

#3 Switching Authentication Method in BookStack

If you choose to use Google authentication, you need to manually switch the authentication method to standard to log in as a local admin and enable user registration. Then turn in back to OIDC.

- [📄 One-Time Setup for Google Authentication](#)

🔑 One-Time Setup for Google Authentication

Follow these steps:

Step 1: Connect to Your EC2 Instance

1. Go to the **AWS Console** → **EC2**.
2. Locate your **BookStack instance** (named something like `bookstack-dev-asg-instance`).
3. Use **Systems Manager** to connect to the instance. In new window appear, enter in prompt: `sudo su - ec2-user` and hit enter

```
sh-5.2$ sudo su - ec2-user
```

```
Last login: Wed Feb 26 07:36:32 UTC 2025 on pts/1
```

```
Welcome to your EC2 instance!
```

```
-----
```

```
Operating System: GNU/Linux
```

```
Hostname: ip-172-31-42-121.ec2.internal
```

```
Current Date and Time: Wed Feb 26 08:33:35 UTC 2025
```

Step 2: Modify the Authentication Method

In the `.env` file, change the authentication method from **OIDC** to **Standard** by modifying or adding the following lines:

```
nano bookstack/.env
```

```
#AUTH_METHOD="oidc" # comment in or edit exist line
```

```
AUTH_METHOD="standard" # or add the new one with value =standard
```

Save and exit the file.

Step 3: Restart BookStack

Run the following command to restart the BookStack service:

```
docker-compose --env-file bookstack/.env -f bookstack/docker-compose.yml up -d
```

After a few seconds, you should see:

```
[+] Running 1/1
```

```
✓ Container bookstack Started
```

Step 4: Log in as Admin

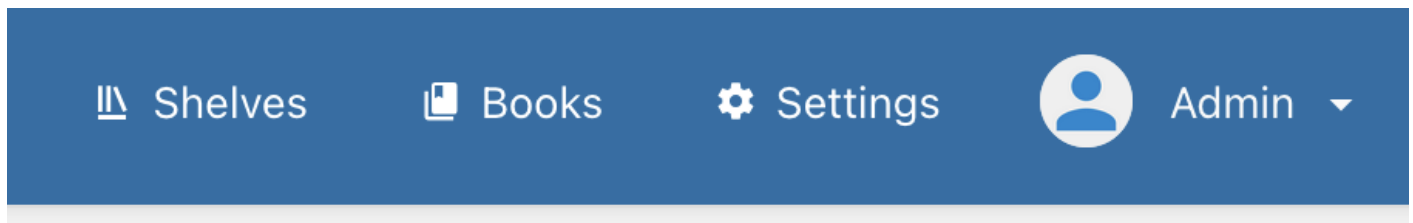
Now, access BookStack through your **AppURL** and log in using the default credentials:

• **Email:**

• **Password:**

Step 5: Enable User Registration

1. Click on **Settings** in the top navigation bar.



2. Under **Categories**, select **Registration**.

3. Check **Enable Registration**.

4. In **Default user role after registration**, select **Viewer**.

BookStack

Search

ShelvesBooksSettingsAdmin

SettingsMaintenanceAudit LogUsersRolesWebhooks

Categories

- Features & Security
- Customization
- Registration**

System Version

BookStack v24.05.4

License Details

Registration

Enable Registration

When registration is enabled user will be able to sign themselves up as an application user. Upon registration they are given a single, default user role.

☒ Enable registration

Default user role after registration

Domain Restriction

Enter a comma separated list of email domains you would like to restrict registration to. Users will be sent an email to confirm their address before being allowed to interact with the application. Note that users will be able to change their email addresses after successful registration.

No restriction set

Email Confirmation

If domain restriction is used then email confirmation will be required and this option will be ignored.

☐ Require email confirmation

Save Settings

5. Click **Save Settings**.

6. Click on **Users** tab. Choose user which you want to make an admin role.

SettingsMaintenanceAudit Log**Users**RolesWebhooks

Users





Add New User

Create & manage individual user accounts within the system. User accounts are used for login and attribution of content & activity. Access permissions are primarily role-based but user content ownership, among other factors, may also affect permissions & access.

Search Users

Sort

Name

	Admin admin@admin.com	Admin	Latest Activity 1 week ago
	constantine [REDACTED]	Admin	Latest Activity 15 hours ago
	dmytro [REDACTED]	Admin	Latest Activity 57 seconds ago
	Guest guest@example.com	Public	Latest Activity 1 week ago

7. Select Admin role and click **Save**.

Edit Profile

User Details

Name

dmytro

Email

[REDACTED]

▸ External Authentication ID

User Roles

Select which roles this user will be assigned to. If a user is assigned to multiple roles the permissions from those roles will stack and they will receive all abilities of the assigned roles.

☒ Admin

☐ Editor

☐ Public

☐ Viewer

Step 6: Switch Back to OIDC Authentication

Now that user registration is enabled, repeat **Step 2**, but this time set the authentication method back to **OIDC**:

```
nano bookstack/.env
AUTH_METHOD="oidc" # uncomment or edit exist line
```

Save the file and restart BookStack again:

```
docker-compose --env-file bookstack/.env -f bookstack/docker-compose.yml up -d
```

[+] Running 1/1

✓ Container bookstack Started

⚠ Important Notice! Don't worry! If something goes wrong, the **Auto Scaling Group** will detect the issue and recreate the instance with default settings.

