# User Guide — How to Operate the Book Scraper

This document explains how to install, configure, and operate the Book Scraper application that extracts book data from Readings.com.

## 1. Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure you have the following installed on your computer:

• Python 3.8 or higher (Download from https://www.python.org/downloads/)

Tip: When installing, check the option 'Add Python to PATH'.

## 2. Install Required Libraries

Open Command Prompt (CMD) or Terminal and run the following command:

* pip install selenium beautifulsoup4 pandas numpy pyqt5 pyqt5-tools

These libraries are used for:  
- Selenium → web automation (to open pages and scrape data)  
- BeautifulSoup4 → HTML parsing  
- Pandas & NumPy → data storage and manipulation  
- PyQt5 → graphical user interface  
- PyQt5-tools → optional tools for UI building and design

## 3. Configure the Project

Step 1 — Open the UI.py File:

Locate and open your UI.py file (this is your PyQt5 interface script). Scroll to the bottom of the file — you will find lines where you can enter the URL and driver path.

Step 2 — Set the Target URL:

Inside UI.py, at the bottom, find a line like this:  
url = "https://www.readings.com.au/books/fiction"  
You can replace it with any category URL from Readings.com, for example:  
url = "https://www.readings.com.au/books/history"  
  
You can use any valid category — Fiction, History, Non-Fiction, Children’s Books, etc.

Step 3 — Set the Selenium Driver Path:

You must tell Selenium where your ChromeDriver (or other browser driver) is located.  
Find the variable for the driver path, for example:  
driver\_path = "C:/path/to/chromedriver.exe"  
Replace it with the actual path to your ChromeDriver.

## 4. Run the Application

Once everything is configured, you can start the scraper:  
1. Run the UI.py file.  
2. Click the 'Start' button to begin scraping.  
3. The scraper will automatically extract books from the given category up to your specified page limit.  
4. Click the 'Load' button to display the extracted data in the table.  
5. You can now perform operations such as Sorting, Searching, and Multi-level Sorting or Searching.

## 5. Features Summary

- Scrapes book data (title, author, price, etc.) from Readings.com  
- Supports setting any category URL manually  
- Uses Selenium for automated page navigation  
- Uses BeautifulSoup for fast and clean HTML parsing  
- Data can be loaded and displayed within the PyQt interface  
- Provides Sorting and Searching, including multi-level sorting