

Forge for SwordSearcher



Forge for SwordSearcher

Version 4.0

User Manual

©2016 StudyLamp Software LLC

Designed by Brandon Staggs (bstaggs@swordsearcher.com)

<http://www.swordsearcher.com/forge/index.html>

LICENSE – YOU MUST READ, UNDERSTAND, AND AGREE BEFORE USING FORGE

Use of Forge ("THIS SOFTWARE") constitutes agreement to this license by you, the user.

This software is licensed only for use in accordance with the copyright laws of the United States of America. The user agrees not to use this software in any way that infringes on a copyright.

If you are unsure about the copyright status of a work or to whom a copyright belongs, it is your responsibility to research that information. The authors and publishers of Forge and SwordSearcher will not assume this responsibility. You agree to be personally responsible for its use and not to hold StudyLamp Software LLC liable for any use or misuse of this software. You further agree not to distribute data compiled by this software where such distribution would constitute an infringement of a copyright. You further agree that the authors and publishers of SwordSearcher will not be held liable for what other users do with material you publish in SwordSearcher format, as no guarantees regarding security or fitness of purpose are implied. If you do not agree to these simple requirements, you are not licensed to use this software and must remove it from your computer.

ALL REASONABLE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO ENSURE THAT THIS SOFTWARE IS SAFE TO USE. HOWEVER, THIS SOFTWARE AND ONLINE MANUAL ARE PROVIDED "AS IS" AND WITHOUT WARRANTIES AS TO PERFORMANCE OF MERCHANTABILITY OR ANY OTHER WARRANTIES WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED. BECAUSE OF THE VARIOUS HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE ENVIRONMENTS INTO WHICH THIS PROGRAM MAY BE PUT, NO WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE IS OFFERED. THE USER MUST ASSUME THE ENTIRE RISK OF USING THE PROGRAM.

User Support Notice:

You are free to use Forge to build modules for SwordSearcher, and this manual has been written in order to provide you with the information you need to do so.

However, this tool is provided AS IS and with no promise of support. Your feedback is welcomed and suggestions will be considered for future development, but free technical support for Forge will be limited. But if you have some programming/scripting and HTML experience, you should have no trouble making full use of Forge.

Publishers interested in publishing their material in SwordSearcher format may wish to contact [Brandon Staggs](#) for professional support and/or module compilation work.

Introduction

Forge is a *module compiler* for SwordSearcher 5.0 and later (including 6.x and 7.x). Forge allows experienced end-users and publishers to create their own material without having to "cut and paste" into SwordSearcher's internal user editor.

Forge can compile Bible, Book, and Commentary modules to be integrated into a user's SwordSearcher library.

Usage of Forge necessitates understanding of HTML and will likely require some level of pre-processing to prepare documents for compilation, usually to be done with some amount of programming. However, import files can be designed in a text editor if desired, or "cut and pasted" together in a word processor, as long as the import file meets the specific requirements explained later in this document.

Modules compiled with Forge require at least SwordSearcher 5.0. They will not work on any version of SwordSearcher prior to 5.0. If your text includes any Unicode characters (that is, any characters outside of the base 7-bit ASCII encoding), your module will require SwordSearcher 6.0 or later to be properly displayed. If you create a book with more than 65,535 entries, it will require SwordSearcher 8.0 or later.

General information about import format: Forge import files must be encoded in ASCII or Unicode. Bible verses must be plain-text without HTML formatting. Book and Commentary entries are independent HTML documents (although in a single import file) and can contain virtually any level of formatting desired, with some exceptions (explained later).

If you are using Unicode encoding, the source file must include the correct BOM. Most text editors will correctly save the BOM automatically. If you notice problems with display of characters in SwordSearcher, make sure your text file is being saved as UTF-8 WITH BOM or UTF-16.

About publishing SwordSearcher modules built with Forge

Installation of modules into the SwordSearcher library

There are two possible locations that a compiled module can be installed to on a user's computer.

[Documents Folder]\SwordSearcher User Modules

(This is typically the user's "My Documents" folder and is where modules that the user creates from within SwordSearcher are placed.) This is the recommended location for most uses.

Or, a module may be installed into SwordSearcher's module folder. This location can vary depending on which version of SwordSearcher the user has installed, and if the user has elected to install SwordSearcher to an entirely different location. Some likely locations are:

```
[Program Files]\SwordSearcher 5\Modules  
[Program Files]\SwordSearcher 6\Modules  
[Program Files]\SwordSearcher\Modules
```

(This is typically C:\Program Files\SwordSearcher\Modules, and is where SwordSearcher's deluxe library modules are installed.)

Professional installers can be created for your module files. Contact Brandon Staggs if you require this service. If you are creating your own installer, the utmost care must be taken to properly discover the user's SwordSearcher modules folder, and any existing files not related to your own module should never be overwritten.

Third Party Notice: SwordSearcher's *Module Info* function will display a notice to the user informing them that the module is a third-party module and not provided by the publisher of SwordSearcher.

If you are a publisher and want to avoid this notice for your readers, please contact Brandon Staggs regarding professional module development services.

The Forge User Interface

The Forge UI is straightforward. You will need to configure the details of the module before importing it, and every necessary option is in Forge's single window interface.

Bible text file format:

Example file:

```
; TITLE: King James Version  
; ABBREVIATION: KJV  
; HAS ITALICS  
; HAS FOOTNOTES  
$$ {AUTHORDETAIL}  
<p>This is author detail, title page, etc. information.</p>  
<p>It can include links to websites <a href="http://www.swordsearcher.com">like  
this</a>.  
$$ Ge 1:1  
In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.  
$$ Ge 1:2  
And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of  
the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
```

Optional case-sensitive header lines (placed before anything else):

```
; TITLE: [long title]
; ABBREVIATION: [short title]
; HAS ITALICS
; HAS FOOTNOTES
```

Title:

If included, this Title text will override the Title specified in the Forge UI.

Abbreviation:

If included, this Abbreviation text will override the Abbreviation text specified in the Forge UI.

Has Italics:

Tells SwordSearcher to display text in brackets [like this] as *italics*. If [brackets] are included in verse text but this header line is not included, the brackets will be shown instead of italic text.

Has Footnotes:

Tells Forge to compile text in curly braces {like this} as footnotes. (See the KJV module in SwordSearcher for example.)

Each verse appears in the file like this:

```
$$ Ge 1:1
In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
$$ Ge 1:2
And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness [was] upon the face of
the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.
```

A verse specifier (\$\$ Ge 1:1) must appear on a new line and be the only item on the line. Verse text may not include extraneous whitespace (like newlines or tabs) and must be plain ASCII or Unicode text. Verse text must not include HTML code or other formatting. A verse specifier must conform to the standard KJV versification system and refer to a single verse. SwordSearcher does not support non-KJV versification. See the SwordSearcher documentation for the preferred book abbreviation formatting.

- **DO NOT** include HTML tags in Bible verse input.
- **DO NOT** use any HTML Entities in Bible verse input.
- **AVOID** using “smart quotes” in Bible verse input.

An optional author detail/title page entry can be included like this:

```
$$ {AUTHORDETAIL}
<p>This is author detail, title page, etc. information.</p>
<p>It can include links to websites <a href="http://www.swordsearcher.com">like
this</a>.
```

{AUTHORDETAIL} is case sensitive.

The author detail information may be included and is interpreted as HTML. SwordSearcher displays this information to users when they select the *Module Information* item on the popup menu in the Bible display or on the Bible tab.

If you do not include this entry, a generic message will be created indicating the date of the module build.

Optional font specification in header: (should only rarely be used)

```
; FONT: Times New Roman
```

Using this will force a particular font (such as Times New Roman in the above example) when the text is displayed in SwordSearcher. This option should only be used as a last resort for texts that can't be properly encoded in Unicode.

Optional Hebrew specification in header: (rarely used)

```
; HEBREW  
; HEBREWOT
```

Only use one. For SwordSearcher 6 and later, this indicates to SwordSearcher that the text should be displayed using the preferred Biblical Hebrew font (Ezra SIL) and always treated as right-to-left text. The ; HEBREW header flag is used if the entire text (Old and New Testament) is in Hebrew, and the ; HEBREWOT flag is used if only the Old Testament text should be considered Hebrew by SwordSearcher. The latter flag can be used to create a combined Hebrew/Greek module such as the TR module included in the Deluxe Library of SwordSearcher 6 and later. Although SwordSearcher will always properly display right-to-left Unicode text (regardless of these flags), these flags are helpful because they can improve the placement of the verse numbers in paragraph mode. Finally, these flags also make available the consonant search mode in the Search Bible dialog for the module. Using either of these flags with non-Hebrew text will have undesirable and unpredictable results, so don't do that.

Book and Commentary Format

Example file for Book:

```
; TITLE: Test Book  
; ABBREVIATION: TstBk  
  
$$ {AUTHORDETAIL}  
<p>This is author detail, title page, etc. information.</p>  
<p>It can include links to websites <a href="http://www.swordsearcher.com">like  
this</a>.
```

```

$$ Example Entry
<p>Here are some verse links: Ge 2:1-5; Mt 1:1,4</p>
<p>Here is a link to <a href="ssbook:Example Entry 2">my second book
entry</a></p>

$$ Example Entry 2
<p>Here is my second book entry...</p>
<p>Note that no matter what order I put these entries in, Forge enforces
alphabetic sorting on them.</p>

```

Example file for Commentary:

```

; TITLE: Test Commentary
; ABBREVIATION: TstCmt

$$ {AUTHORDETAIL}
<p>This is author detail, title page, etc. information.</p>
<p>It can include links to websites <a href="http://www.swordsearcher.com">like
this</a>.

$$ Ge 1:1
<p>This is my commentary text for Genesis 1:1.</p>
<p>Here are some verse links: Ge 2:1-5; Mt 1:1,4</p>
<p>Here is a link to <a href="sscmt:Mt 1:1">my comments on Matthew ch. 1 vs.
1</a></p>

$$ Mt 1:1
<p>Here are my comments on Matthew 1:1...</p>

```

Optional case-sensitive header lines (placed before anything else):

```

; TITLE: [long title]
; ABBREVIATION: [short title]

```

Title:

If included, this Title text will override the Title specified in the Forge UI.

Abbreviation:

If included, this Abbreviation text will override the Abbreviation text specified in the Forge UI.

Entry headings for books and commentaries are virtually identical, except that in a commentary, each entry must be a verse reference.

Book entry heading:

```

$$ Example Entry

```

Commentary entry heading:

```

$$ Ge 1:1

```

Each entry heading must appear in its own line and may not contain formatting of any kind.

Entry text data (below the header) is interpreted as an HTML document. The data you include in each entry is simply passed to an HTML rendering system, so you can expect it to work with proper HTML. There are some limitations and exceptions:

At this time, HTML rendering in SwordSearcher is not guaranteed to process and display images or other “external” elements. You may have success using images that are stored on your local hard drive, but be aware that support for image display in third-party modules is unofficial at this point.

If you need to use style sheets, they must be included in the HTML data head section, not attached as an external file. Each entry is treated independently. There is no "common" style sheet data for an entire module.

Links to other entries may be specified like this:

```
<a href="[ type]: {Resource|}[Entry]">Displayed Text</a>
```

For example, to make a link to the Adoption entry of Torrey's Topical Textbook:

```
<a href="ssbook:Torrey|Adoption">Torrey on Adoption</a>
```

Or to link to the Jamieson-Fausett-Brown commentary on Genesis 1:1:

```
<a href="sscm:JFB|Ge 1:1">See the JFB Comment on Genesis 1:1</a>
```

If you omit the {Resource|} item, the active book or commentary is assumed when the link is clicked.

You can also link to images in the SwordSearcher image store. For example:

```
<a href="ssiimage:Maps/Ancient Jerusalem, in the New Testament Period.png">See map. </a>
```

Images must be located in the \Images\ folder of the SwordSearcher installation folder. If you are packaging images with your module, you must take care to properly create a subfolder in the Images folder for the images used by your module. You should use a properly developed installer to do so, such as [Inno Setup](#).

An optional author detail/title page entry can be included like this:

```
$$ {AUTHORDETAIL}
<p>This is author detail, title page, etc. information.</p>
<p>It can include links to websites <a href="http://www.swordsearcher.com">like this</a>.
```

The author detail information may be included and is interpreted as HTML. SwordSearcher displays this information to users when they select the *Module Information* item on the popup menu in the Book or Commentary display when your module is active.

If you do not include this entry, a generic message will be created indicating the date of the module build.

Verse links in Book and Commentary entries

As long as you leave “Automatically link verse references” checked in the Forge UI, verse links will be automatically linked and indexed in SwordSearcher.

If you do *not* wish to use Forge’s automatic verse linking feature, you will need to tag text in your source for verse linking. When “Automatically link verse references” is not checked, text surrounded by <scripref> </scripref> tags will be parsed and indexed as verse references during module compilation. They must be valid references and you may not use any formatting, newlines, etc., inside scripref tags.

The “Use book abbreviation exclusion list” option in Forge allows you to specify a list of words that will *not* be interpreted as Bible book names when they appear next to a letter or Roman numeral. Click the “Edit List” link next to this option to customize the exclusion list. This option is used in conjunction with automatic verse linking and is helpful if you have a word that is consistently misidentified as a book link.

If your source material contains Roman numeral as chapter specifiers in verse links, you can enable the “Parse Roman Numerals” option to have Forge interpret them. Otherwise it is best to leave this off to reduce false-positives in verse tagging.

Some general notes

Take care not to create module files that have the same titles and abbreviations as other modules available.

Also, do not create Bible, Book, and Commentary modules with identical titles or abbreviations, regardless of their module type.

When Forge builds a new module, it will rename an existing one with the same name for backup, but only keeps *one* backup. By default, Forge will place your compiled module in the same location that newly created user modules (from within SwordSearcher) are placed. You can change this location in the Forge UI if you desire.

By default, modules built with Forge have a "user built" tag set, but are **not** *user editable* modules, meaning they **cannot** be edited inside of SwordSearcher. They also can't be exported with the export functions on the User menu. However, if you check the "Make Module User Editable" box, the module will be marked as editable, and anyone using it in SwordSearcher can modify or export it as if it were created by them inside of SwordSearcher.

Module compatibility: modules compiled with Forge are compatible with SwordSearcher 5.0 and later, including 6.x, 7.x, and 8.x. However, if your source text includes any characters outside of the base 7-bit ASCII character set, the compiled module will require SwordSearcher 6.0 or later to properly render. Also, if you compile a book module with more than 65,535 entries, the module file will only work in SwordSearcher 8 or later.

Revision History

Version 4.0.2.3

- Fixed crashing if Bible input text had unbalanced footnote tags.
- Other minor bug fixes.

Version 4.0.1.2

- Significant speed improvements for large commentaries and books.
- Support books with more than 65,535 entries. **Note:** if your book module has this many entries, the module file will only be readable by SwordSearcher 8.0 or later.
- Built with SwordSearcher 8 core support code. Some improvements to verse reference recognition and fixes/improvements to word parsing for indexing.

Version 3.3.1.1

- Automatically scrub HTML from Bible verse input and print a warning. It has never been supported for Bible verse input and causes undesirable behavior. Please see the documentation under Bible Text File Format for details.

Version 3.2.2.1

- Minor update to verse reference parser to allow for longer strings of chapter:verse references after a book.

Version 3.2.1.1

- Updated verse reference parser and build code with SwordSearcher 7.2 core.
- Documented ; FONT header option.
- Added ; HEBREW and ; HEBREWOT Bible header options (see documentation for details).
- Fixed Forge crash when SwordSearcher is open and Forge tries to rebuild an open module.
- Updated crash bug reporting system to use web server instead of email.

- Prevent book modules with more than 65,534 entries from being built (they can't be loaded by SwordSearcher at this time).
- Improved output of "Report Empty Verses" Bible build option.
- Added option to control Roman numeral parsing in automatic verse reference tagging.
- Various bug fixes.

Version 3.1.2.1

- Added additional warnings when compiling Bible modules with entries that appear to match the same verses.
- Fixed a crash condition with extremely long references.
- Minor improvements to verse reference recognition.

Version 3.1.1.1

- Added "Report Empty Verses" option for Bible module compiling. Lists all verses with no text after compile.

Version 3.0.1.4

- Implemented complete Unicode support, which requires SwordSearcher 6.0 or later. If your source file contains a Unicode Byte Order Mark (BOM) at the beginning of the file, the text will be correctly interpreted as Unicode text. Most text editors, as well as the user module export function for SwordSearcher 6, will write the BOM automatically.
- Removed obsolete "UTF-8 Encoding" option for Bible modules. This is no longer necessary.
- Module build code updated with SwordSearcher 6 code base.
- Improvements to verse reference recognition.

Version 2.1.1.1

- Added support for more book abbreviations.
- Added support for verse references in the form of "Deut. xx:1" etc.
- Added Book Abbreviation Exclusion option and customizable list.

Version 2.0.2.4

- Fixed bug that would cause incorrect indexing in Bible modules under certain circumstances.

Version 2.0.1.2

- Added automatic verse linking to Forge. It is no longer necessary to tag verse references in Forge source files. The "Automatically link verse references" option, when checked, will find verse links in the source text and automatically link and index them for SwordSearcher. (If you do not wish to use Forge's automatic verse linking feature, you can un-check this option and use <scripref> tags in the source as described in the Forge user manual.)

Version 1.0.2.5

- Fixed parsing error in Bible compilation code which ignored specified verse position in source text.

Version 1.0.1.1

- Initial public release.