MCP SERVER | NO CODE | CLOUD HOSTED

Google Books MCP

Search volumes, manage shelves, and verify book details.

Google Books MCP lets your AI agent search millions of books and magazines using advanced filters. You can retrieve full volume metadata, check specific details for titles by ISBN, or build out organized digital bookshelves. Manage private collections and browse public lists all through natural conversation.

F Quality Score 43.65/100

book-search | literary-metadata | library-management | full-text-search | research-tools | cataloging

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vinkius.com/mcp/google-books-alternative

SCAN TO VIEW

The infrastructure that powers AI agents in the real world.

Vinkius connects AI to the world's software through secure, enterprise-grade infrastructure — enabling real-world execution at scale, built on the Model Context Protocol (MCP).

Your AI Connections Run Through Vinkius Cloud

The world's largest managed MCP catalog

Vinkius is the cloud infrastructure where AI agents connect to the software your business already runs. We handle the hosting, the security, the credentials, the uptime — you get agents that actually do things.

We operate the world's largest managed MCP catalog. Major SaaS platforms, CRMs, databases, and cloud providers — running, monitored, production-ready. This MCP server is hosted and maintained by the Vinkius Cloud for AI Agents.

> *The agent doesn't manage credentials, doesn't manage uptime, doesn't manage security. Vinkius does.*
>
> — Architecture principle

Four Pillars of the Vinkius Runtime

01 — Security by design

Credentials stay encrypted at rest via AES-256. The AI agent never touches raw keys — they're injected into a sandboxed V8 isolate at runtime. Actions are logged, and connections have an emergency kill switch.

02 — Built on MCP Fusion

This MCP server was built with **MCP Fusion**, the open-source framework (Apache 2.0) that powers the entire Vinkius catalog. Schema-as-firewall strips undeclared fields, compiled PII redaction runs at zero overhead, and cryptographic lockfiles produce git-diffable audit trails.

03 — Deterministic observability

Eight immutable metrics per endpoint: request volume, p95 latency, error rate, active connections, cost attribution. A live payload feed logs every tool call with mutation detection.

04 — Autonomous operations

Servers are deployed, monitored, and patched autonomously. New capabilities and security patches ship weekly. Zero-downtime deployments ensure continuous availability across all managed MCP servers.

AES-256	Ed25519	24h TTL	V8 Isolate
Encryption at rest	PKI vault signatures	Ephemeral session keys	Sandboxed execution

One Token. Instant Access.

Every MCP server on Vinkius is accessed through a **Connection Token**. Tokens are generated in the cloud dashboard and produce a unique MCP endpoint URL. Paste this URL into any MCP-compatible client — no SDK required.

A single token can serve **multiple AI clients simultaneously**, or you can issue separate tokens per client for granular access control. Each token tracks its own request count, last activity timestamp, and can be individually enabled or revoked.

MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/{token}/mcp
```

Claude · Cursor · VS Code · Windsurf · Grok · Gemini

Security Is the Architecture

Security in Vinkius is not a feature — it's the foundation of the runtime. The gateway enforces multiple independent protection layers between AI agents and third-party APIs.

01 — Ed25519 PKI Vault

Every workspace has an Ed25519 Master Key. Session keys are generated ephemerally (24h TTL) and signed by the Master Key. Credentials never leave the vault boundary.

02 — V8 Isolate Sandboxing

Tool code runs inside isolated-vm V8 isolates with 64 MB memory caps and per-request timeouts. No filesystem access, no network access except through the SSRF-guarded fetch bridge.

03 — SSRF Guard

All outbound HTTP requests are DNS-resolved and validated before execution. Private IP ranges (10.x, 172.16-31.x, 192.168.x, AWS metadata 169.254.x) are blocked at the network layer.

04 — DLP & PII Redaction

A ResponseGuard pipeline intercepts every tool response. Configurable redaction patterns strip sensitive fields (emails, SSNs, card numbers) before data reaches the AI agent.

05 — Cryptographic Audit Trail

Every request is signed into a SHA-256 hash chain with Ed25519 signatures. Events form a tamper-proof, SIEM-exportable forensic record.

06 — Honeytoken Trap System

Phantom credentials are injected into isolated environments. If a honeytoken is used outside Vinkius infrastructure, the server is quarantined instantly.

Emergency Kill Switch

EU AI Act Art. 14(1) Compliant

The kill switch is an **emergency halt** mechanism — not a simple toggle. When triggered, it executes three actions atomically:

01 — Server deactivated

The MCP server is immediately taken offline across the entire cluster.

02 — All tokens revoked

Every connection token is invalidated. Total lockout — reconnection blocked until new tokens are issued.

03 — WebSocket connections killed

Active connections terminated via Redis pubsub broadcast. Propagates to every runtime node in the cluster.

Full Visibility. Zero Guesswork.

The Vinkius cloud dashboard includes a full MCP Governance suite — real-time analytics and security controls for production AI operations.

Control Plane

KPI dashboard with request volume, latency, success rate, token consumption, and AI-generated operational briefings.

Agent Activity

Which AI clients are connecting, how often, and what they're doing — real-time session tracking.

FinOps

Cost tracking per tool, payload compression savings, budget optimization signals, and consumption trends.

Tool Health

Slowest and most error-prone tools, with actionable root-cause insights and performance baselines.

Firewall & DLP

PII redaction activity, sensitive data protection counters, and security event timeline.

Incident Log

Error trends, failure rates, status-code breakdowns, and forensic audit trail access.

> Get started at **cloud.vinkius.com** — connect your AI agent in under 60 seconds.

Google Books MCP

12 tools available
Cloud-hosted on Vinkius

Need to research a topic but hate jumping between Google Scholar, library catalogs, and search engines? This MCP lets your AI client connect directly to a massive index of literary metadata. You can ask it to perform deep searches using advanced filters like subject or title, then instantly grab full details for any result, including page counts and publisher info. Furthermore, you don't just read about books; you manage them. You can list and inspect your personal digital bookshelves or view public collections created by others. It's all about conversational control over your entire reading life. When you connect to this MCP through Vinkius, you get one gateway that lets any compatible agent access comprehensive book data and library management tools.

Core Capabilities

01 — Perform advanced volume searches

Search for books or magazines using complex keywords like title:, inauthor:, subject:, or ISBN:.

02 — Retrieve detailed book metadata

Fetch complete records for any single book, including its full description, page count, and category structure.

03 — Manage personal bookshelves

List your existing private digital collections or add specific volumes to a bookshelf in one go.

04 — View public library shelves

See and inspect curated book lists shared by other users.

05 — Move or remove books from your shelf

Change the order of volumes on a bookshelf, or completely take them off your private list.

One Click on Vinkius — From Prompt to Execution

Available at **vinkius.com/mcp/google-books-alternative** — connect your AI agent in three steps.

01 First, subscribe to this MCP and provide either your Google Books API Key for searching or an OAuth Access Token if you plan to manage personal libraries.

02 Your AI client then uses the connection credentials to initiate a request, such as asking it to search by author name or list all volumes on a specific shelf.

03 The agent returns structured metadata—the book's title, ID, details, and current location on your bookshelf—ready for you to use in your conversation.

The bottom line is that instead of writing complex search queries, you just talk to it.

Built For

This MCP serves researchers who struggle with citation verification and cataloging; students who need quick access to specific academic texts; and avid readers who want a single place to manage their 'To Read' lists without leaving their primary workflow.

Academic Researcher

Uses the MCP to find relevant literature across multiple disciplines, quickly gathering bibliographic metadata for citations.

Library Content Creator

Populates and curates public digital bookshelves, making themed collections available for others to browse and discover.

Technical Writer / Editor

Verifies specific details about book publication dates or author biographies during the writing process without leaving their document.

What Changes When You Connect

01 Instead of using basic search queries that dump hundreds of irrelevant results, you can use the `search_volumes` tool to filter by specific criteria like ISBN or publisher. This narrows your research down instantly.

02 Stop copying and pasting metadata from multiple sources. You can use `get_volume` to retrieve all necessary details—page count, category, description—for a book just by knowing its ID.

03 Organize your reading list without logging into three different sites. You manage your entire digital library using tools like `add_volume_to_my_bookshelf` and `list_my_bookshelves` through the chat interface.

04 When you discover a cool collection, you can view it instantly by calling `get_user_bookshelf`. This saves you from having to guess or request manual lists of volumes.

Real-World Applications

Verifying Citation Data for a Thesis

A student needs to check the original publication date and publisher for three books mentioned in a bibliography. They ask their agent to run `get_volume` on each ID, receiving verified metadata instantly instead of manually checking academic databases.

Curating a Themed Reading List

A content creator wants to build a public shelf for '19th Century Sci-Fi'. They use `search_volumes` with subject filters, then call `add_volume_to_my_bookshelf` repeatedly until the shelf is perfect.

Quickly Checking Book Availability

An author needs to verify if a specific edition of their book is available in an ebook format. They ask the agent to run `get_volume` on the ISBN, getting immediate status and format data.

Cleaning Up Digital Shelves

A reader realizes they added volumes they no longer want. They use `list_my_bookshelf_volumes` to see what's there, then call `remove_volume_from_my_bookshelf` for the items that don't belong.

Patterns to Avoid

Treating it like a general search engine

✗ AVOID

Asking the agent, 'Tell me about books.' This will return thousands of results and no specific data points.

✓ INSTEAD

Be explicit. Use `search_volumes` by specifying operators, such as 'inauthor:Isaac Asimov' or 'subject:Artificial Intelligence'. Always narrow your request.

Trying to manage books manually

✗ AVOID

Attempting to add volumes one by one without using the correct token scope for private management.

✓ INSTEAD

Make sure your agent has access to the OAuth Token. Then, use `add_volume_to_my_bookshelf` or `list_my_bookshelves` to handle bulk actions cleanly.

Forgetting which shelf you’re viewing

✗ AVOID

Asking for 'the books' without specifying if they belong to your personal library or a public user’s curated list.

✓ INSTEAD

Always use the specific tool. Call `get_my_bookshelf` for your own collection, or call `get_user_bookshelf` and specify the target user ID when viewing someone else's work.

The Right Fit

Use this MCP if your workflow requires deep, structured knowledge about books—specifically metadata like page count, publisher, subject categories, or ISBN verification. It's perfect for academic citation work, cataloging, and personal library management.

Don't use it if you just need general literary recommendations based on mood ('I feel like reading something spooky'). For that, a simple chat model is fine. If your goal is to compare books across different types of media (e.g., comparing a book to a movie), this MCP only provides bibliographic data and won't help with the comparison itself.

If you are building an agent pipeline, use `search_volumes` first to find IDs, then pass those specific IDs into `get_volume`. This structured two-step process is how you get reliable, verified data.

Never assume a general search will provide enough detail for citation purposes.

The Pain of Manual Literary Research

Today, finding specific book details means opening up multiple tabs. You start on one site for the title, switch to another to check the publisher, and then jump to a third just to find the ISBN or page count. It's copy-pasting metadata from source A into document B, only to realize you need an entirely different piece of information that requires yet another search.

With this MCP, those manual hops disappear. You ask your agent for details—say, 'What is the publisher and total pages for the book with ISBN X?'—and it executes the necessary calls through its tools and spits out a single, clean, verified answer.

Get Verified Book Details Instantly With Google Books MCP

The process of verifying book details used to involve cross-referencing multiple sources: checking the main catalog for title confirmation, then using a secondary resource just for page count verification. It was slow and error-prone.

Now, you use `get_volume` or `search_volumes`. You state your need once, and the MCP handles all the data retrieval logic, giving you clean, comprehensive data immediately.

Google Books Alternative: 12 Tools

These tools let your agent perform deep searches across literary indexes, manage private collections, and verify detailed metadata for books and magazines.

#	TOOL	DESCRIPTION
01	`add_volume_to_my_bookshelf`	Adds a specified volume to your private, authenticated bookshelf.
02	`clear_my_bookshelf`	Removes every single book currently from your entire personal bookshelf.
03	`get_my_bookshelf`	Retrieves the full metadata and list of volumes belonging to your main private bookshelf.
04	`get_user_bookshelf`	Fetches all data for a specific public bookshelf owned by another user.
05	`get_volume`	Gets the full details of any single book or magazine if you know its unique ID.
06	`list_my_bookshelf_volumes`	Retrieves a list of all volumes currently residing on your personal bookshelf.
07	`list_my_bookshelves`	Lists every private and public bookshelf that belongs to the authenticated user.
08	`list_user_bookshelf_volumes`	Retrieves a list of volumes from any specific public bookshelf belonging to another user.
09	`list_user_bookshelves`	Finds and lists all the public bookshelves created by a specific user.
10	`move_volume_in_my_bookshelf`	Changes the position or order of one volume relative to others on your bookshelf.
11	`remove_volume_from_my_bookshelf`	Takes a single specified book off your private bookshelf list.
12	`search_volumes`	Searches the index for books and magazines using detailed search operators like 'inauthor:' or 'isbn:'.

See It in Action

Real prompts you can use once this MCP is connected to your AI agent through Vinkius Cloud.

U Search for books about 'Artificial Intelligence' written by 'Stuart Russell'.

I found several volumes. The most prominent is 'Artificial Intelligence: A Modern Approach' (Volume ID: `zyTCAlS7f7cC`). Would you like to see the full description or check its availability?

U List all the volumes currently in my 'To Read' bookshelf.

Accessing your library... You have 3 books in your 'To Read' shelf (ID: 2): 'Dune', 'Foundation', and 'Neuromancer'. Would you like the metadata for any of these?

U Get the full details for the book with ID '7_f_DwAAQBAJ'.

Retrieving volume data... This is 'Project Hail Mary' by Andy Weir. It has 496 pages, published by Ballantine Books, and is categorized under Fiction / Science Fiction / Space Exploration.

Frequently Asked Questions

01 **How do I search for books using the Google Books MCP?**

You use the `search_volumes` tool. You don't just type keywords; you can use specific operators like 'inauthor:' or 'isbn:' to make your search highly precise.

02 **Can I manage my personal bookshelf with Google Books MCP?**

Yes, provided you supply the required OAuth Access Token. You'll use tools like `add_volume_to_my_bookshelf` to add items or `list_my_bookshelves` to see what collections you have.

03 **What is the difference between `get_user_bookshelf` and `get_my_bookshelf`?**

`get_my_bookshelf` accesses your own private, authenticated collection. You use `get_user_bookshelf` when you need to view a public bookshelf created by another user.

04 **If I have an ISBN, which tool should I use in the Google Books MCP?**

You should primarily use the `search_volumes` tool. It is designed to take specific search operators like 'isbn:' and return accurate results for that volume.

05 **Does this MCP help me organize my reading list?**

Absolutely. You can manage your physical digital library by calling `list_my_bookshelf_volumes` to see what's on the shelf, and then using tools like `remove_volume_from_my_bookshelf` if you decide it doesn't belong.

Go Live in 60 Seconds

Get your connection token from **cloud.vinkius.com**, then paste the endpoint URL into any MCP-compatible client.

YOUR MCP ENDPOINT

```
https://edge.vinkius.com/[TOKEN]/mcp
```

CLIENT	WHERE TO CONFIGURE
Claude AI	Profile → Customize → Connectors → "+" → Add custom connector → Paste endpoint
Cursor	Settings → Features → MCP Servers → "+ Add New MCP Server" → Type: SSE → Paste endpoint
VS Code	Ctrl/Cmd+Shift+P → "MCP: Add Server" → add `"google-books-alternative": { "url": "…" }`
Windsurf	MCP Settings → `mcp_settings.json` → Add endpoint URL
ChatGPT	Settings → Tools & plugins → Add MCP server → Paste endpoint
Gemini	Extensions → Add MCP Server → Paste endpoint URL

ASK AN AI ABOUT THIS

Let your preferred AI explain this MCP server

- Ask ChatGPT
- Ask Claude
- Ask Perplexity
- Ask Gemini
- Ask Grok

READY TO CONNECT

Google Books is live on Vinkius Cloud.

Get your connection token, paste it into your AI agent, and start building. No SDK. No deployment. Just results.

Start at cloud.vinkius.com →

vinkius.com · support@vinkius.com

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