

# A PRACTICAL GUIDE ON ADOPTING KOHA OPEN SOURCE LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE

BY

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# What is Koha ?

Koha from the Moari term or gift which means “a gift” or “a donation”.

Initially developed in New Zealand by Katipo Communications and Horowhenua Library Trust.

Koha is an ILS

Open Source

Free

# Why use Koha?

- Maintained by software providers and Library technology staff from around the world
- Customer becomes joint owner/ developer
- Stability
- Scalability
- Good support
- Long term support
- Cost effective

# Why use Koha

- Allows user innovation
- Free and Open Source
- OS independent
- Web based
- Multi lingual

## Features of Interest in Koha

- Web – base
- Full MARC21 and UNIMARC support
- Branch transfers
- Built – in Z39.50 server for resource sharing (support copy Cataloguing)
- Online reservations
- Online renewals
- E-mail notifications



# Features of Interest in Koha

- Shopping list & cart
- Virtual shelves
- Borrowing history
- Overdue fines
- Barcode printing

## Set-backs in using Koha

- Technical knowledge to install and deploy
- User interface is Librarian biased
- Cataloguing done online unlike Biblofile
- Difficulty in re-indexing when Zebra is used

# Koha Modules:

OPAC

Full catalogue.

Circulation.

Serials.

Acquisition.

Patron Management.

Branch management.

Reservations



# Requirements for installing Koha

- A server
- An IT staff
- A server OS (preferably)
- Apache
- PERL
- MySQL

# The Koha System Architecture

- Client – Server Architecture
  - Server: Any server running a server OS
    - preferably a Linux server OS.
  - Client: Any OS, almost all web browsers
- Koha will run on any TCP/IP connection

## Upgrading to a new version of Koha

Open Applications > Accessories > Terminal  
Apply following commands,

```
sudo apt-get update  
sudo apt-get upgrade  
apt-get install koha-common
```

## KOHA MAILING LIST

Join Koha Online Community through your  
Yahoo Account by sending email to:

[koha@lists.katipo.co.nz](mailto:koha@lists.katipo.co.nz)

Describe yourself in details and your institution so  
that you can get approval from the Koha mailing list  
Administrator

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Thank you for listening