstedition=yes&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for signed first editions of *1984*:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=1984&signed=yes&firstedition=yes&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* from a specific publisher:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&pubname=penguin&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* that have a dust jacket:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&dustjacket=yes&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for copies of *Macbeth* from a specific seller on AbeBooks:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&vendorid=54837791&clientkey=<your client key here>>

## Output Value Parameters

- Specify pricing to be in Canadian dollars (CAD):  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&currency=CAD&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Specify shipping destination to Great Britain (GBR):  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&destinationcountry=GBR&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Specify 'priority' shipping:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&shippingdetails=yes&shippingrate=p&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Change the default domain to abebooks.de:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=macbeth&targetsite=abebooks.de&clientkey=<your client key here>>

## Output Size Parameters

Note that the output samples below are complete examples that include all possible fields. If a particular field was not provided by the seller, that field will be omitted from the record. So actual results may contain fewer fields than these examples, but never more fields.

- Search for the ISBN '0131457578' and specify outputsize as 'micro':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=0131457578&outputsize=micro&clientkey=<your client key here>>

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<searchResults>
  <resultCount>22</resultCount>
  <Book>
    <bookId>1311927452</bookId>
    <isbn10>0131457578</isbn10>
    <isbn13>9780131457577</isbn13>
    <listingCondition>NEW BOOK</listingCondition>
    <itemCondition>New</itemCondition>
    <quantity>5</quantity>
    <vendorCurrency>USD</vendorCurrency>
    <listingPrice>12.0</listingPrice>
    <firstBookShipCost>6.12</firstBookShipCost>
    <extraBookShipCost>3.21</extraBookShipCost>
    <minShipDays>14</minShipDays>
    <maxShipDays>45</maxShipDays>
    <totalListingPrice>4.99</totalListingPrice>

    <listingUrl>www.abebooks.com/servlet/ListingDetails?bi=1311927452&cm_ven=sws
    &cm_cat=sws&cm_pla=sws&cm_ite=1311927452</listingUrl>
  </Book>
  .
  .
  .
</searchResults>
```

- Search for the ISBN '9780131457577' and specify outputsize as 'short':  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=9780131457577&outputsize=short&clientkey=<your client key here>>

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<searchResults>
  <resultCount>22</resultCount>
  <Book>
    <bookId>1311927452</bookId>
    <isbn10>0131457578</isbn10>
    <isbn13>9780131457577</isbn13>
    <listingCondition>NEW BOOK</listingCondition>
    <itemCondition>New</itemCondition>
    <quantity>5</quantity>
    <vendorCurrency>USD</vendorCurrency>
    <listingPrice>12.0</listingPrice>
```

```

<firstBookShipCost>6.12</firstBookShipCost>
<extraBookShipCost>3.21</extraBookShipCost>
<minShipDays>14</minShipDays>
<maxShipDays>45</maxShipDays>
<totalListingPrice>4.99</totalListingPrice>
<listingUrl>www.abebooks.com/servlet/ListingDetails?bi=1311927452&cm_ven=sws&
cm_cat=sws&cm_pla=sws&cm_ite=1311927452</listingUrl>
<author>Kotler, Philip; Keller, Kevin Lane</author>
<title>Marketing Management</title>
<publisherName>Lebanon, Indiana, U.S.A.: Prentice Hall</publisherName>
<catalogImage>http://isbn.abebooks.com/lbr/78/13/0131457578.jpg</catalogImage>
</Book>
.
.
.
</searchResults>

```

- Search for the ISBN '9780131457577' and specify outputsize as 'medium' (default):  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=9780131457577&outputsize=medium&clientkey=<your client key here>>

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>

```

```

<searchResults>
<resultCount>22</resultCount>
<Book>
<bookId>1311927452</bookId>
<isbn10>0131457578</isbn10>
<isbn13>9780131457577</isbn13>
<listingCondition>NEW BOOK</listingCondition>
<itemCondition>New</itemCondition>
<quantity>5</quantity>
<vendorCurrency>USD</vendorCurrency>
<listingPrice>12.0</listingPrice>
<firstBookShipCost>6.12</firstBookShipCost>
<extraBookShipCost>3.21</extraBookShipCost>
<minShipDays>14</minShipDays>
<maxShipDays>45</maxShipDays>
<totalListingPrice>4.99</totalListingPrice>

```

```

<listingUrl>www.abebooks.com/servlet/ListingDetails?bi=1311927452&cm_ven=sws
&cm_cat=sws&cm_pla=sws&cm_ite=1311927452</listingUrl>
<author>Kotler, Philip; Keller, Kevin Lane</author>
<title>Marketing Management</title>
<publisherName>Lebanon, Indiana, U.S.A.: Prentice Hall</publisherName>

```

```

<catalogImage>http://isbn.abebooks.com/lbr/78/13/0131457578.jpg</catalogImage>

```

```

    <vendorName>Knowledge Enablers Pvt Ltd</vendorName>
    <vendorLocation>London, LON, United Kingdom</vendorLocation>
    <vendorId>53815614</vendorId>
    <sellerRating>4</sellerRating>
    <bindingType>S</bindingType>
  </Book>
  .
  .
  .
</searchResults>

```

- Search for the title ' Harry Potter & The Prisoner Of Azkaban' and specify outputsize as 'long':  
[http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=Harry+Potter+%26+The+Prisoner Of Azkaban&outputsize=long&clientkey=<your client key here>](http://search2.abebooks.com/search?title=Harry+Potter+%26+The+Prisoner+Of+Azkaban&outputsize=long&clientkey=<your client key here>)

```

<?xml version="1.0" encoding="UTF-8"?>
<searchResults>
  <resultCount>2</resultCount>
  <Book>
    <bookId>264794698</bookId>
    <listingCondition>NOT NEW BOOK</listingCondition>
    <itemCondition>As New</itemCondition>
    <quantity>1</quantity>
    <vendorCurrency>GBP</vendorCurrency>
    <listingPrice>269051.97</listingPrice>
    <firstBookShipCost>22.39</firstBookShipCost>
    <extraBookShipCost>3.21</extraBookShipCost>
    <minShipDays>14</minShipDays>
    <maxShipDays>45</maxShipDays>
    <totalListingPrice>4.99</totalListingPrice>
    <listingUrl>www.abebooks.com/servlet/ListingDetails?bi=264794698&cm_ven=sws&cm_cat=sws&cm_pla=sws&cm_ite=264794698</listingUrl>
    <author>Rowling J K</author>
    <title>Harry Potter & The Prisoner Of Azkaban</title>
    <publisherName>Bloomsbury, Canada</publisherName>
    <vendorImage>http://pictures.abebooks.com/RAREANDSIGNED/264794698.jpg</vendorImage>
    <vendorName>www.rareandsigned.com</vendorName>
    <vendorLocation>LEEDS, WY, United Kingdom</vendorLocation>
    <vendorId>1460329</vendorId>
    <sellerRating>5</sellerRating>
    <keywords>HARRY POTTER PRISONER OF AZKABAN UK BLOOMSBURY GALLEY PROOF 1ST FIRST RARE SIGNED JOANNE ROWLING J K LARGE A4 FORMAT BINDER LOOSE LEAF</keywords>
    <bookJacket>J</bookJacket>
    <bindingType>S</bindingType>

```

```
<editionType>F</editionType>
<signed>I</signed>
<publicationYear>1999</publicationYear>
<vendorPrice>175000.0</vendorPrice>
<vendorDescription>On offer here is one of the rarest Harry Potter books in the
world. This is the extremely rare Bloomsbury Galley proof for The Prisoner Of
Azkaban.</vendorDescription>
</Book>
.
.
.
</searchResults>
```

## Sort Order Parameter

- Search for the ISBN '0451172817' and specify results to be sorted by highest to lowest list price:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=0451172817&sortorder=1&clientkey=<your client key here>>
- Search for the ISBN '0451172817' and specify results to be sorted by the highest to lowest rated sellers:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=0451172817&sortorder=15&clientkey=<your client key here>>

## Max Results Parameter

- Search for the ISBN '0451172817' and limit the output to include 25 results:  
<http://search2.abebooks.com/search?isbn=0451172817&maxresults=25&clientkey=<your client key here>>

## Appendix II: List of all parameters

<b>Parameter Name</b>	<b>Parameter Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
author	Primary Search Parameter	The name or names of all authors of a book. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.
binding	Secondary Search Parameter	Filter by cover type.
bookcondition	Secondary Search Parameter	Filter by book condition.
currency	Output Value Parameter	Book price and shipping costs will be returned in the currency specified by this parameter.
destinationcountry	Output Value Parameter	All shipping prices will be calculated with the destination country set to the country specified by this parameter.
dustjacket	Secondary Search Parameter	Limit to books with a dust jacket.
firstedition	Secondary Search Parameter	Limit to first editions.
freeshipping	Secondary Search Parameter	Limit to only free shipping to USA.
groupcode	Secondary Search Parameter	Limit results to books from sellers in a particular group by supplying the group code.
isbn	Primary Search Parameter	A 10 or 13 character ISBN value
keyword	Primary Search Parameter	This word is searched against all text fields in a book listing, including author, title, publisher, description and the keywords assigned by a seller. Search using this field if you need to scan the entire listing, rather than a specific field. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.
maxprice	Secondary Search Parameter	Limits the search to only books below the value specified by this parameter.
maxpubyear	Secondary Search Parameter	Maximum publication year.

<b>Parameter Name</b>	<b>Parameter Type</b>	<b>Description</b>
minprice	Secondary Search Parameter	Limits the search to only books above the value specified by this parameter.
minpubyear	Secondary Search Parameter	Minimum publication year.
minsellerrating	Secondary Search Parameter	Filter by seller rating.
pubname	Primary Search Parameter	Search by publisher name. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.
shippingdetails	Output Value Parameter	Includes second book ship cost, min/max ship days and standard/priority ship rates.
shiprate	Output Value Parameter	Either S or P. All shipping rates will be calculated as either S (standard) or P (priority) rates.
signed	Secondary Search Parameter	Limit to signed books.
targetsite	Output Value Parameter	Sets the listing URL to the requested AbeBooks domain as well as the corresponding country and currency (e.g., UK and GBP for abebooks.co.uk, Germany and EUR for abebooks.de).
title	Primary Search Parameter	The title of a book. Spaces and other special characters must be URL encoded.
vendorid	Secondary Search Parameter	An AbeBooks seller ID number.
vendorlocation	Secondary Search Parameter	Limits the search to only books being sold by sellers who are located in the country specified.



# Appendix III: Change Log

May 2015

Updated formatting and layout

Added groupcode parameter and sortorder=20 (sort by relevance).

August 2015

Added targetsite parameter

Added instructions for obtaining GZIP compressed results.