

# Use the OAI-PMH interface

## Files:

- [dspace-source/build/dspace-oai.war](#)
- `http://_web-address-to-my-dspace_/dspace-oai`

(OAI-PMH base URL)

## Instructions:

1. Whenever you rebuild DSpace (see [Rebuild DSpace](#)), the OAI-PMH (<http://www.openarchives.org/pmh/>) interface is automatically rebuilt into the dspace-oai.war. In order to enable the OAI-PMH interface, you just need to copy this dspace-oai.war file into your [Tomcat/webapps/](#) directory. (It likely will already be there if you followed the installation directions completely).
2. If you've never used OAI-PMH before, there is a Beginner's Tutorial from the Open Archives Forum available at: <http://www.oaforum.org/tutorial/>
3. Here's a few basic OAI-PMH "verbs" (i.e. commands) you may wish to familiarize yourself with (all example DSpace URLs should be on a single line):

- Identify - used to retrieve information about a repository:

```
http://_web-address-to-my-dspace_/dspace-oai/request?verb=Identify
```

- ListMetadataFormats - lists metadata formats supported for OAI-PMH:

```
http://_web-address-to-my-dspace_/dspace-oai/request?verb=ListMetadataFormats
```

- ListRecords - permits metadata harvesting of all or a selection of items:

```
http://_web-address-to-my-dspace_/dspace-oai/request?verb=ListRecords&metadataPrefix=oai_dc
```

- ListSets - lists the "sets" (i.e. DSpace Collections) available in a repository:

```
http://_web-address-to-my-dspace_/dspace-oai/request?verb=ListSets
```

4. You may wish to register your Base URL (see Files list above) in the following locations, so that others may harvest your metadata and link back to your site:
  - DSpace OAI Listing: <http://wiki.dspace.org/index.php/OaiInstallations>
  - OAI-PMH Data Provider Registry: <http://www.openarchives.org/data/registerasprovider.html>
  - Directory of Open Access Repositories: <http://www.opendoar.org/>
  - Registry of Open Access Repositories: <http://roar.eprints.org/>
  - OAIster: <http://www.oaister.org/>

There's also a web interface available for browsing repositories via OAI-PMH (a hosted OAI client) called **OAI Repository Explorer**: <http://re.cs.uct.ac.za/>