

PLANNING GUIDE ■

CrossRoads® Shelving - Book Capacity

February 2013

Summary

The most practical way to figure book capacity is on a linear feet basis. A good average for public and school libraries is 8.3 books per linear foot. The children's section capacity in elementary schools and public libraries may be raised to 15 books per foot, while the shelving capacity for academic libraries is averaged to be 6.7 books per linear foot. A per shelf capacity of 25 adult, 45 children, and 20 academic books can be established.

CrossRoads shelving is available in 6 standard heights: 42", 54", 60", 72", 82", and 96".



Shelving Height	Number of Shelves	Adult Book Capacity	Children Book Capacity	Academic Book Capacity
42"	3 shelves (2 adjustable and 1 base)	75 books/unit	135 books/unit	60 books/unit
54"	4 shelves (3 adjustable and 1 base)	100 books/unit	180 books/unit	80 books/unit
60"	5 shelves (4 adjustable and 1 base)	125 books/unit	225 books/unit	100 books/unit
72"	6 shelves (5 adjustable and 1 base)	150 books/unit	270 books/unit	120 books/unit
82"	7 shelves (6 adjustable and 1 base)	175 books/unit	315 books/unit	140 books/unit
96"	7 shelves (6 adjustable and 1 base)	175 books/unit	315 books/unit	140 books/unit

The above formula should provide for a 10% expansion within a shelving unit before it is completely full. This allows for the circulation of books without having to displace the existing ones already shelved.

Wood and metal shelves have a weight capacity of 75 lbs. per shelf.

Double-faced shelving will have twice the capacity stated above.