How to Inventory Your Collection Manually

What to do in Polaris

Open up a Polaris Check In Screen (press F2 on the keyboard, click Circulation > Check In on the Polaris toolbar).

A Polaris Check In screen has four different modes: Normal Mode, Bulk Mode, In House Mode, and Update Inventory Date

Click on Update Inventory Date

🖌 Check In - Update Inventory Date - Polaris	_		×					
<u>F</u> ile <u>V</u> iew <u>T</u> ools <u>H</u> elp								
S Item barcode:								
Update Inventory Date								
Item barcode: Eind Update Inventory Date Barcode Status Title Comment								
For Help, press F1								

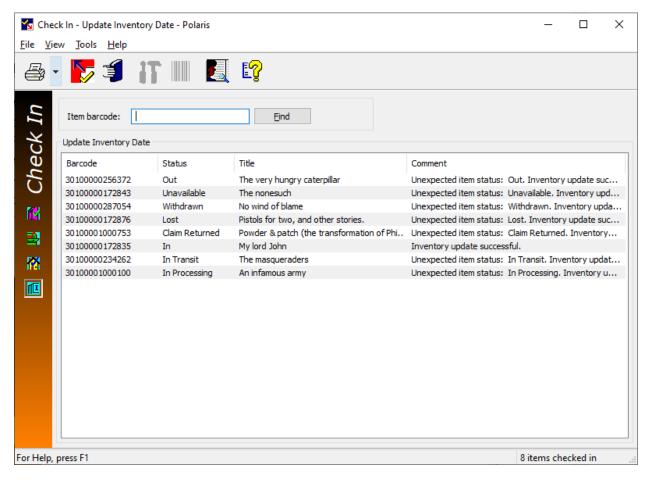
Then scan your collection. Every item. One at a time until you are done. Order does not matter as long as you get everything.

As you are scanning, you may get some pop-ups. These will let you know when an item has an unexpected status (e.g. In Processing, Claim Returned, Lost, Unavailable, Withdrawn, Out, etc).



When this happens, set these items aside. Once you're done scanning everything else, check in these items using Normal mode. If you have them in hand, they clearly aren't lost, missing, checked out to a patron, or something along those lines.

If you've forgotten to set those items aside, you can review the Update Inventory Date screen for a list of what you've scanned.



What to do in Simply Reports

As you scanned your items, you found items that shouldn't be on the shelves. Now with Simply Reports, you're going to find the items that should be on the shelves but aren't.

Create an Item List Report. The following output columns are recommended (but feel free to add others if you would prefer):

- Item barcode
- Item call number
- Item assigned collection name
- Item shelf location
- MARC author
- MARC title

SimplyRepor	ts	5									
			Patrons	Patron Acc	oui	nt	Holds	Items	Bibs	Authorities	Serials
							Item lis	st reports	Item o	ount reports	Item statis
Report output columns MARC sort ISSN MARC sort OCLC number MARC sort publisher number MARC sort title MARC sort UPC MARC UPC Patron barcode	•	Þ	Columns selected for output Item barcode Item call number Item assigned collection n Item shelf location MARC author MARC title	•	•	×	Columns	selected fo	r sort	×	

Next go down to the Item general filters.

Set the assigned branch to your library.

- Item general filters		
Item record set	Ŧ	
Assigned branch:		
Library quick pick	Marigold A MeLibrary Northern Lights Peace Library System	
🗹 Branch	Pat Hardy Elementary School Libra Paul Rowe JrSr. High School Peace Library System (Branch) Peace Regional Outreach	ry A

Set your record status to final. You are only concerned with items that currently exist in your collection and have not been deleted.

	Record status	Final Provisional Deleted	•
Under Circ status, select In.			
6	Circ status	In Out	^

Under Item date filters, put a check beside Last inventory date and then again over by Not present. Since you updated the inventory date for all the items in your library, you're looking to see what should be there, but wasn't scanned.

Out-ILL Being Held

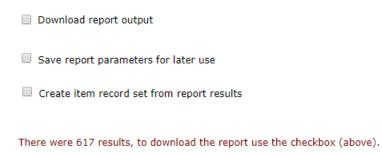
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- Item date filters			
PO release date			
Creation date			
Due date			
First available date			
\square Item record history transaction date *			
Imported date			
In-transit received date			Not present
In-transit sent date			Not present
Last check in date			
Last check out or renewal date			Not present
Last activity date			Not present
Last circ status change date			
Last inventory date			🗹 Not present
Last overdue notice date			
Modification date			
Record status date			

Then scroll down and click Submit.

In an ideal world, there would be zero results because that would mean that everything that is supposed to be there, is there. Unfortunately, it rarely works that way.

You are most likely going to get some results. You can export those results to Excel, where you can sort, print, and save them. You can create a record set that you can refer to as you work your way through the list. It's up to you.



The important thing is to go look for those items. Search around the library. Look in nooks and crannies. It's amazing where things can be hidden. As you find items, update the inventory date and shelve.

If you have searched everywhere and cannot find the items, update the item record. Change the circ status from In to Missing.

Congratulations. You have completed an inventory of your collection!