

# Author Book Count Configuration

---

## [GUI Plugin] Author Book Count

This plugin updates a new custom column for the total number of books written by each author. This is done for every book in your library. It provides advanced functionality that Standard Calibre does not provide, especially the ability to create an "integer" custom column that supports arithmetic search queries. The plain ABC custom column results are displayed in the left browser pane under "ABC". Both custom columns are typically hidden.

### Installation Notes:

1. Calibre > Preferences > Custom Columns > Add a new custom column called "[author\\_book\\_count](#)" with a title of "[ABC](#)" and with the default "[text, with column shown in the tag browser](#)". Uncheck the new column to *hide* it. Save your work and restart Calibre. Refer to the attached configuration image file.
2. Calibre > Preferences > Plugins > Load Plugin from File and load the attached zip file. Save your work and restart Calibre.
3. Calibre > Preferences > Toolbar > Main Menu Toolbar and then add the icon for Author Book Count. Save your work. Close the window.
4. If you don't want to see the count in the Book Details view, go to Calibre > Preferences > Look and Feel > Book Details and customize the view to your taste.
5. The Calibre tag-browser defaults to sorting by Text instead of by Numbers within Text. To change this: Calibre > Preferences > Tweaks > Recognize Numbers Within Text When Sorting > and set [numeric\\_collation = True](#). See the attached image file for reference.

### Execution Notes:

1. Click the icon, confirm you wish to execute ABC, and the job will finish extremely quickly.
2. Please run ABC when you are not running any other jobs.

# Author Book Count Configuration

---

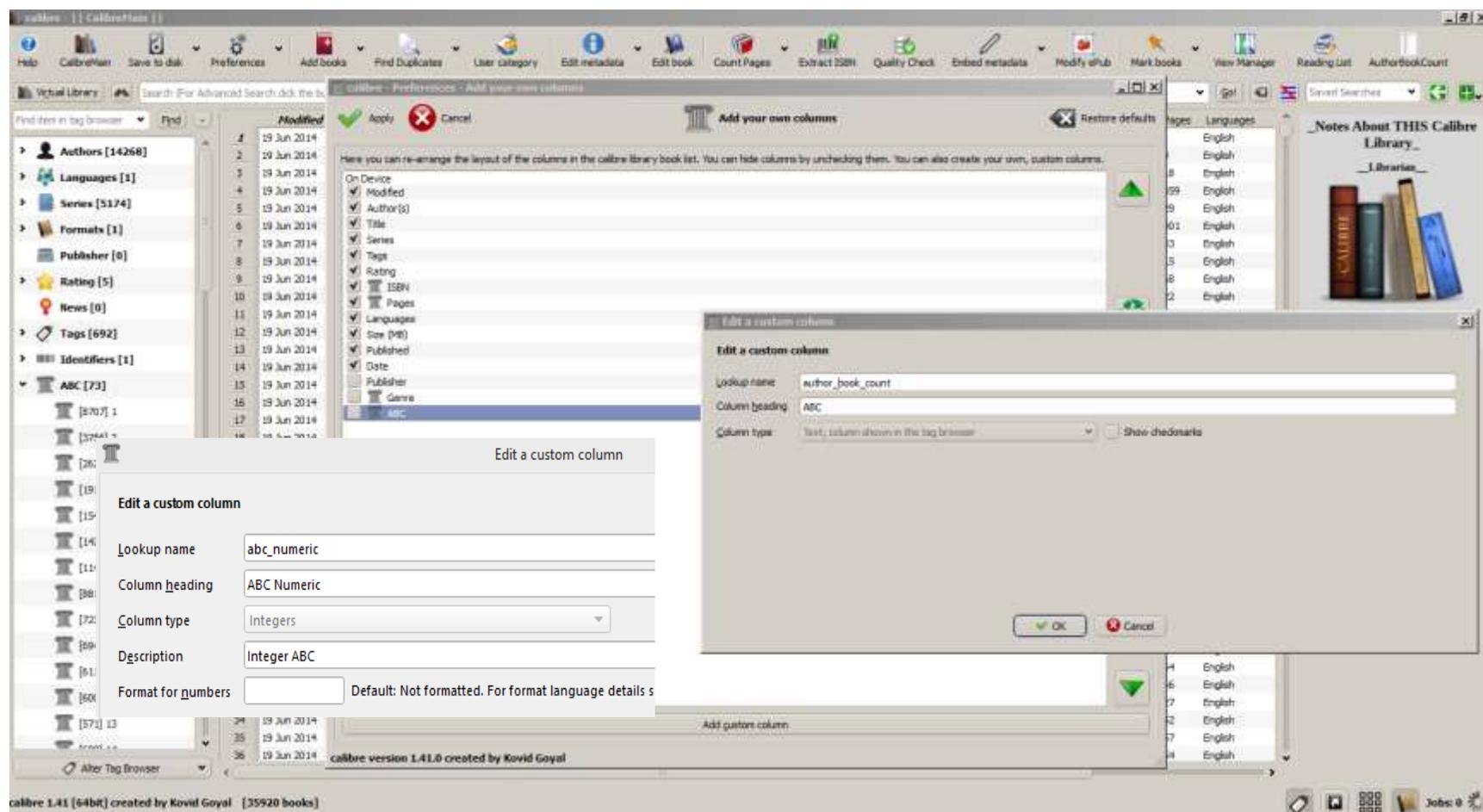
## Special Notes:

1. **Requires Calibre version 1.48.0 or later.**
2. Bear in mind that a single book has a single author book count, so anthologies with a dozen authors will show the count for the author that has the lowest Calibre author id, which is to say the author that was first added to Calibre. If you see a discrepancy between the tag browser for ABC and the books shown in the window, simply right click one of their books and then > Similar Books > Books by Same Author. You should then see the books for which that author was one of multiple authors, and was not the first author listed in the list of authors. This behavior is not a bug, but rather the nature of having only a single value for a single custom column for a single book in Calibre. The count is correct, but the browser pane info on the left of the main gui has to be interpreted properly for books with multiple authors.
3. Remember to back up your metadata.db file(s) not infrequently, and especially before starting **Installation Step 1**, above.
4. This plugin does **not** update any ebooks or "real" metadata other than the linked new custom column that you defined in **Installation Step 1**, above.
5. This plugin can be safely and simply uninstalled and the custom column and associated custom column data deleted via Preferences > Plugins > Remove and also Preferences > Custom Columns > Delete if you so desire.

## Optional Numeric Custom Column:

If you wish to make numeric search queries, such as "ABC is greater than 5 but less than 23", you should create a second custom column named "abc\_numeric" of the type "integer" and then hide this column. ABC will automatically update abc\_numeric when it updates author\_book\_count.

# Author Book Count Configuration



# Author Book Count Configuration

The screenshot shows the 'calibre - Preferences - Tweaks' window. At the top, there are buttons for 'Apply' (with a green checkmark), 'Cancel' (with a red X), 'Tweaks' (with a book icon), and 'Restore defaults' (with a grey X). Below this is a text box: 'Values for the tweaks are shown below. Edit them to change the behavior of calibre. Your changes will only take effect **after a restart** of calibre.'

On the left is a list of tweak categories. The selected category is 'Recognize numbers inside text when sorting'. Other categories include: 'What interfaces should the content server listen on', 'Unified toolbar on OS X', 'Save original file when converting/polishing from same format to same format', 'Number of recently viewed books to show', 'Change the font size of book details in the interface', 'Compile General Program Mode templates to Python', 'What format to default to when using the Tweak feature', 'Do not preselect a completion when editing authors/tags/series/etc.', 'Completion mode when editing authors/tags/series/etc.', 'Sort the list of libraries alphabetically', 'Highlight the virtual library name when using a Virtual Library', 'Choose available output formats for conversion', and 'Set the thumbnail image quality used by the content server'. At the bottom of this list is a button for 'Plugin tweaks'.

On the right, there is a search box 'Search for tweak' with a dropdown arrow, and 'Next' and 'Previous' buttons. Below this is a 'Help' section with the text: 'ID: numeric\_collation. This means that when sorting on text fields like title the text "Book 2" will sort before the text "Book 100". If you want this behavior, set numeric\_collation = True note that doing so will cause problems with text that starts with numbers and is a little slower.'

Below the help is an 'Edit tweak' section with a text area containing: '# Recognize numbers inside text when sorting' and 'numeric\_collation = True'. At the bottom of this section are two buttons: 'Reset this tweak' and 'Apply changes to this tweak'.

At the very bottom of the window, it says 'calibre version 1.41.0 created by Kovid Goyal'.