
Bitrix Site Manager 8.x

Product Catalog Management Guide

Chapter 1. Introduction

This tutorial explains how to create a **commercial catalog** using the **Information blocks** module.

We will use the visual components to show the catalog in the public section. The components allow to configure the appearance of catalog elements, compare their parameters, display dependent elements etc.

The **Commercial catalog** module, if installed, allows to manage the product prices, display them in the public section, compare prices of different products etc.

The **Forum** module (included in all editions except *Start*) enables you to set up the discussion of the catalog products. Visitors can leave their opinions and comments, discuss product quality, functions etc.

With the **e-Store** module installed, the site visitors can buy products from the catalog.

As an example, we shall create the **Books** commercial catalog and make a user interface for it in the public section. We are going to enable visitors to view the detailed information on the books, compare prices and parameters of selected books, read and leave opinions in the forum.

Chapter 2. Creating the “Books” Catalog

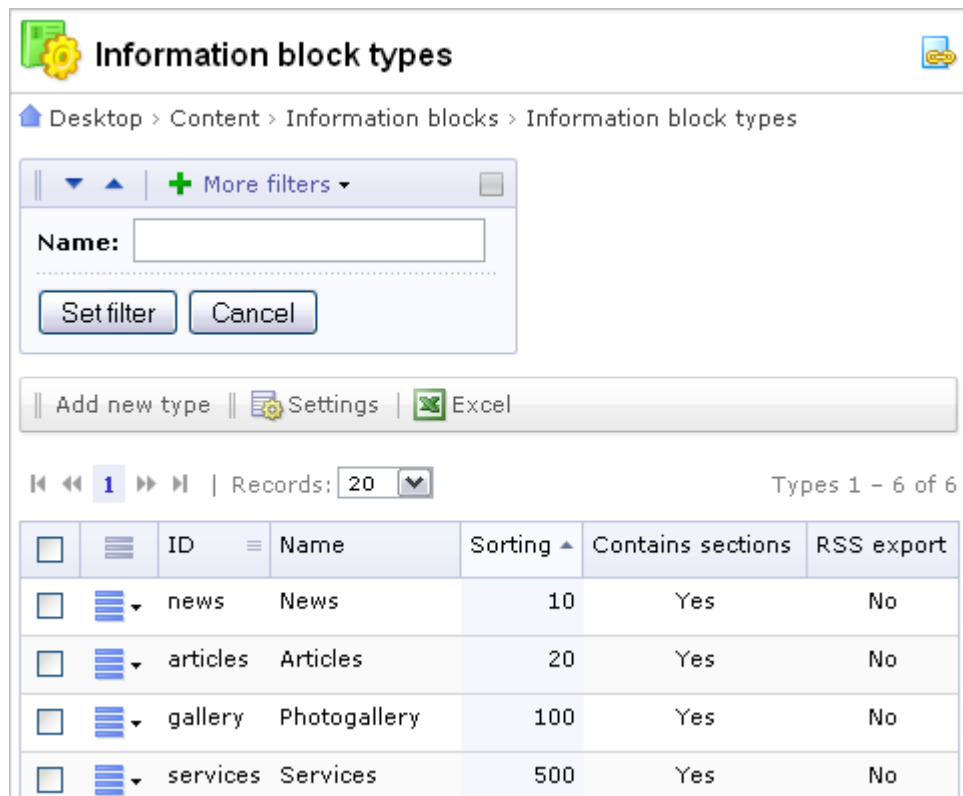
Creation of the **Books** commercial catalog includes the following steps:

- § create the **Bookshop** information block type;
- § create the **Authors** information block and add elements;
- § create the **Books** information block;
- § switch the **Books** information block to commercial catalog mode;
- § add the catalog sections and elements;
- § create the **Reviews** information block and add elements.

Creating the “Bookshop” Information Block Type

First of all, create a new information block type (**Bookshop**).

- In **Control Panel**, open the **Information block types** form: *Content > Information blocks > Information block types*.
- Click **Add new type** on the context toolbar to open the information block type creation form (fig. 2.1).



<input type="checkbox"/>	ID	Name	Sorting	Contains sections	RSS export
<input type="checkbox"/>	news	News	10	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	articles	Articles	20	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	gallery	Photogallery	100	Yes	No
<input type="checkbox"/>	services	Services	500	Yes	No

Fig. 2.1 Information block types

- In the form opened, type the identifier for the new information block type, and the names for all existing interface languages. These fields are required (fig. 2.2).

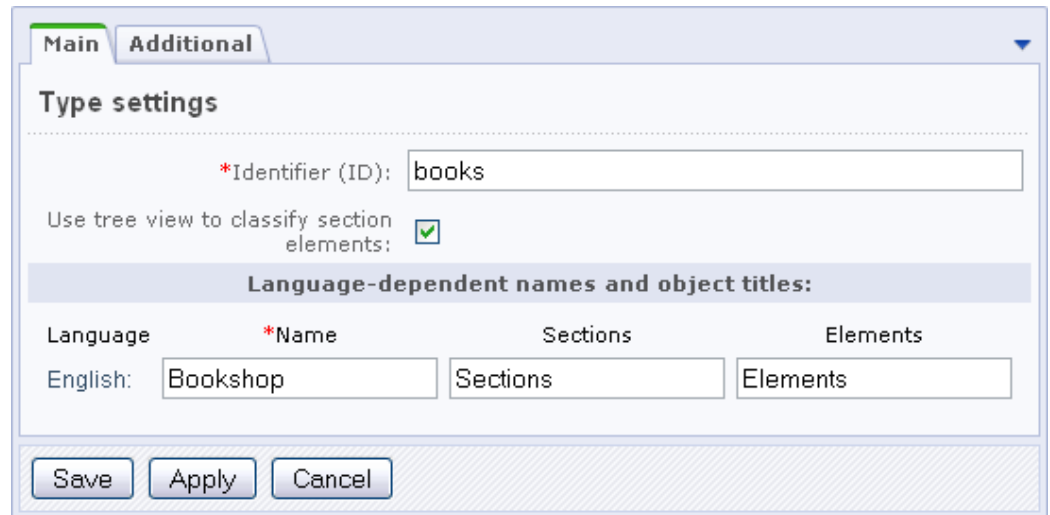


Fig. 2.2 Creating a new information block type

- If required, you can make the data RSS exportable - check the **Use RSS export** box on the **Additional** tab (fig. 2.3).
- In the **Sorting index** field, specify the desired position of the information block type relative to other types.

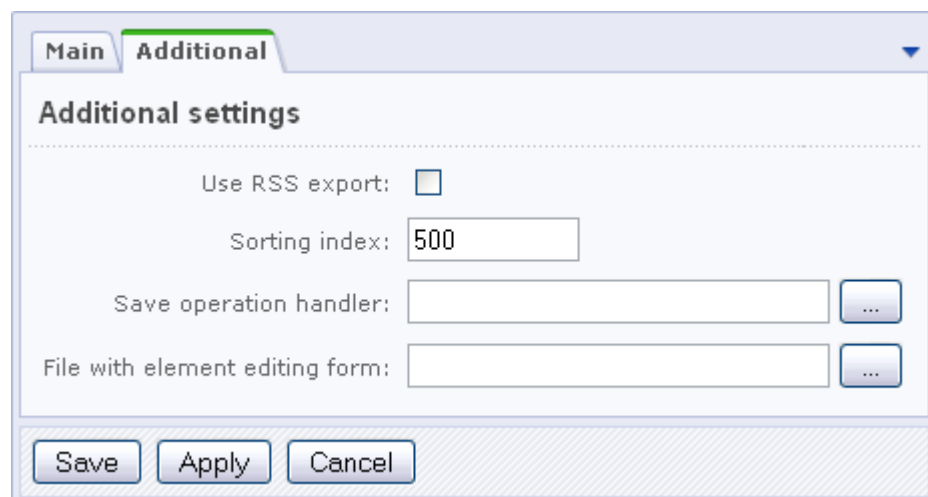


Fig. 2.3 Additional information block type parameters

An information block type existing in the system becomes automatically added to the information block type tree (fig. 2.4) and the left menu (fig. 2.5) for quick access.

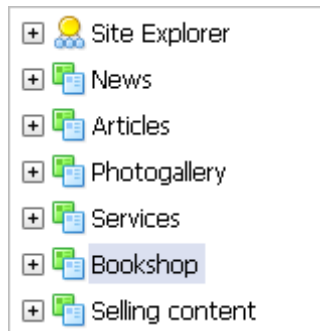


Fig. 2.4 New information block type

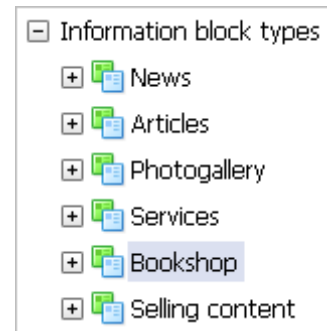


Fig. 2.5 Information block types

Creating the “Authors” Information Block

Now let us create the **Authors** information block to keep the list of authors. An author can be bound to more than one book.

- Navigate to *Content > Information blocks > Information block types > Bookshop* and click **Add information block** on the context toolbar (fig. 2.6).

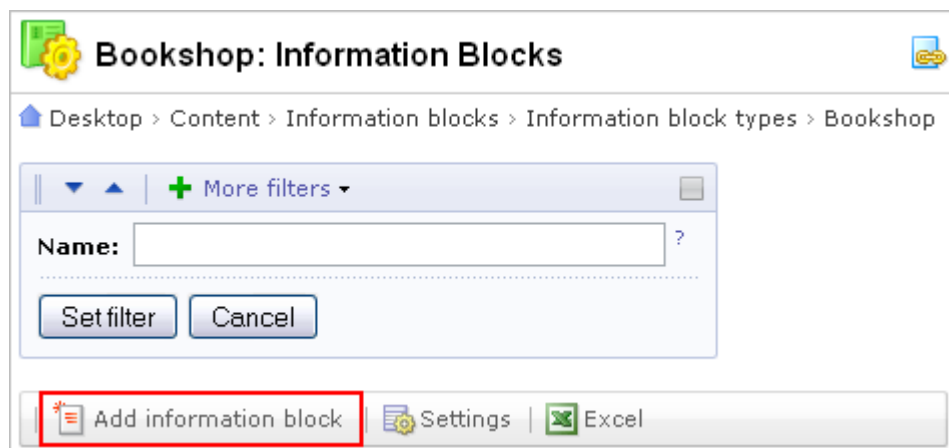


Fig. 2.6 Starting to create an information block

An information block settings form will open.

- On the **Information block** tab, specify the **Authors** information block parameters (fig. 2.7).

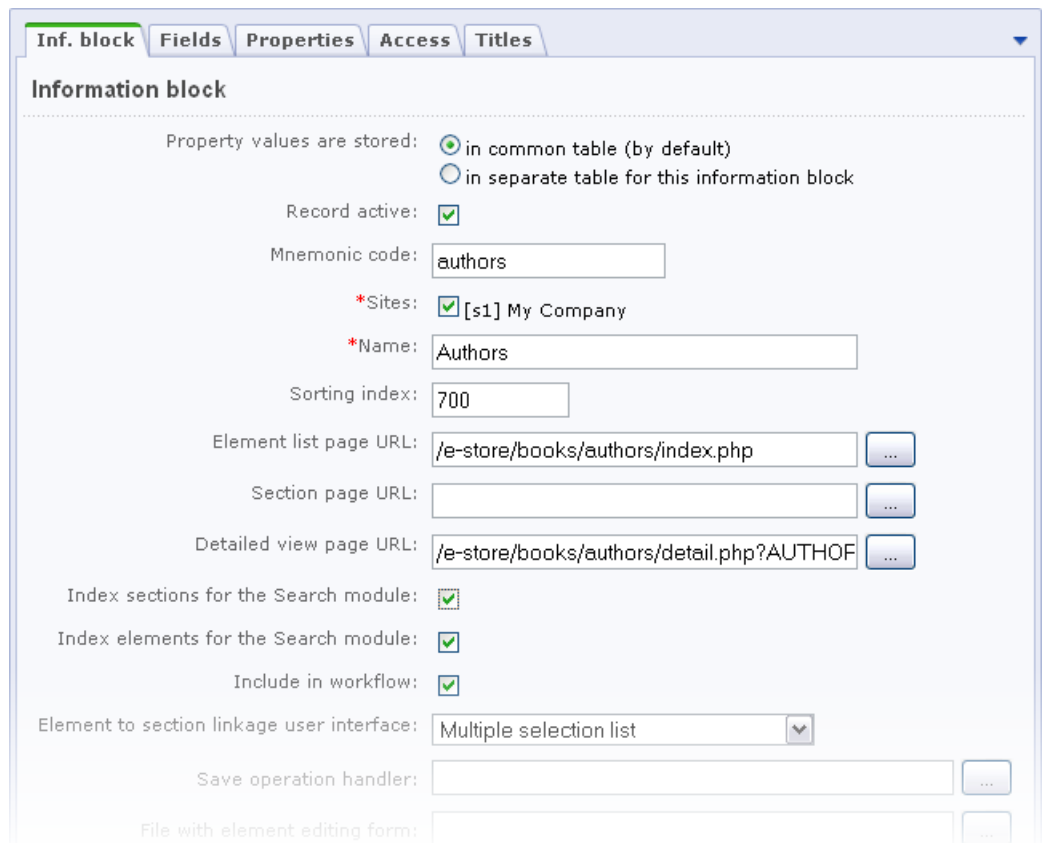


Fig. 2.7 Creating the “Authors” information block

- q Now create an information block property in which we shall store the author's year of birth (fig. 2.8).



ID	Name	Type	Mult.	Req.	Sorting	Code	Modif.	Delete
	Date of birth	Date/Time	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	BIRTHDATE	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	

Fig. 2.8 Creating a property

- q Click **Save** (or **Apply** to continue editing).

Adding the Elements (Authors)

After the information block has been created, adding the elements (authors) to it. For authors, we shall provide information concerning their biography, works and then show it.

- Navigate to *Content > Bookshop > Authors* and click **Add new author** (fig. 2.9).

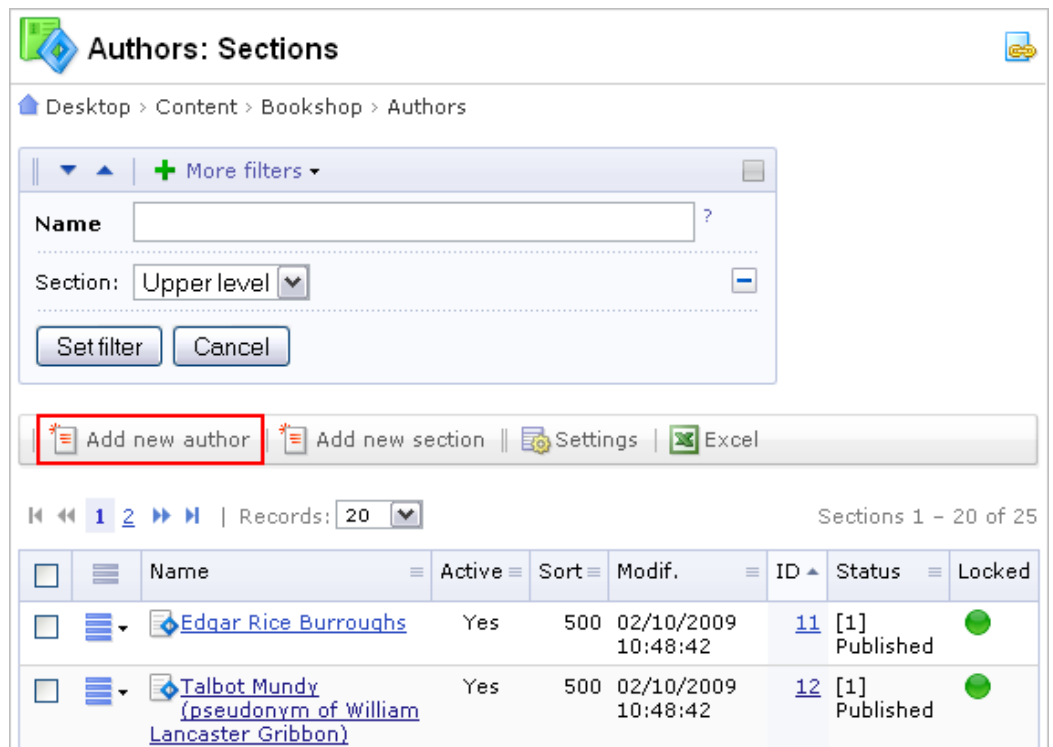
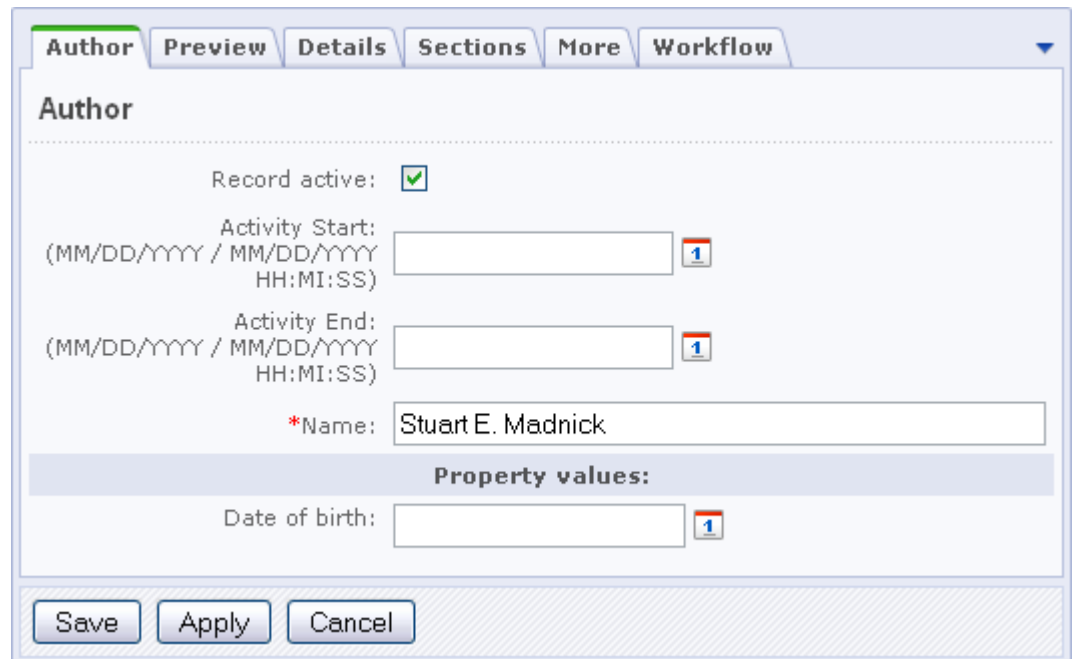


Fig. 2.9 The authors form

A new author creation form will open (fig. 2.10).



Author | Preview | Details | Sections | More | Workflow

Author

Record active:

Activity Start: (MM/DD/YYYY / MM/DD/YYYY HH:MI:SS)

Activity End: (MM/DD/YYYY / MM/DD/YYYY HH:MI:SS)

*Name:

Property values:

Date of birth:

Fig. 2.10 Creating an author

- q In the **Author** tab, check the **Record active** box.
- q If the author's books are to be available during a certain period only, specify it in the **Activity Start** and **Activity End period** fields. When it expires, the product will become inactive.
- q In the **Name** field, type the author's name. The field is required (fig. 2.10).
- q Specify the author's year of birth.
- q Open the **Preview** tab, upload the author's photo and type some information about the author. This text will show in the public section.
- q In the **Details** tab, provide the detailed information about the author: their biography, works, awards etc (fig. 2.11).

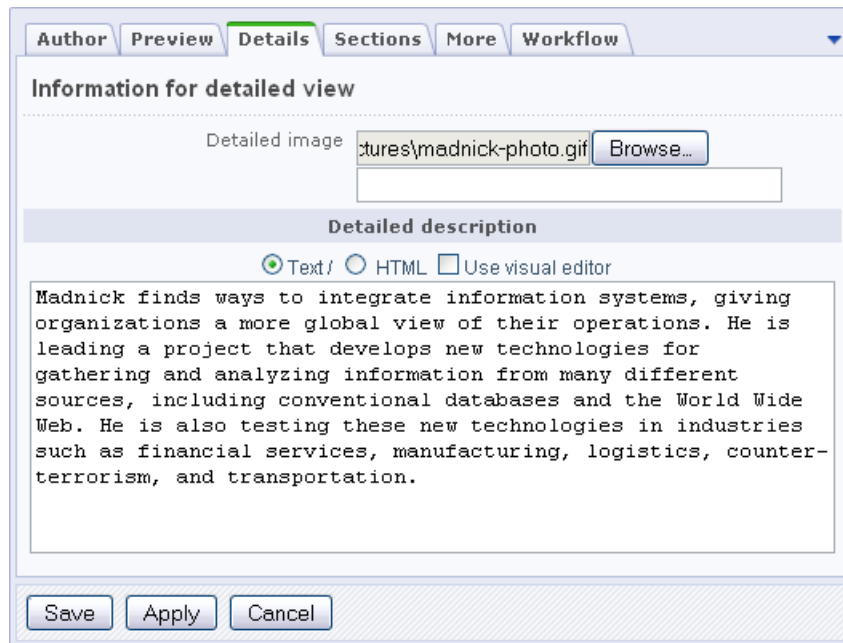


Fig. 2.11 The Details tab

Save changes. As a result, the created author will be added to the authors page (Fig. 2.12).

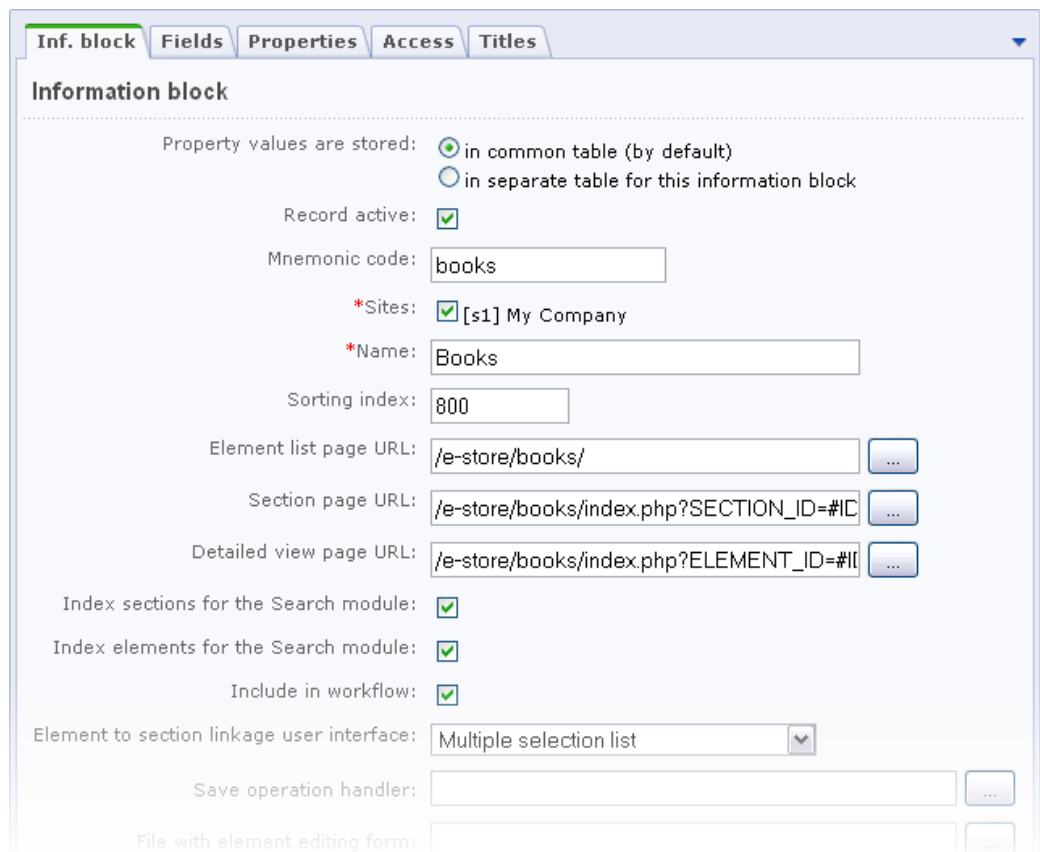
<input type="checkbox"/>		Name	Active	Sort	Modif.	ID	Status	Locked
<input type="checkbox"/>		Edgar Rice Burroughs	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:42	11 [1]	Published	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Talbot Mundy (pseudonym of William Lancaster Gribbon)	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:42	12 [1]	Published	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Stuart E. Madnick	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:42	13 [1]	Published	

Fig. 2.12 The new author showing in the list

Creating the “Books” Information Block

Now we are going to create the “Books” information block.

- Open *Content > Information blocks > Information block types > Bookshop* and click **Add information block** (fig. 2.6).
- In the form that follows, specify general information block parameters (fig. 2.13).



The screenshot shows the 'Information block' configuration form in Bitrix. The form is titled 'Information block' and has tabs for 'Inf. block', 'Fields', 'Properties', 'Access', and 'Titles'. The 'Properties' tab is active. The form contains the following fields and options:

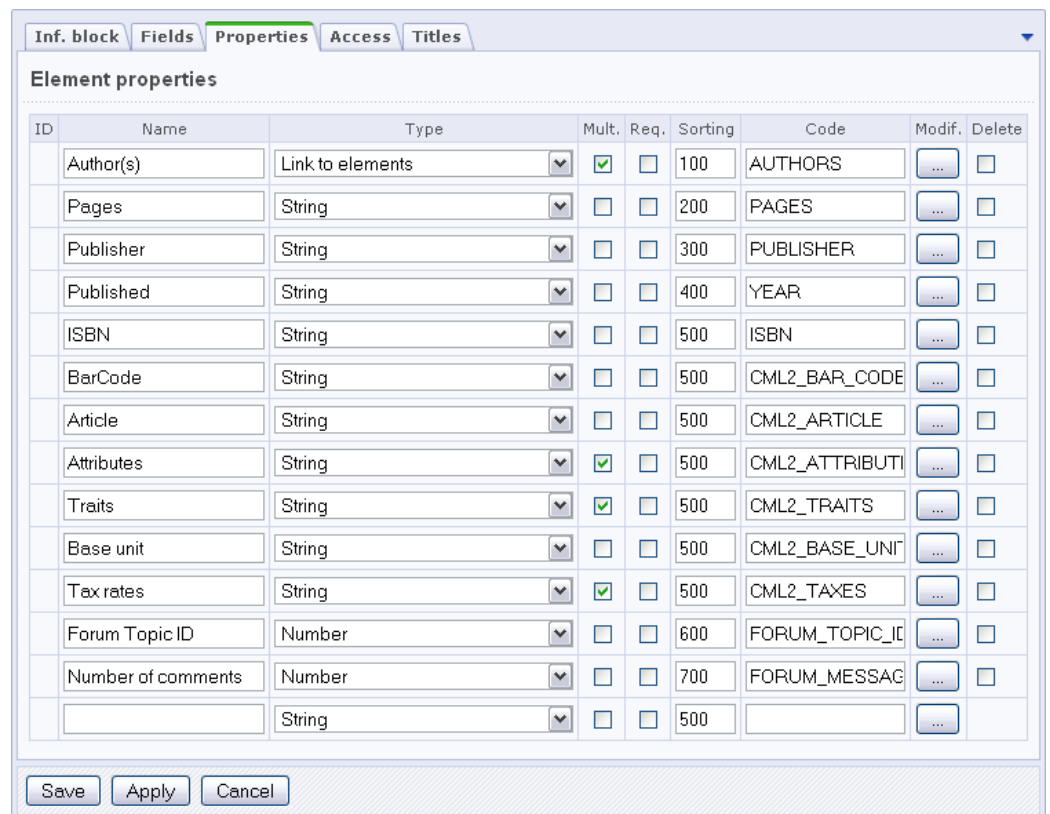
- Property values are stored:** in common table (by default), in separate table for this information block
- Record active:**
- Mnemonic code:**
- *Sites:** [s1] My Company
- *Name:**
- Sorting index:**
- Element list page URL:** ...
- Section page URL:** ...
- Detailed view page URL:** ...
- Index sections for the Search module:**
- Index elements for the Search module:**
- Include in workflow:**
- Element to section linkage user interface:** ▾
- Save operation handler:** ...
- File with element editing form:** ...

Fig. 2.13 Creating the Books information blocks

- § In order to make the information block contents visible in the public section, check the **Record active** field.
- § Specify the unique **Mnemonic code** for the information block. You can use it for retrieving data.
- § In the **Sites** field, select sites that will show the information block.
- § Specify the information block **Name** (**Books**, in our case). The field is required.
- § In the element view page fields, specify the URL's: a catalog elements page (products or books, in our case); a catalog sections page (product groups), and a detailed element view page (the product description).
- § To enable adding the information block elements and sections to the internal search index, activate the **Index elements (sections) for search module** option.

§ In the **Description** section, type the information block description and upload an image (optional) which will show beside the information block description in the public section.

q On the **Properties** tab, define properties that would describe the catalog elements (fig. 2.14).

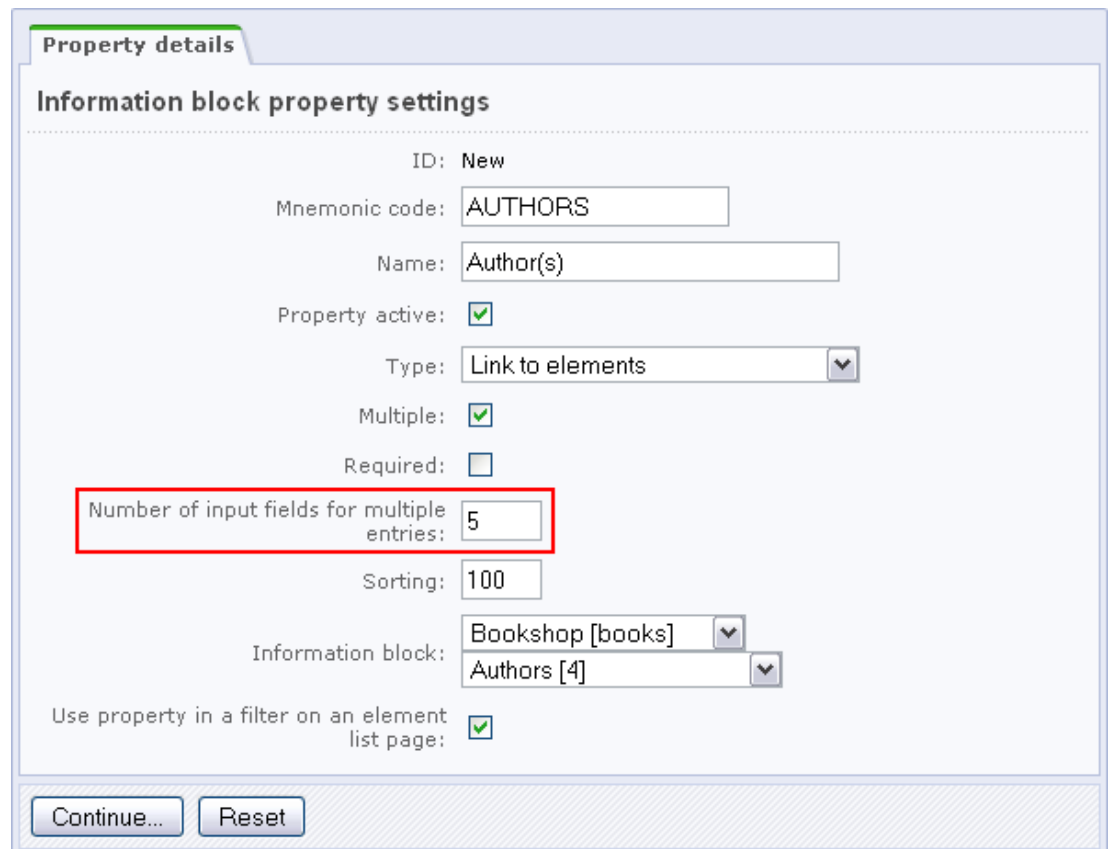


ID	Name	Type	Mult.	Req.	Sorting	Code	Modif.	Delete
	Author(s)	Link to elements	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	AUTHORS	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Pages	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	200	PAGES	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Publisher	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	300	PUBLISHER	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Published	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	400	YEAR	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	ISBN	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	ISBN	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	BarCode	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_BAR_CODE	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Article	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_ARTICLE	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Attributes	String	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_ATTRIBUTES	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Traits	String	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_TRAITS	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Base unit	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_BASE_UNIT	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Tax rates	String	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	CML2_TAXES	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Forum Topic ID	Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	600	FORUM_TOPIC_ID	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Number of comments	Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	700	FORUM_MESSAGES	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	<input type="checkbox"/>

Fig. 2.14 The element properties

- § Type the property name in the **Name** field.
- § Select the property **Type**. If a property can have more than one value (e.g. a book can be written by more than one person), check the **Mult.** field.
- § Specify the property sort weight. This value defines the disposition of a property in the property list.
- § Specify a property unique symbolic code in the **Code** field.

For example, the **Author(s)** property can contain multiple authors in the product description. For such properties, additional configuration is required to be performed in the property details form (open it by clicking the corresponding [...] button) in which you will have to specify the number of the fields required (fig. 2.15).



Property details

Information block property settings

ID: New

Mnemonic code:

Name:

Property active:

Type:

Multiple:

Required:

Number of input fields for multiple entries:

Sorting:

Information block:

Use property in a filter on an element list page:

Fig. 2.15 The property details form

- The **Author(s)** property will contain the names of the book writers. This is a multivalue property. Specify the information block to whose elements the property will be bound (in our case, **Authors**) (fig. 2.15).

Note: some property types can have default values that are assigned to a property of a new element being created. You can set the default values in the property details form. If the form does not show the default value field, this property type cannot have a default value. Default values are applied to new elements only.

In addition to the product related parameters, pay attention to the two important settings. The first one lets you specify to add the property values to the search index. Effectively this will allow visitors find books by a given property. Another option specifies to show a property in the elements filter thus allowing to find elements by this property in Control Panel.

- Click **Continue...** to return to the information block creation form.
- Click the **Access** tab and set the user group permissions to the information block (fig. 2.16).




Fig. 2.16 The Access tab

- q Finally, open the **Titles** tab and give information block objects the desired names (fig. 2.17). For example, the information block elements are books for the book catalog.

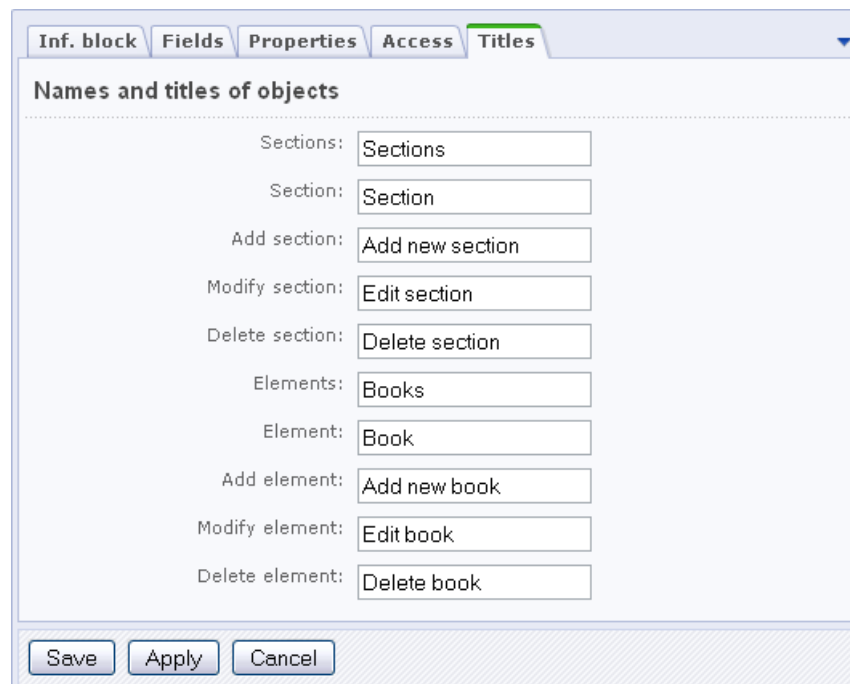


Fig. 2.17 The Titles tab

- q Save the information block you have created.

Now the **Books** information block is on the list of the **Bookshop** information blocks (fig. 2.18).

<input type="checkbox"/>		Name	Sort.	Active	Elements	Sections	Site	Modif.	ID
<input type="checkbox"/>		Authors	700	Yes	25	0	s1	02/10/2009 10:48:42	4
<input type="checkbox"/>		Books	800	Yes	0	0	s1	02/10/2009 10:48:47	5

Selected: 2 Checked: 0

Fig. 2.18 The new information block "Books"

Note. In Control Panel, you will find the **Books** information block in two locations with different functional purpose. Use the location *Content > Bookshop > Books* to populate the information block with content; you cannot edit the information block parameters here. The second location is in *Information blocks > Information block types > Bookshop* which is used to modify the information block settings. Such functional separation is aimed to prevent the content editors from modifying the block parameters.

Making an Information Block Work in Product Catalog Mode

Now we are going to set up the centralized control over prices in the **Books** catalog. This will allow to specify the price types and assign their access permissions for user groups; convert prices to the base currency and set discounts.

- Open the **Commercial Catalog** module settings page (*Settings > System settings > Module settings > Commercial catalog*).
- On the **Catalogs** tab, find the **Books** information block and enable the corresponding option in the **is a commercial catalog** column (fig. 2.19).

Information block	is a commercial catalog	Content sale	Export to the Yandex.Products	Tax
[articles] Articles (s1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	— not selected —
[books] Authors (s1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	— not selected —
[books] Books (s1)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	— not selected —
[gallery] Gallery (s1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	— not selected —
[gallery] Multiuser gallery (s1)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	— not selected —

Fig. 2.19 Making an information block into a commercial catalog

From this moment on, our information block is handled as a catalog. The catalog elements will be treated as products. The product properties form will show a **Commercial catalog** group containing prices, discounts and other parameters of an element as a product.

Adding Sections to a Catalog

In order to systematize products, you can create sections (groups) in your catalog. The products can be grouped by any parameter. For example, the books can be grouped by genre.

Now, as a case in point, add a section of books devoted to a certain genre.

- In **Control Panel**, open the page containing the catalog sections: *Content > Bookshop > Books*. Click **Add new section** on the context toolbar (fig. 2.20).

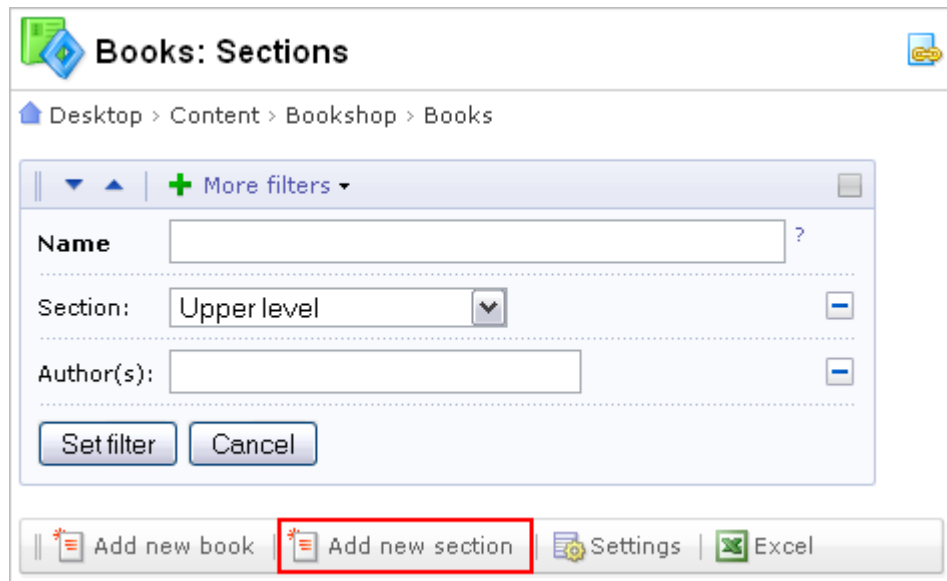


Fig. 2.20 Adding a section

- In the form opened, specify the parameters of the new section (fig. 2.21).

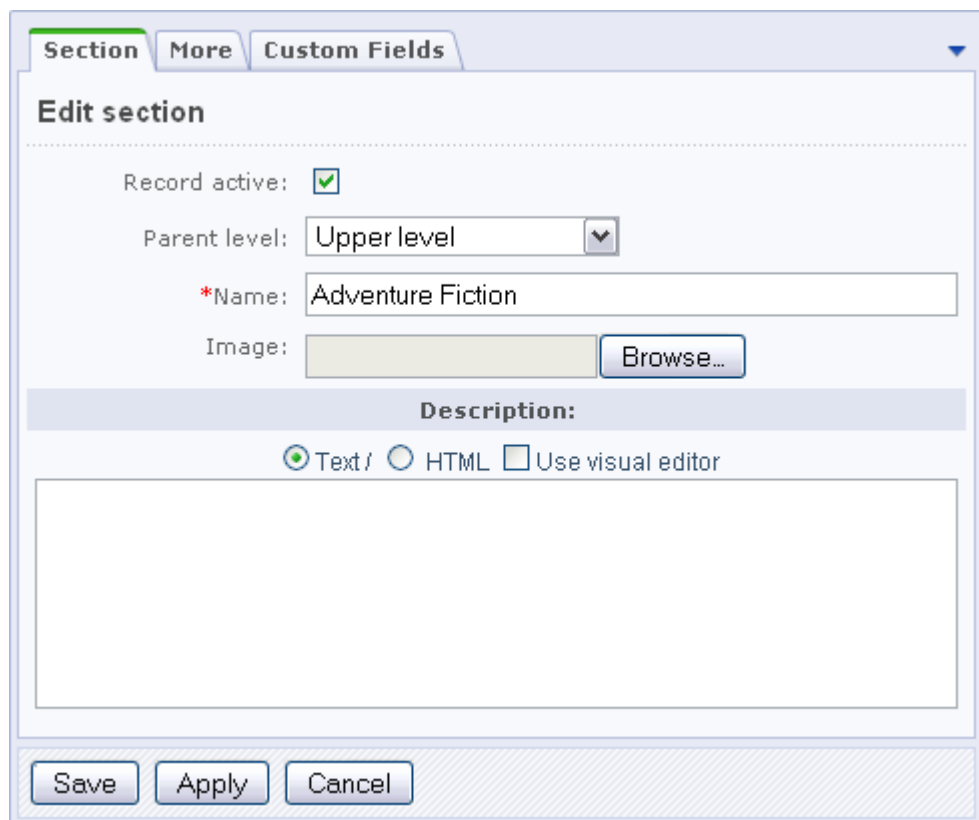


Fig. 2.21 Creating a new section. The section parameters

- § Enable the **Record active** option to make the catalog section visible in the public section.
- § Select **Upper level** since the section has no parent section.

- § Enter the section name in the **Name** field. This value is required.
- § Additionally, the **Image** field allows you to upload an image for the created section (product group). This image will be visible in the public section.
- § In the **Description** field, provide the description for the new section, in either HTML or plain text format.

q Click the **More** tab and specify additional parameters (fig. 2.22).



Fig. 2.22 Additional section parameters

- § The **Sorting index** field defines the disposition of this section in the catalog section list.
- § Specify the unique mnemonic code if required.
- § In the **Large picture** field, upload an image which will be shown to a visitor when they open the catalog section index page in their browser.

q Click **Save** to save the new section you have just created.

As an example, add the following sections to the **Books** catalog (fig. 2.23):

<input type="checkbox"/>		Name	Active	Sort	Modif.	ID	Status	Locked	
<input type="checkbox"/>		Adventure Fiction	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	9			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Business & Investing	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	10			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Children's Books	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	11			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Computers & Internet	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	12			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Fantasy	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	13			
<input type="checkbox"/>		Science	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	14			
Selected: 6		Checked: 0							

Fig. 2.23 Sample sections in the "Books" catalog

Each catalog section can have one or more subsections. You will add the subsections in the same way as top level sections with the only difference: specify the parent section other than **Upper level**, for example: **Science** (fig. 2.24).

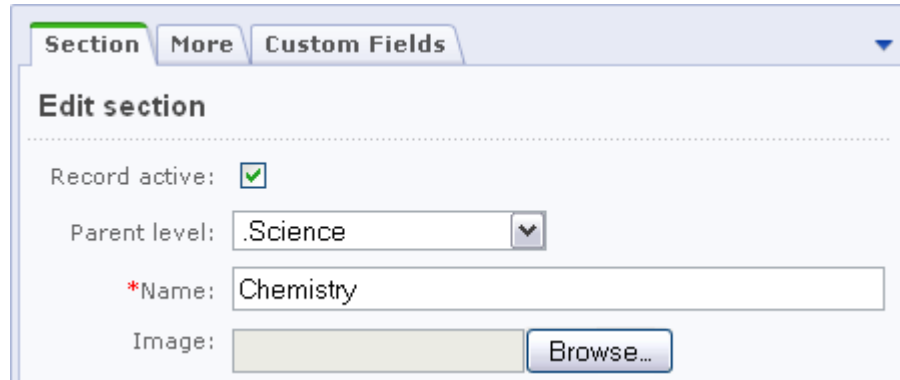


Fig. 2.24 Adding a subsection

For example, you can add the following subsections to the **Science** section of the **Books** catalog (fig. 2.25):

<input type="checkbox"/>		Name	Active	Sort	Modif.	ID	Status	Locked
<input type="checkbox"/>		Chemistry	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	15		
<input type="checkbox"/>		History & Philosophy	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:43	16		

Fig. 2.25 Sample subsections in the "Science" section

Adding Elements to the Catalog

Let us populate the catalog with elements – which are the books in this case.

- q In the **Control panel**, navigate to *Content > Bookshop > Books*. Click **Add new book** on the context toolbar (fig. 2.26).

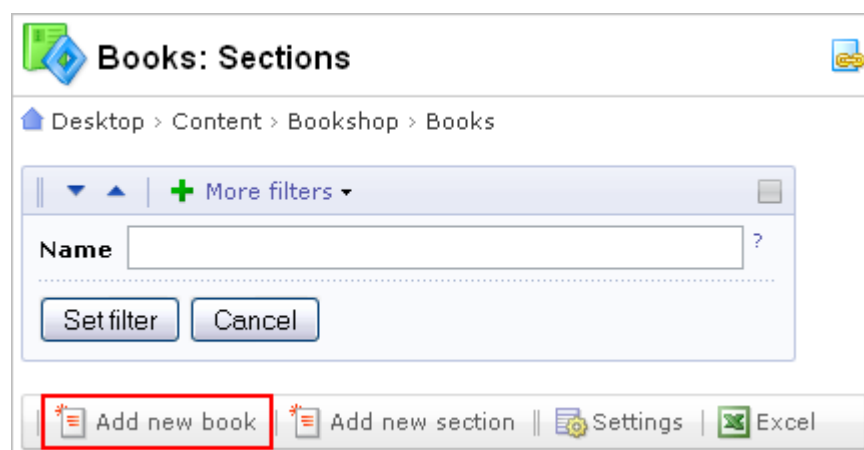
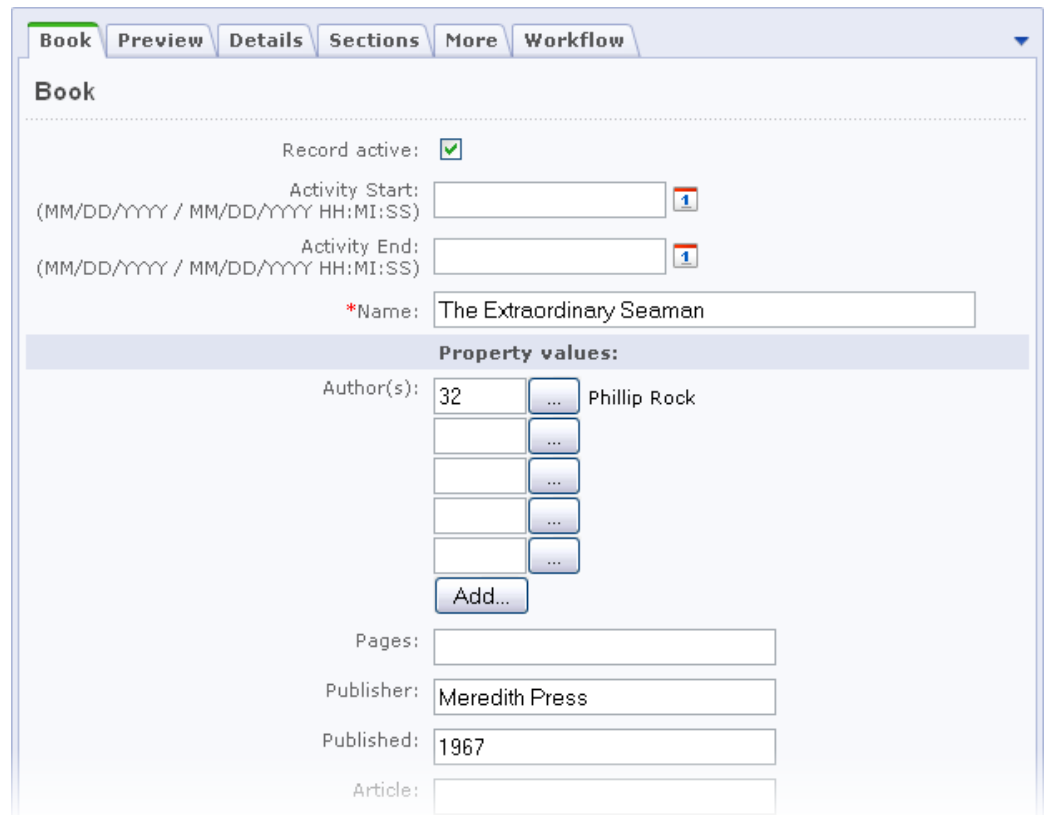


Fig. 2.26 The button to add a book

A new book creation form will open (fig. 2.27).



The screenshot shows a web form for creating a new book. At the top, there are navigation tabs: 'Book', 'Preview', 'Details', 'Sections', 'More', and 'Workflow'. The 'Book' tab is selected. Below the tabs, the form is titled 'Book'. It contains several input fields and a section for property values. The 'Record active' checkbox is checked. There are two date-time pickers for 'Activity Start' and 'Activity End'. The 'Name' field contains 'The Extraordinary Seaman'. The 'Property values' section has a table for 'Author(s)' with the first row containing '32' and 'Phillip Rock'. Below this are several empty rows with 'Add...' buttons. Other fields include 'Pages', 'Publisher' (Meredith Press), 'Published' (1967), and 'Article'.

Fig. 2.27 Creating a new book

- § Click **Record active** in order to make this book show in the public section.
- § If the book is to be visible in the catalog within a certain period, specify this interval in the **Activity Start** and **Activity End** fields. When it expires, the product will become inactive.
- § Specify the book name in the **Name** field. The field is required.
- § The **Property values** section contains all the properties we have previously defined for the **Books** information block. Describe the book by filling in the values.

Having configured the **Books** catalog to function as a **commercial catalog**, we have enabled the **Commercial catalog** section in the product creation form. Here, specify the parameters of a new product as a commercial item.

□ Provide the product prices on the **Prices** tab configures (fig. 2.28):

Commercial catalog

Prices
Parameters
Discounts

Price Management

Use extended price editing mode

Tax rate:

Tax included in price: yes

*Base price (BASE):

*Base price currency:

Price type	Type of extra	Total	Currency
RETAIL	< not set >	36.68	USD
WHOLESALE	< not set >		< base >

Fig. 2.28 Book price management

- § In the **Tax rate** drop-down list, select the tax rate value. Check **Tax included in price** if the tax is included in the product price.
- § Enter the product **Base price**, i.e. the price without taxes, mark-ups or discounts. The field is required.
- § In the **Base price currency** field, specify the currency in which the base price is specified. The field is required.
- § In the **Type of extra** field, select a mark-up or a discount for each price type listed.
- § The **Total** field automatically calculates the product price taking into account the discount or mark-up applicable.
If you do not select the price adjustment policy explicitly, the **Total** and the **Currency** fields can be filled in manually.

Note. The currency types and rates are the subjects of the **Currency** module. The price types and price adjustments (mark-ups and discounts) are configured in the **Commercial catalog** module.

- Click the **Parameters** tab and configure some additional parameters (Fig. 2.29):



Commercial catalog

Prices Parameters Discounts

Additional parameters

In stock:

Reduce quantity upon order:

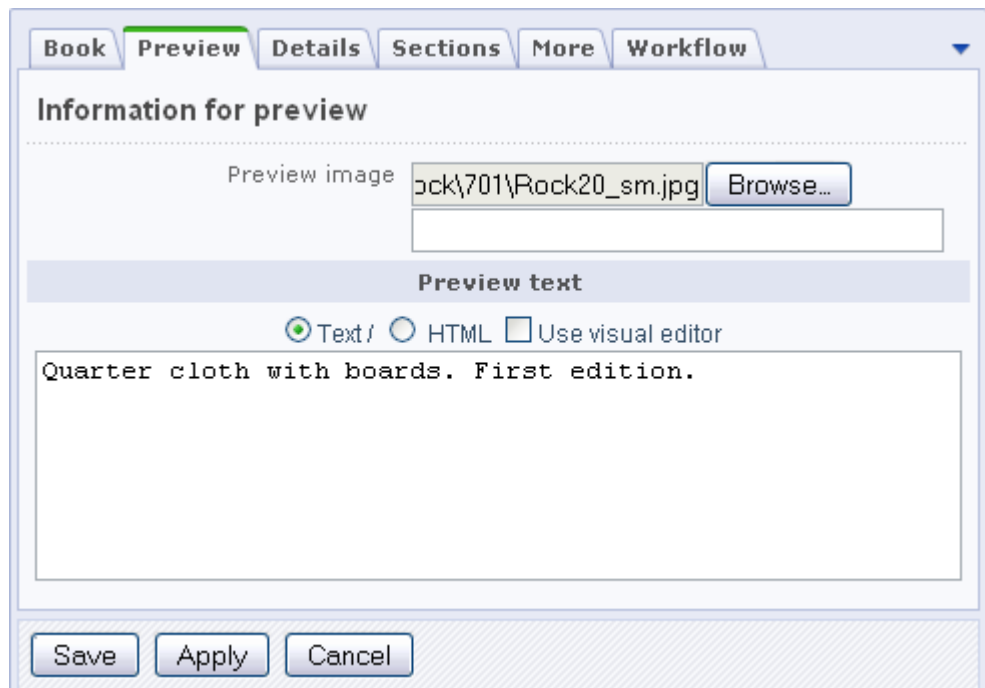
Weight (gram):

Fig. 2.29 Additional commercial item parameters

- § **Reduce quantity upon order** – if checked, the product quantity will reduce in stock automatically when an order completes;
- § **Weight (gram)** – the weight of a single product item. This parameter is required to calculate the delivery price.

Note. The **Discounts** tab shows active discounts that are applicable to a product item. You can select any of your choice. In this example, no discount exists for the book.

- Open the **Preview** tab and add the book photo and the description by which a visitor can identify the book in the site public section (fig. 2.30).



Book Preview Details Sections More Workflow

Information for preview

Preview image

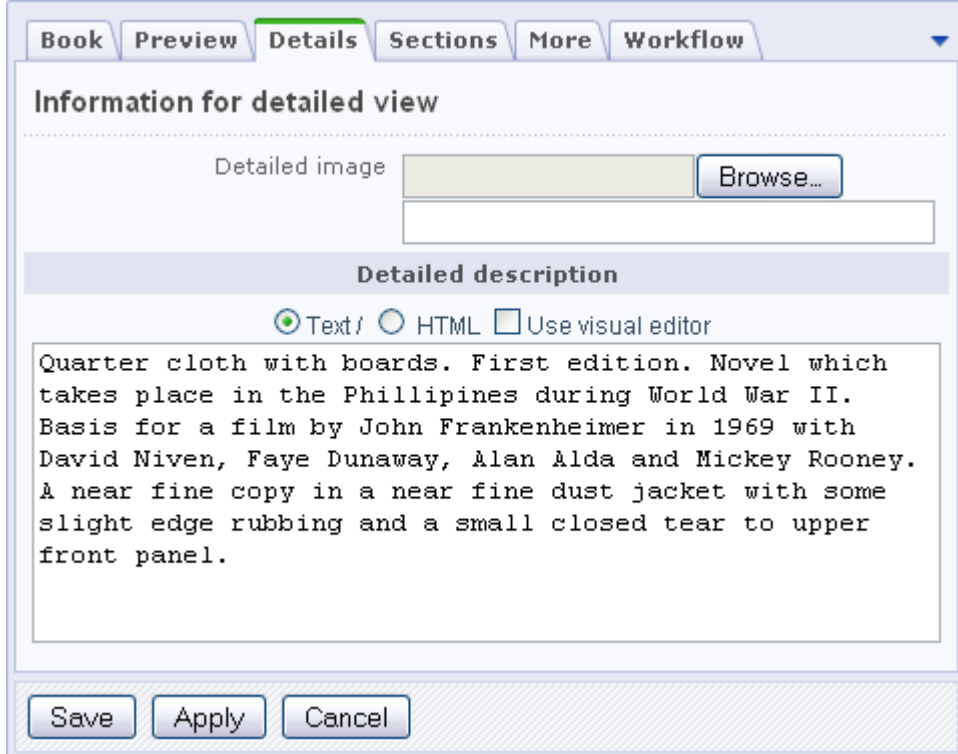
Preview text

Text / HTML Use visual editor

Quarter cloth with boards. First edition.

Fig. 2.30 A short preview information about a book

- q Click the **Details** tab and provide the large photo and the detailed description of the book (fig. 2.31).



Book Preview **Details** Sections More Workflow

Information for detailed view

Detailed image Browse...

Detailed description

Text / HTML Use visual editor

Quarter cloth with boards. First edition. Novel which takes place in the Phillipines during World War II. Basis for a film by John Frankenheimer in 1969 with David Niven, Faye Dunaway, Alan Alda and Mickey Rooney. A near fine copy in a near fine dust jacket with some slight edge rubbing and a small closed tear to upper front panel.

Save Apply Cancel

Fig. 2.31 The book details

- q Click the **Sections** tab and select the section to which the book refers (fig. 2.32).

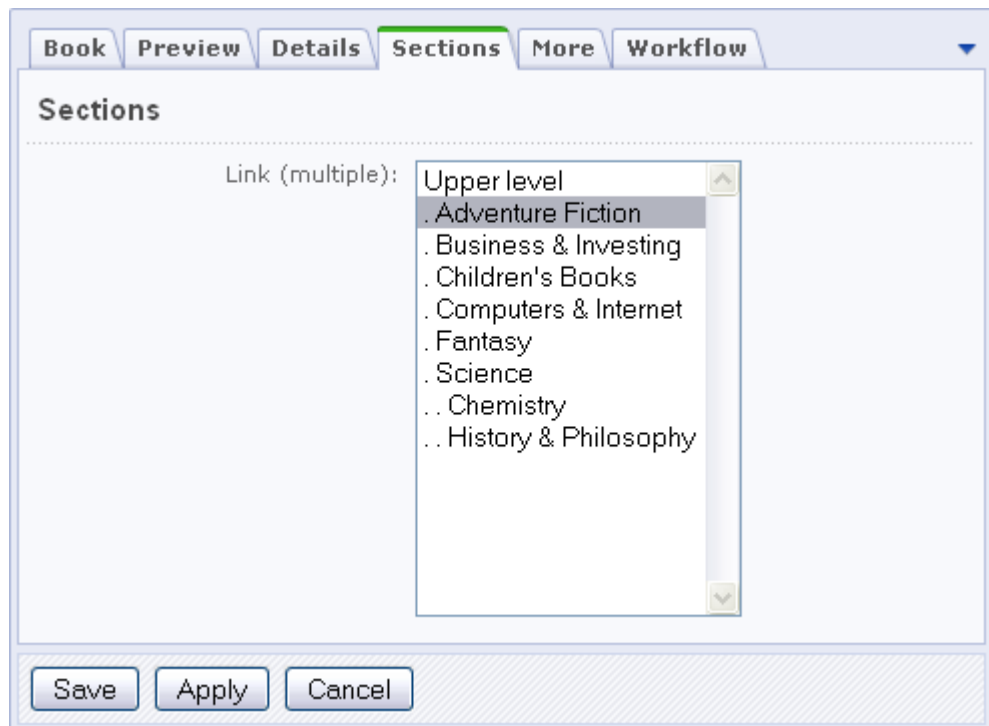


Fig. 2.32 Selecting a proper section for a book

In our case, the book relates to the **Adventure Fiction** section (genre).

□ Open the **More** tab to provide some minor parameters (fig. 2.33).

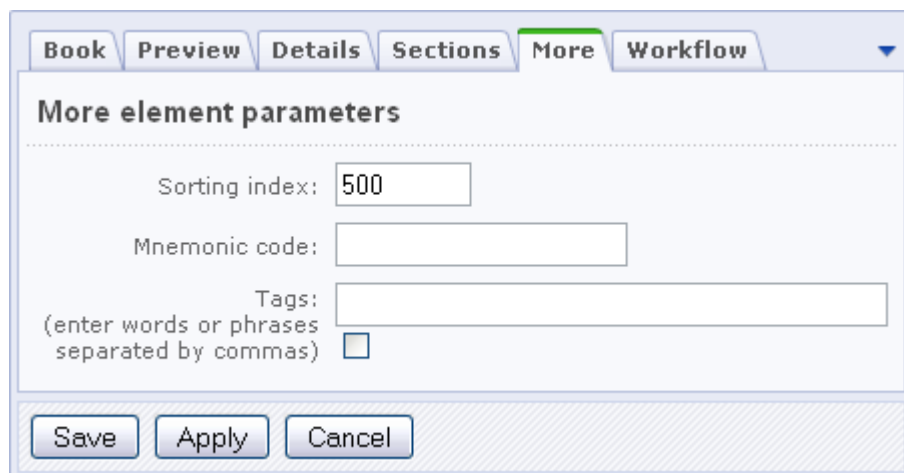


Fig. 2.33 Extra parameters of a product item

- § Specify the **Sorting index** of the book. Less sort index values move a book higher in the list relative to other items.
- § You can provide a unique **Mnemonic code** for the book. This option is generally useful for developers.
- § Type in the **Tags** (keywords) by which the book can be found using the search function.

- Click **Save** to save the book or **Apply** if you want to continue editing the book parameters.

As a result, this new book becomes added to the **Adventure Fiction** section (fig. 2.34).

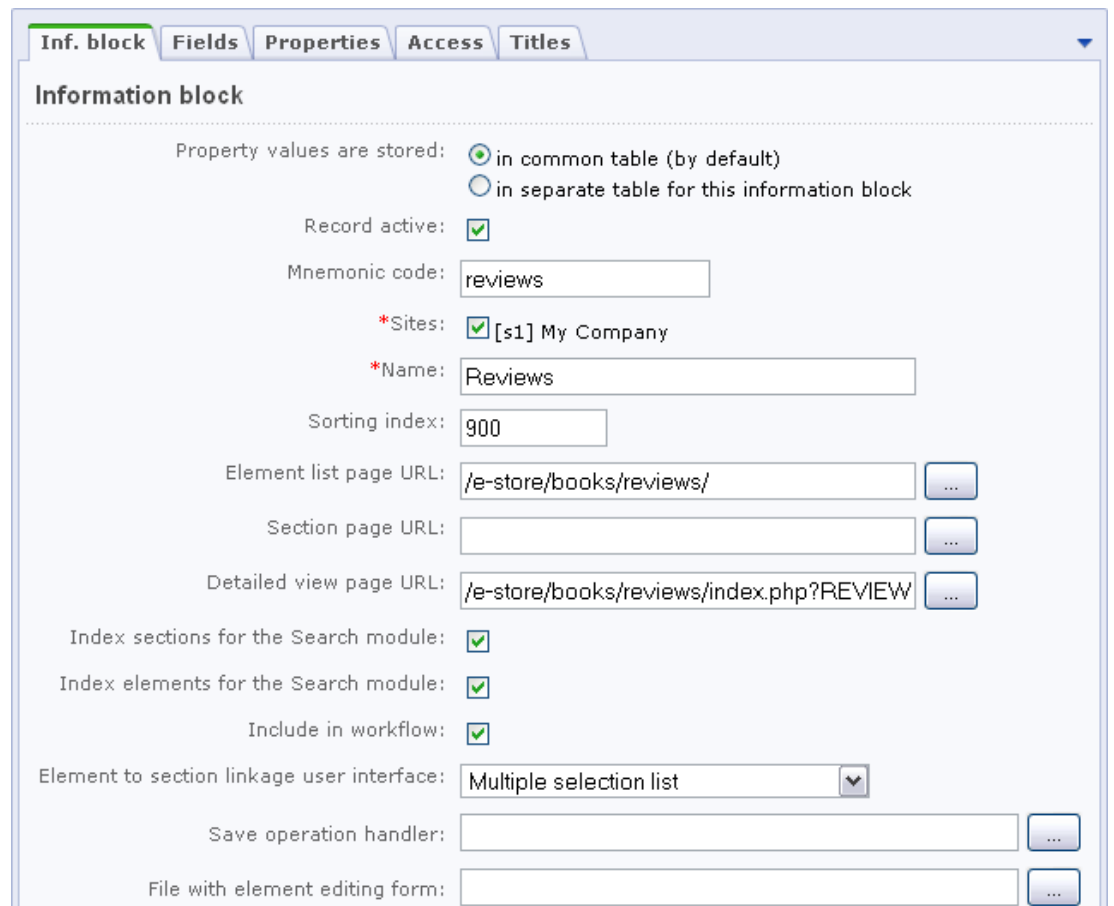
<input type="checkbox"/>		Name	Active	Sort	Modif.	ID	Status	Locked	
<input type="checkbox"/>		The Extraordinary Seaman	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:47	56	[1] Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>		Tarzan Triumphant	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:45	37	[1] Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>		The Eternal Lover	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:45	36	[1] Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>		Jimgrim And Allah's Peace	Yes	500	02/10/2009 10:48:45	38	[1] Published		
Selected: 4		Checked: 0							

Fig. 2.34 The contents of the **Adventure Fiction** section

Creating a “Review” Information Block

Let us create another information block – **Reviews** in which the critiques on the books will be concentrated.

- Navigate to *Content > Information block > Information block types > Bookshop*. Click **Add information block** on the context toolbar. In the form opened, specify the required parameters (Fig. 2.35).

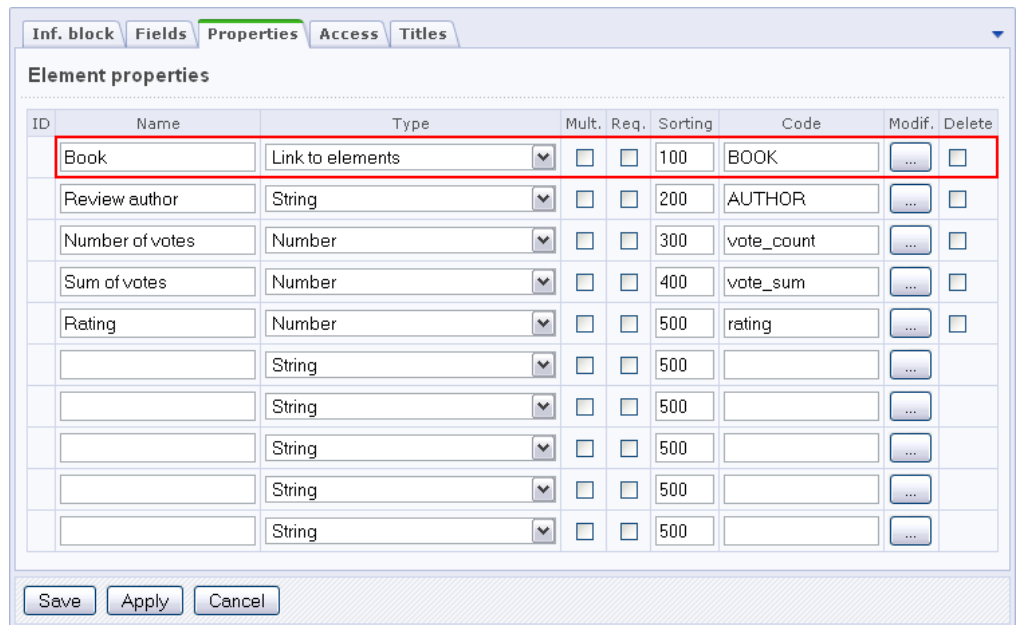


The screenshot shows the 'Properties' tab of the 'Information block' configuration. The 'Information block' title is visible at the top. The configuration includes the following fields and options:

- Property values are stored:** Radio buttons for 'in common table (by default)' (selected) and 'in separate table for this information block'.
- Record active:** Checked checkbox.
- Mnemonic code:** Text input field containing 'reviews'.
- *Sites:** Checked checkbox with '[s1] My Company'.
- *Name:** Text input field containing 'Reviews'.
- Sorting index:** Text input field containing '900'.
- Element list page URL:** Text input field containing '/e-store/books/reviews/' with a browse button.
- Section page URL:** Text input field with a browse button.
- Detailed view page URL:** Text input field containing '/e-store/books/reviews/index.php?REVIEW' with a browse button.
- Index sections for the Search module:** Checked checkbox.
- Index elements for the Search module:** Checked checkbox.
- Include in workflow:** Checked checkbox.
- Element to section linkage user interface:** Dropdown menu set to 'Multiple selection list'.
- Save operation handler:** Text input field with a browse button.
- File with element editing form:** Text input field with a browse button.

Fig. 2.35 Adding the “Reviews” information block

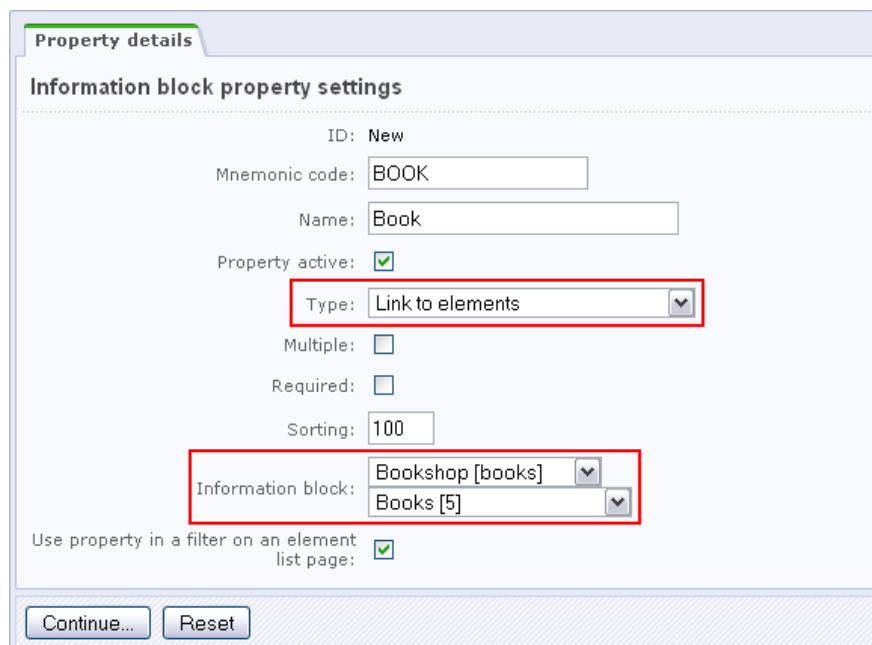
- On the **Properties** tab, create the properties that are essential to identify the review object and describe the visitor feedback on a review (fig. 2.36).



ID	Name	Type	Mult.	Req.	Sorting	Code	Modif.	Delete
	Book	Link to elements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	BOOK	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Review author	String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	200	AUTHOR	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Number of votes	Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	300	vote_count	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Sum of votes	Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	400	vote_sum	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Rating	Number	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500	rating	...	<input type="checkbox"/>
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	
		String	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	500		...	

Fig. 2.36 The “Reviews” information block properties

- q Focus your attention on the **Book** property. Specify the book for which the review is written. Click the ellipsis button in the property row and select **Link to elements** in the **Type** field, and select the information block to whose elements to bind (**Books**) (fig. 2.37).



Property details

Information block property settings

ID: New

Mnemonic code: BOOK

Name: Book

Property active:

Type: Link to elements

Multiple:

Required:

Sorting: 100

Information block: Bookshop [books] Books [5]

Use property in a filter on an element list page:

Continue... Reset

Fig. 2.37 The property details

- q Click **Save** or **Apply** if you want to continue editing the parameters.

Adding Elements (Reviews)

Let us create a book review, just to get some skill.

- Open *Content > Bookshop > Reviews*. Click **Add new review** on the context toolbar. A new review creation form will open (Fig. 2.38).

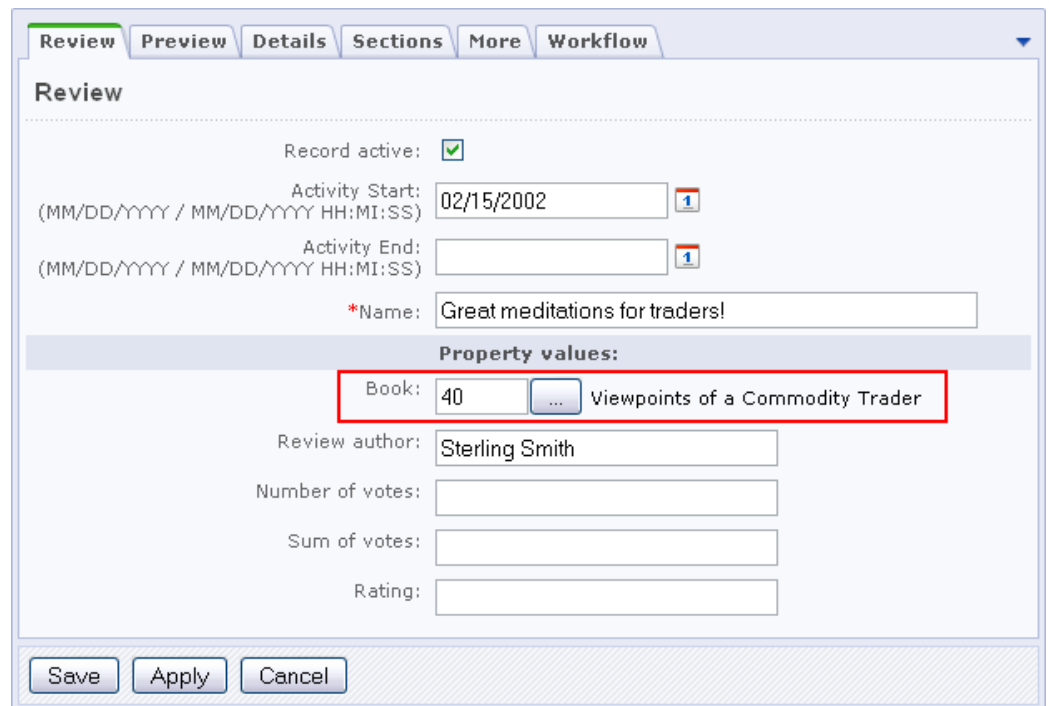



Fig. 2.38 Creating a review

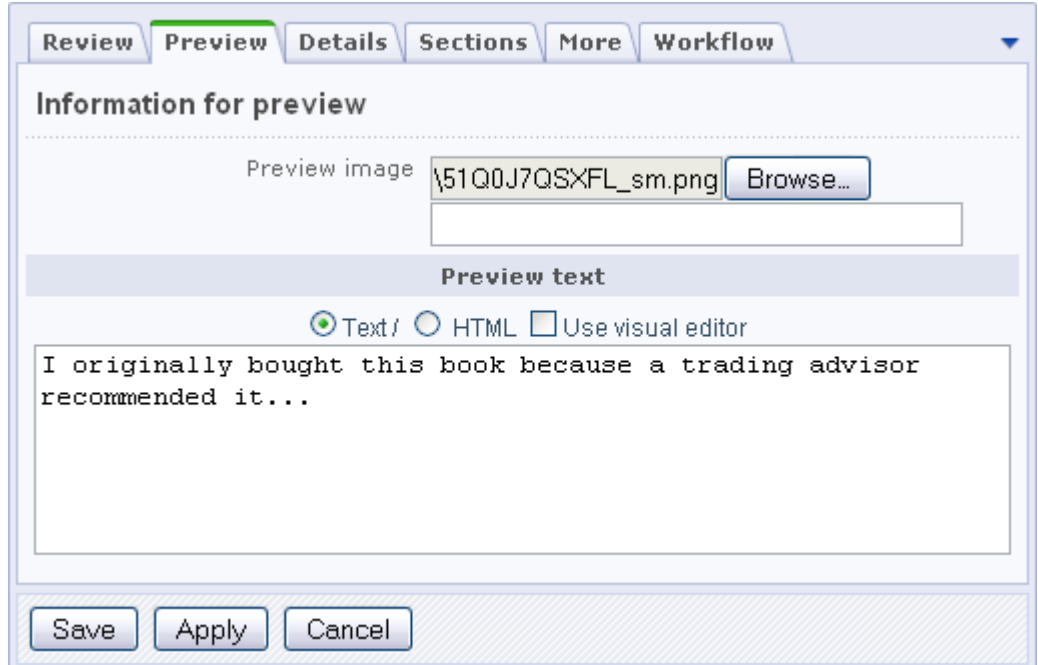
- § Click **Record active** to make the review visible in the public section.
- § If the review is to be visible within a certain period, specify this interval in the **Activity Start** and **Activity End** fields. When it expires, the review will become inactive.
- § Specify the review **Name**. The field is required.
- § In order to fill in the **Book** field, click  and select the book (fig. 2.39). The field will be filled in automatically (fig. 2.38).

<input type="checkbox"/>		40	02/10/2009 10:48:45	[]	Yes	Viewpoints of a Commodity Trader	Published
<input type="checkbox"/>			2/10/2009 10:48:45	[]	Yes	Giftwish	Published
<input type="checkbox"/>		42	02/10/2009 10:48:45	[]	Yes	Ark Of Venus	Published

Fig. 2.39 Selecting a book the review to which is to be written

- § Fill in the **Review author** field.

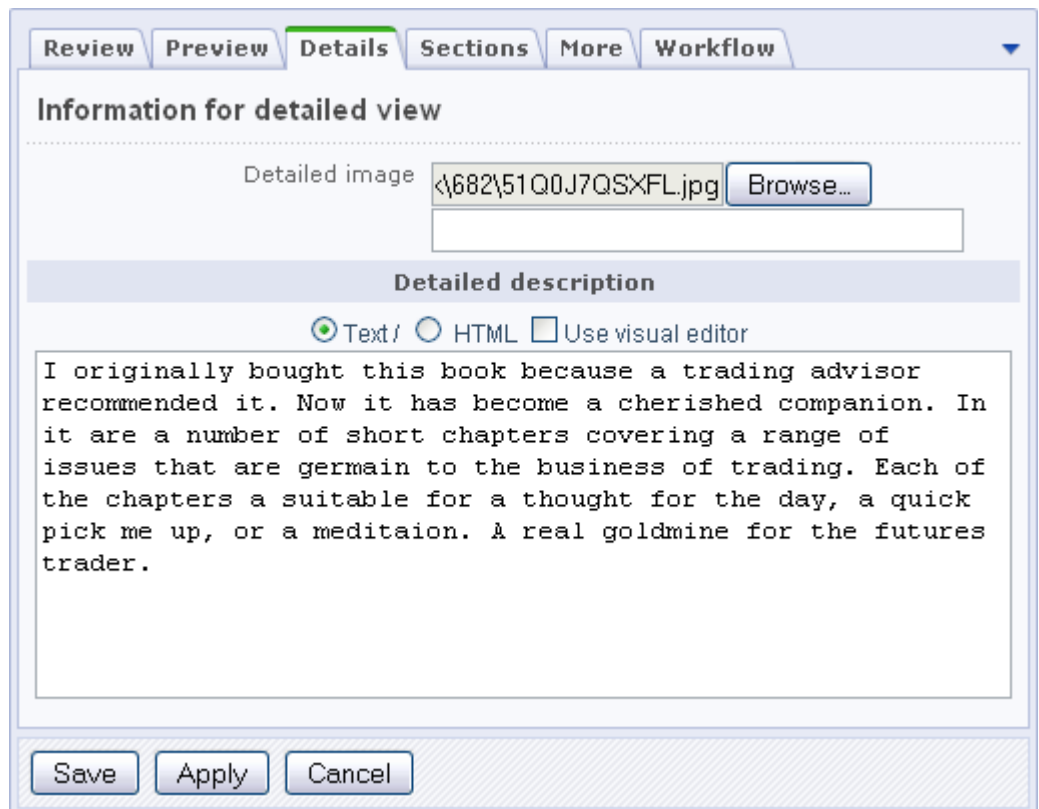
- Open the **Preview** tab. Upload the review image and description - they will be shown in the review headlines in the public section (Fig. 2.40).



The screenshot shows a web interface with a tabbed menu at the top containing 'Review', 'Preview', 'Details', 'Sections', 'More', and 'Workflow'. The 'Preview' tab is active. Below the tabs is a section titled 'Information for preview'. It contains a 'Preview image' field with the text '\51Q0J7QSXFL_sm.png' and a 'Browse...' button. Below this is a 'Preview text' section with three radio buttons: 'Text' (selected), 'HTML', and 'Use visual editor'. A text area below contains the text 'I originally bought this book because a trading advisor recommended it...'. At the bottom of the form are three buttons: 'Save', 'Apply', and 'Cancel'.

Fig. 2.40 Providing the short review information

- In the **Details** tab, provide the large image and the detailed review text (Fig. 2.41).



Information for detailed view

Detailed image: <682\51Q0J7Q5XFL.jpg

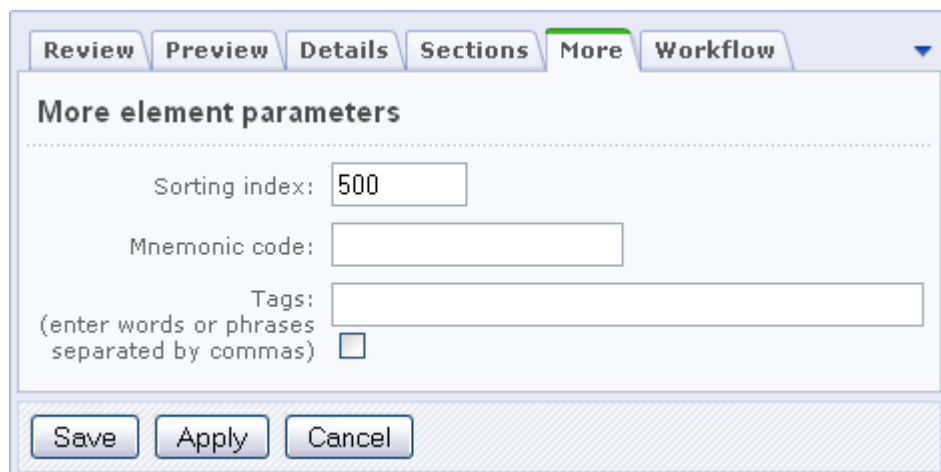
Detailed description

Text /
 HTML /
 Use visual editor

I originally bought this book because a trading advisor recommended it. Now it has become a cherished companion. In it are a number of short chapters covering a range of issues that are germain to the business of trading. Each of the chapters a suitable for a thought for the day, a quick pick me up, or a meditaion. A real goldmine for the futures trader.

Fig. 2.41 The full text of the review

- Click the **More** tab if you need to configure the common parameters (Fig. 2.42).



More element parameters

Sorting index:

Mnemonic code:

Tags:
 (enter words or phrases separated by commas)

Fig. 2.42 Additional parameters of the review

- § Specify the **Sorting index** of the review. Less sort index values move a review higher in the list relative to other items.
- § You can provide a unique **Mnemonic code** for the review. This option is generally useful for developers.
- § Type in the **Tags** (keywords) by which the review can be found using the search function.

- Click **Save** to save the review or **Apply** if you want to continue editing the parameters.

Now, the created review will produce a new entry on the reviews page (Fig. 2.43).

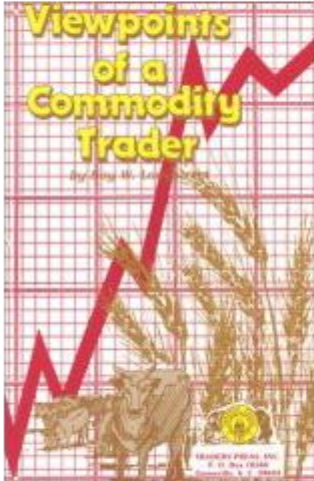
<input type="checkbox"/>	≡	Name	≡	Active	≡	Sort	≡	Modif.	▼	ID	≡	Status	≡	Locked
<input type="checkbox"/>	≡	Great meditations for traders!		Yes		500		02/10/2009 10:48:49		60	[1]	Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>	≡	Excellent for Artist and Mathematicians		Yes		500		02/10/2009 10:48:49		61	[1]	Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>	≡	Dr. Libes is thorough and easy to understand		Yes		500		02/10/2009 10:48:49		62	[1]	Published		
<input type="checkbox"/>	≡	There's Nothing Like It!		Yes		500		02/10/2009 10:48:49		63	[1]	Published		

Fig. 2.43 The new review added

If the **Reviews** information block has been published, the created review will show in the public section (Fig. 2.44):

Home > e-Store > Demo Bookstore > Reviews

Great meditations for traders!



15.02.2002

Great meditations for traders!

I originally bought this book because a trading advisor recommended it. Now it has become a cherished companion. In it are a number of short chapters covering a range of issues that are germane to the business of trading. Each of the chapters a suitable for a thought for the day, a quick pick me up, or a meditation. A real goldmine for the futures trader.

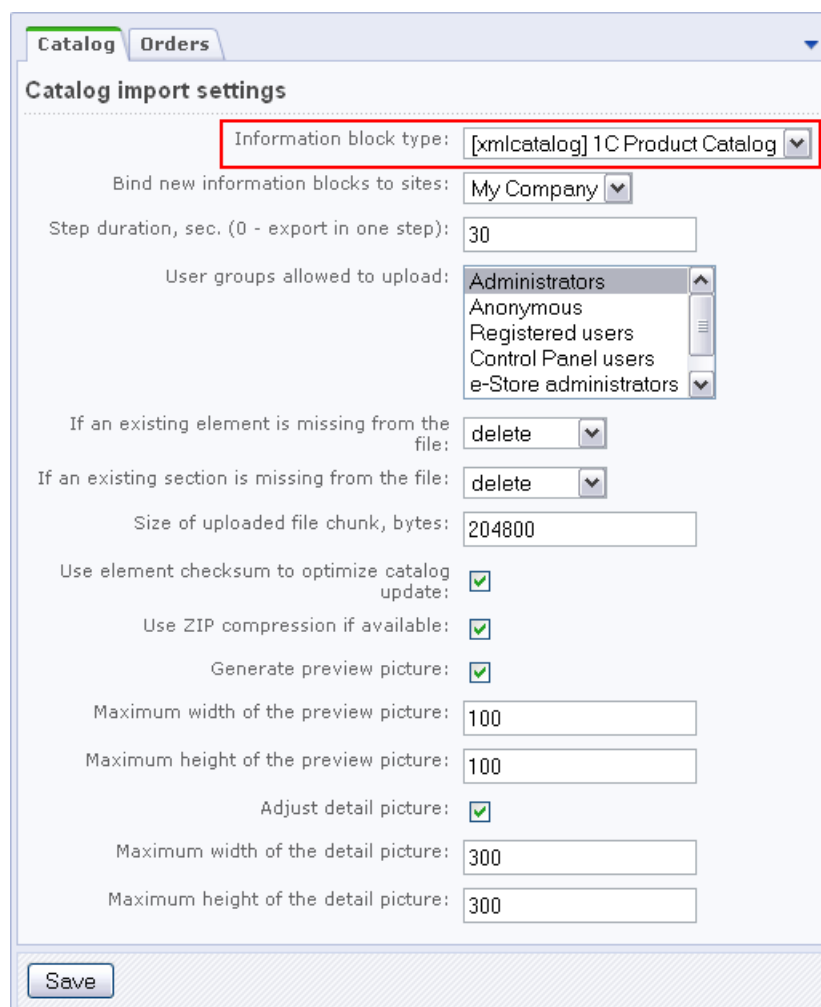
Book: [Viewpoints of a Commodity Trader](#)
 Review author: Sterling Smith

Fig. 2.44 The book review in the public section

Chapter 3. Creating a Commercial Catalog

The fastest way to create a product catalog is importing it from “1C: Enterprise”.

Create a new information block type, say, **1C Product Catalog** just as you have previously created the **Bookshop** information block type. Open the integration settings page (*e-Store > e-Store Settings > 1C Integration*, fig. 3.1).



The screenshot shows the 'Catalog import settings' interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'Catalog' and 'Orders'. Below them is the title 'Catalog import settings'. The 'Information block type' dropdown menu is highlighted with a red rectangular box and contains the text '[xmlcatalog] 1C Product Catalog'. Below this, there are several configuration options: 'Bind new information blocks to sites' with a dropdown set to 'My Company'; 'Step duration, sec. (0 - export in one step):' with a text input field containing '30'; 'User groups allowed to upload:' with a list box containing 'Administrators', 'Anonymous', 'Registered users', 'Control Panel users', and 'e-Store administrators'; 'If an existing element is missing from the file:' with a dropdown set to 'delete'; 'If an existing section is missing from the file:' with a dropdown set to 'delete'; 'Size of uploaded file chunk, bytes:' with a text input field containing '204800'; 'Use element checksum to optimize catalog update:' with a checked checkbox; 'Use ZIP compression if available:' with a checked checkbox; 'Generate preview picture:' with a checked checkbox; 'Maximum width of the preview picture:' with a text input field containing '100'; 'Maximum height of the preview picture:' with a text input field containing '100'; 'Adjust detail picture:' with a checked checkbox; 'Maximum width of the detail picture:' with a text input field containing '300'; and 'Maximum height of the detail picture:' with a text input field containing '300'. At the bottom left, there is a 'Save' button.



Fig. 3.1 The catalog import parameters

In the **Information block type** field, select the type you have just created - **1C Product Catalog**. Leave other parameters as is. Then, perform the necessary configuration on the “1C: Enterprise” side, and start the export.

Note. If you fail to specify the information block type, it will be created automatically.

Chapter 4. Placing the Catalog in the Site Public Section

Showing the catalog in the public section is generally a two-click operation requiring the visual editor and the **Catalog** module components.

Open the visual editor by clicking  (creates a new page in a current section) or  (edits a current page) on the site toolbar.

Note. Ensure that the correct type of the default page editor (visual) is selected in the **Site Explorer** module settings (*Settings > System settings > Module settings > Site Explorer*) (fig. 4.1).

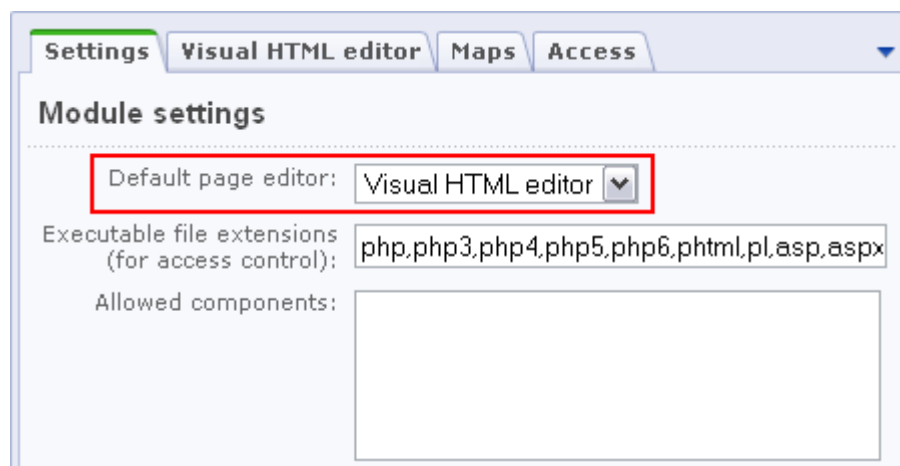


Fig. 4.1 Selecting the default page editor

The following text describes an example of publishing the **Books** catalog which comes preinstalled in the demo version of Bitrix Site Manager.

Publishing the Catalog Using Simple Components

To begin with, we shall consider publishing the catalog using simple (single page) components. Let us publish only certain catalog pages.

Creating a Section TOP Elements Page

Create a page showing the catalog sections each displaying the predefined number of elements.

- In the public section, switch **Browse** or **Design** mode and click **Create** to open the new page creation wizard.
- Enter the file name and the page title and click **Next** (fig. 4.2).

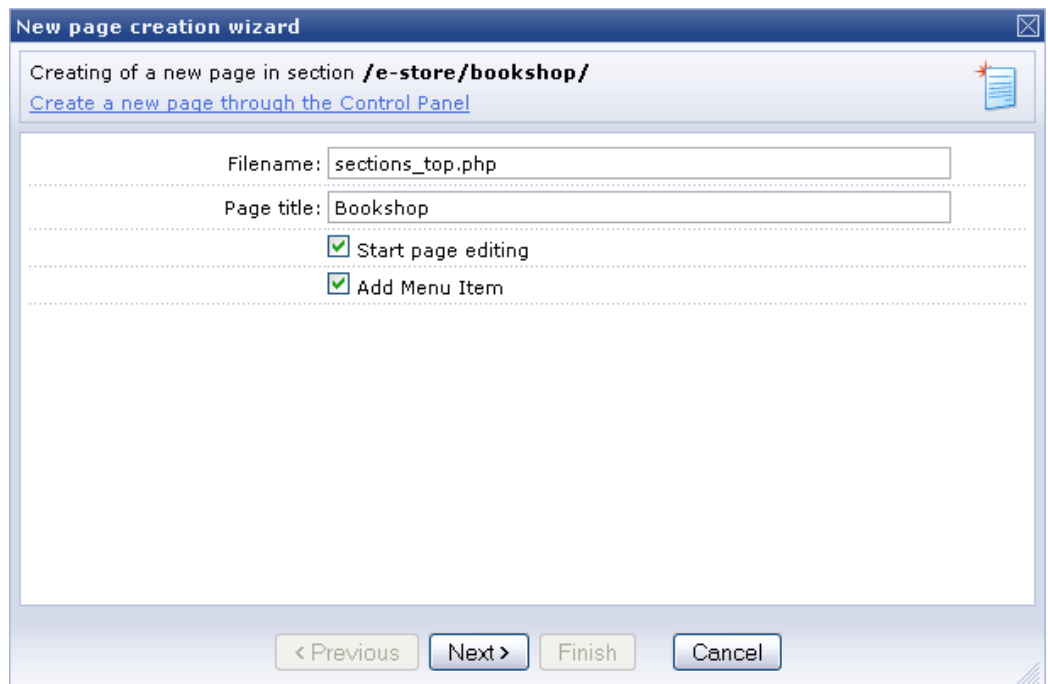


Fig. 4.2 New page creation wizard, step 1

- Type the title of a new menu item that will open the catalog. Configure additional parameters if required (fig. 4.3).

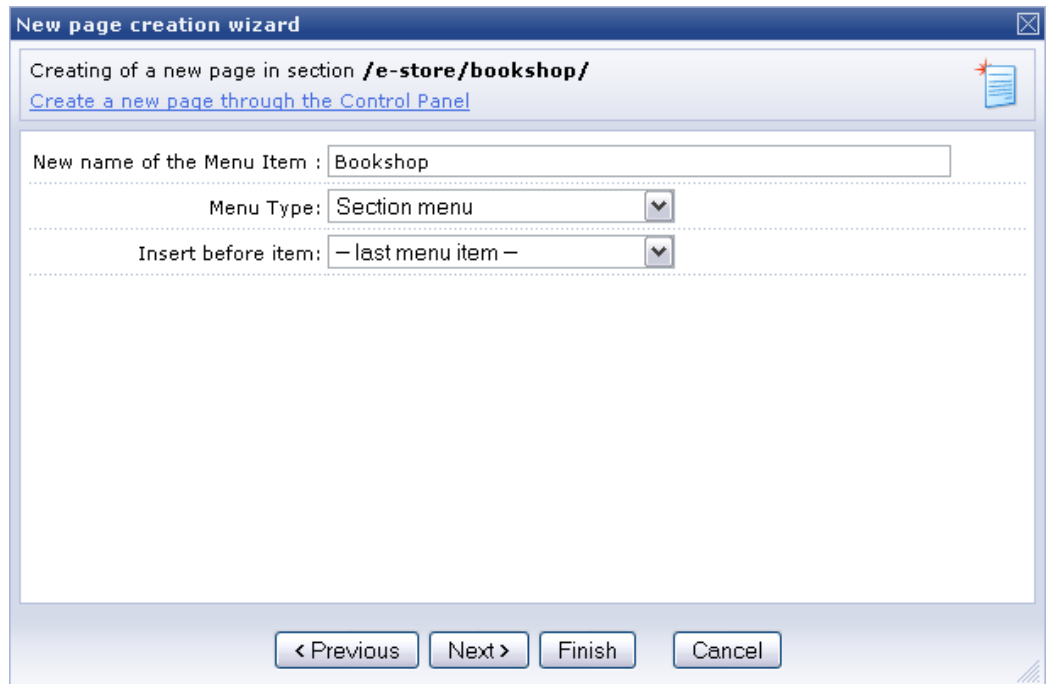


Fig. 4.3 New page wizard, step 2

- q Click **Finish** to open the page in the visual editor.
- q In the form opened, click **Components 2.0** and browse to *Content > Catalog* in the component tree. Drag and drop the **Element Top sections** component to the page body (fig. 4.4).

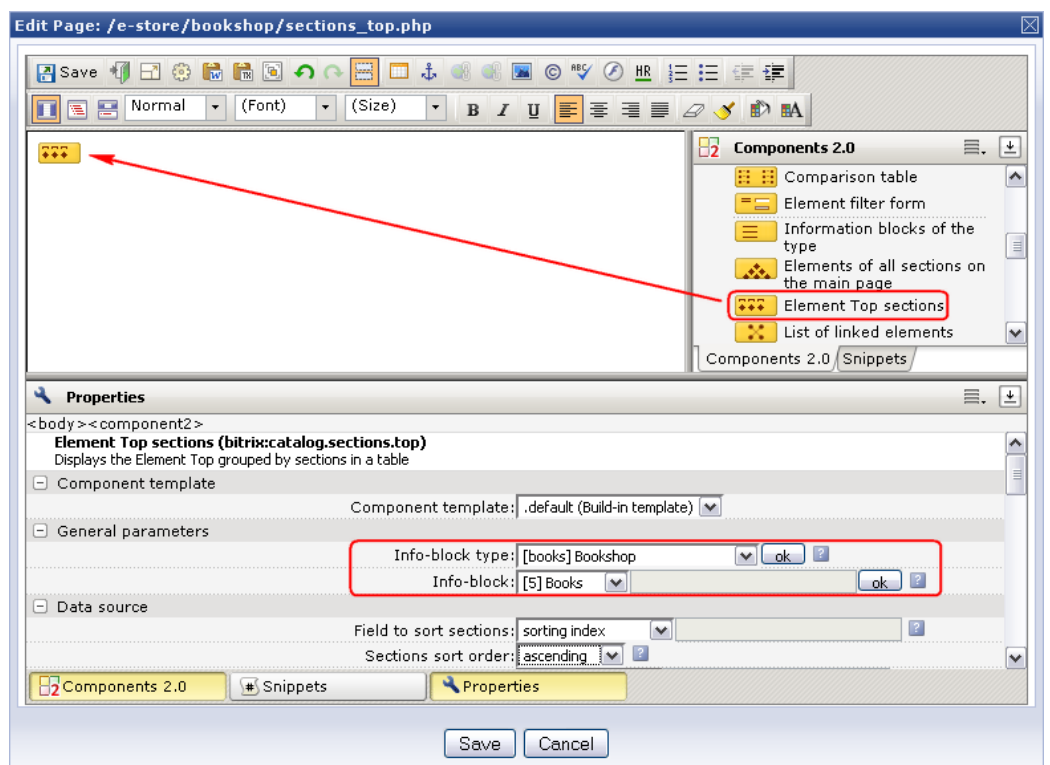


Fig. 4.4 Adding the component to show section top elements

- After the component has been added, the component properties bar will show at the page bottom (otherwise, select the component and then click the collapsed **Properties** bar at the bottom).

The component parameters have been grouped for more convenient configuration (fig. 4.4).

- Configure the component.

- § Select the information block type and the information block containing the product catalog (select **Bookshop** and **Books**) (Fig. 4.4).
- § In the **Visual appearance** group, set **Maximum sections to display** to 10, **Maximum elements to display in a section** to 3, **Number of elements to display in a table row** to 3. In the **Properties** field, add the **AUTHORS** property (fig. 4.5).

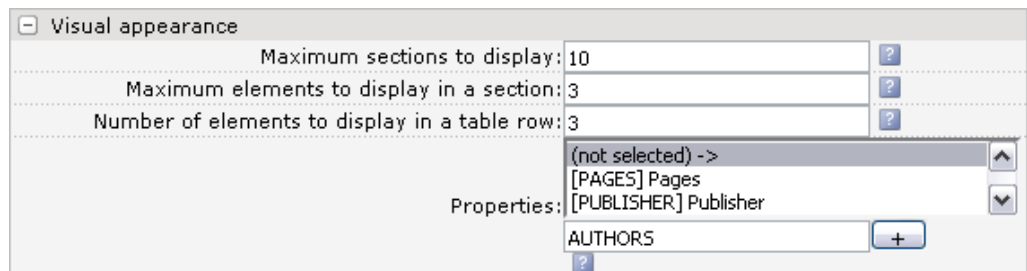


Fig. 4.5 Configuring the component layout

- § Select the required price type (fig. 4.6).

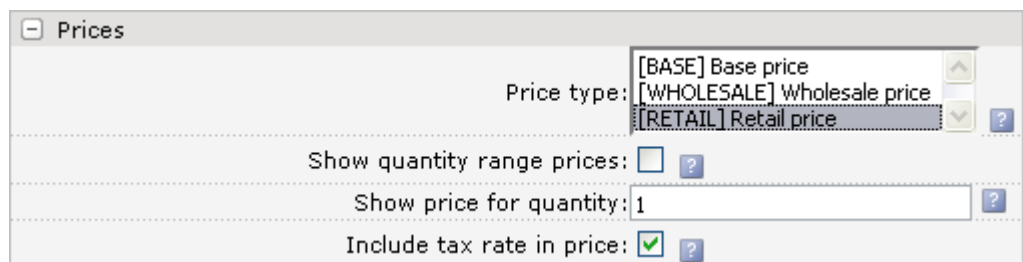


Fig. 4.6 Configuring the display prices

- Click **Save** to save the created page.

After you have closed the editor, the page will open in the browser (fig. 4.7):

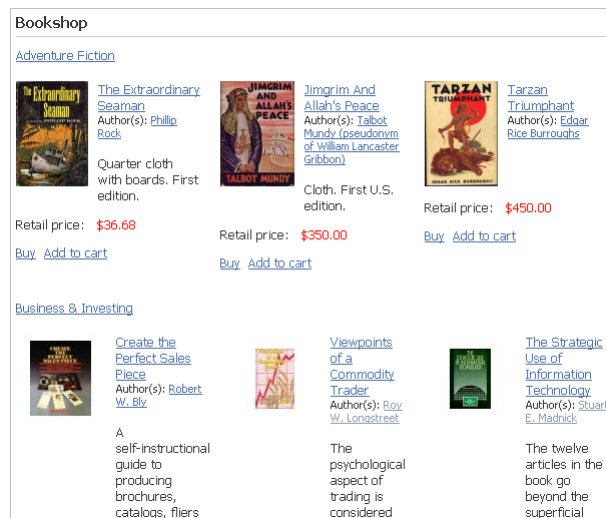


Fig. 4.7 The catalog showing top elements

Note. The **Buy** and **Add to cart** buttons switch to the ordering procedure or add product items to a customer's cart, respectively. These buttons are available if only the **e-Store** module is installed. Furthermore, the shopping cart page must exist and the ordering procedure must be properly configured.

Creating a Section Elements Page

A link titled by the catalog section name opens a page showing items existing in a section. It is recommended to save all the catalog related pages in one directory.

Now, let us create a section element page. We shall add the following components will be placed in the page field:

- § elements filter;
 - § section elements in tables.
- Open a site section where the page is to be published. If such a section does not exist, create it.
 - Create a new page in this section. If the page already exists, open it in the visual editor.

Note. You can also create the page in **Control Panel** by opening the required section and clicking **New file** on the context toolbar (Fig. 4.8).

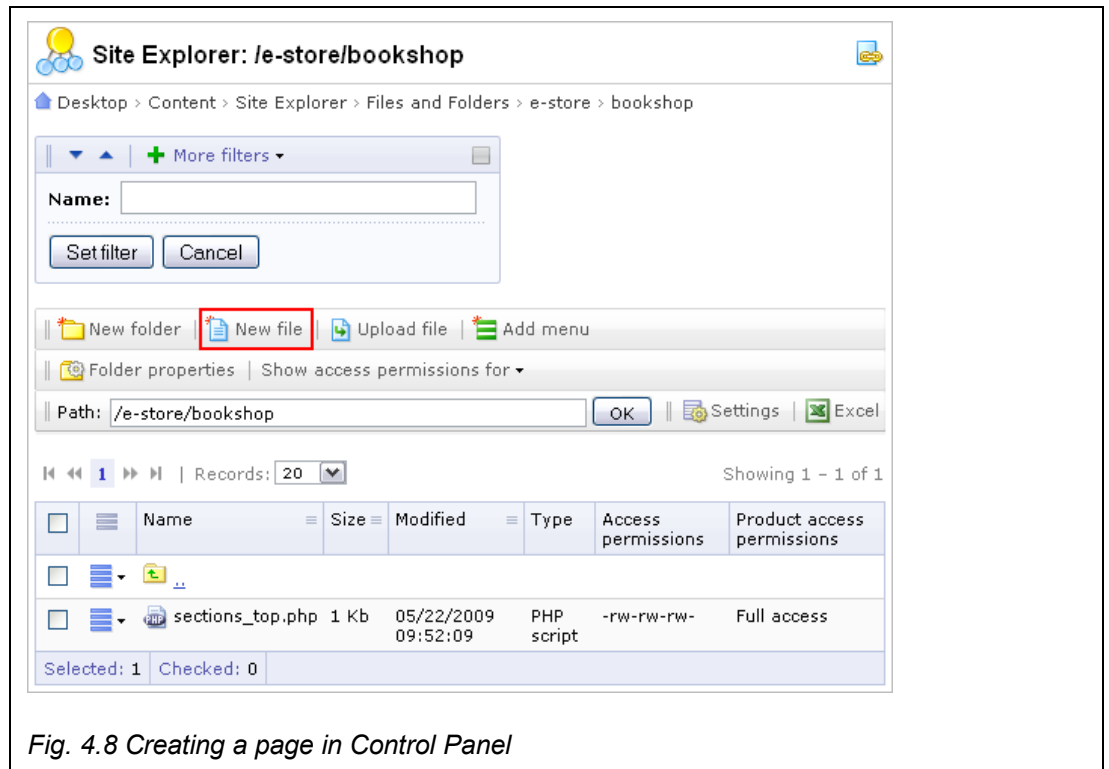


Fig. 4.8 Creating a page in Control Panel

- q In the visual editor, add the **Element filter form** component in the page body (*Components 2.0 > Content > Catalog*) (fig. 4.9).

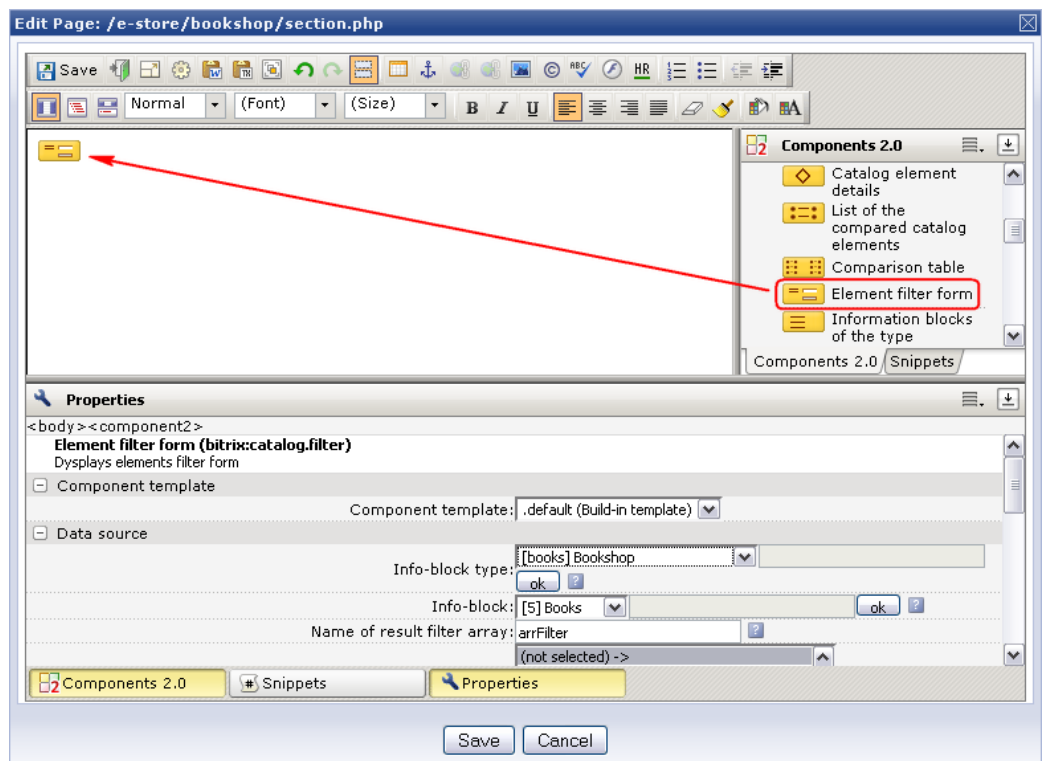


Fig. 4.9 The **Element filter form** component

- After the component has been added, the component properties bar will show at the page bottom (otherwise, select the component and then click the collapsed **Properties** bar at the bottom).
 - Configure the component properties.
- § In the **Data Source** group, select the information block type and the information block containing the product catalog (select **Bookshop** and **Books**). It is not necessary to select fields. Select one or more properties and add the **AUTHORS** property. (fig. 4.10).

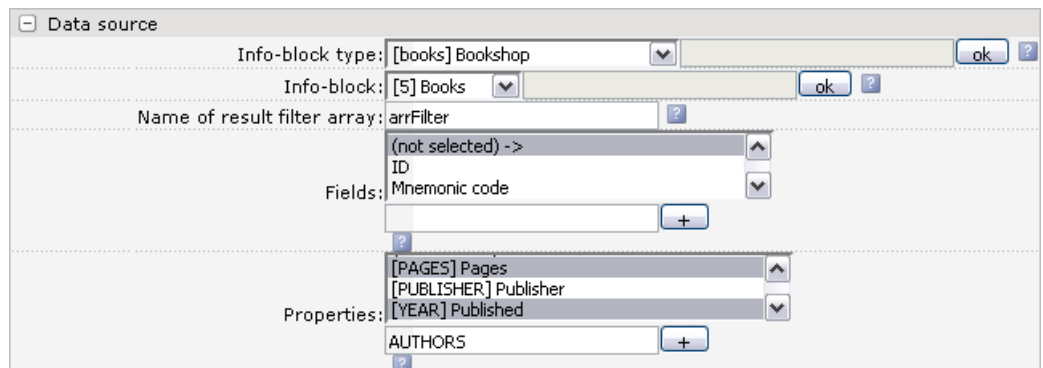


Fig. 4.10 Specifying the data source

- § Select the **Price type** (fig. 4.11).

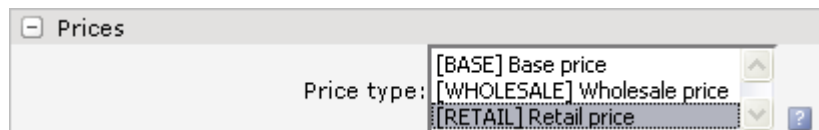


Fig. 4.11 Selecting the price type

- § Leave the **Appearance** group settings as is.

- Add the **Section elements** component to the page body (*Components 2.0 > Content > Catalog*) (fig. 4.12).

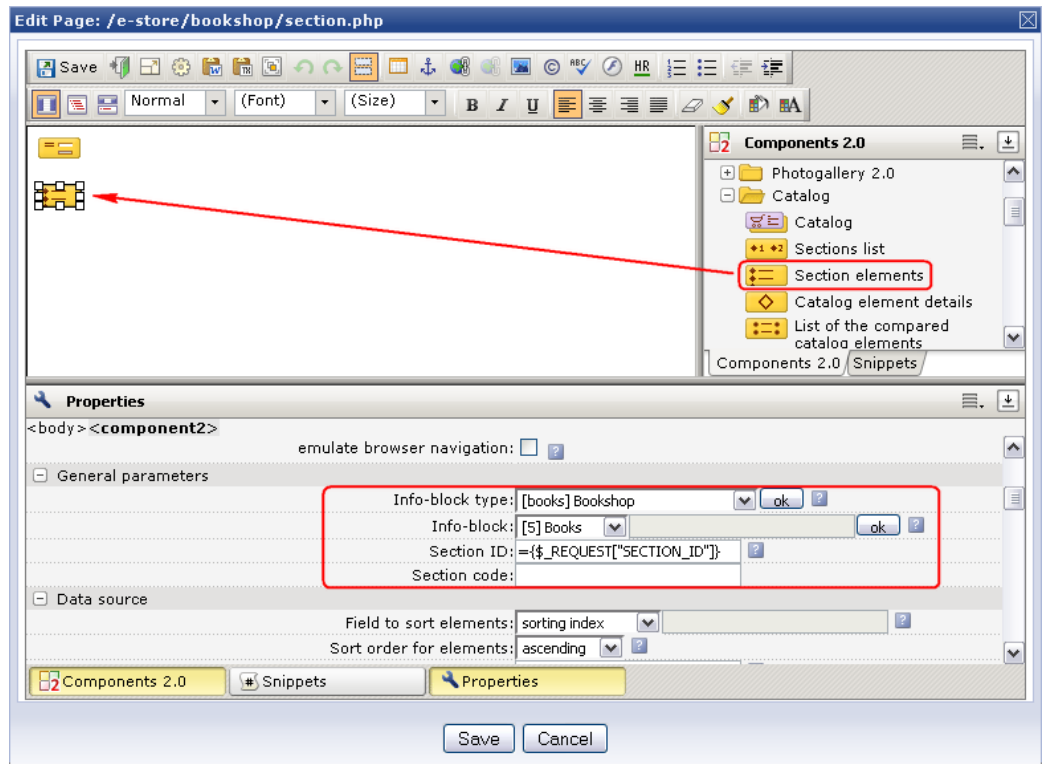


Fig. 4.12 Adding the **Section elements** component

□ Configure the **Section elements** component properties (fig. 4.12).

- § In the **General parameters** group, select the information block type and the information block containing the product catalog (select **Bookshop** and **Books**) (Fig. 4.12).
- § In the **Visual appearance** group, specify maximum elements per page (set it to 2) and set the number of elements per table row to 1. In the **Properties** field, select the required parameters and add the **AUTHORS** property (Fig. 4.13fig. 4.5).

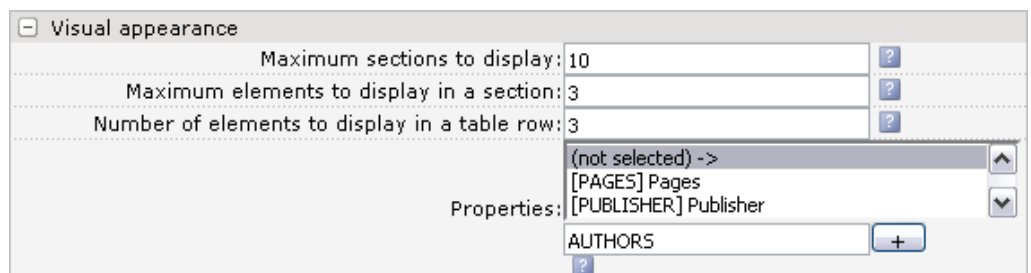


Fig. 4.13 Configuring the component layout

- § Select the **Price type** (fig. 4.14).

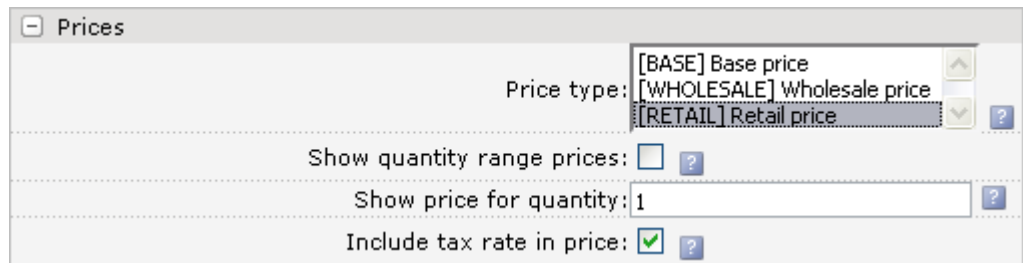


Fig. 4.14 Configuring the price types

§ Configure other parameters if needed.

¶ Click **Save** to save changes.

Now, the created page will look as shown below (fig. 4.15):

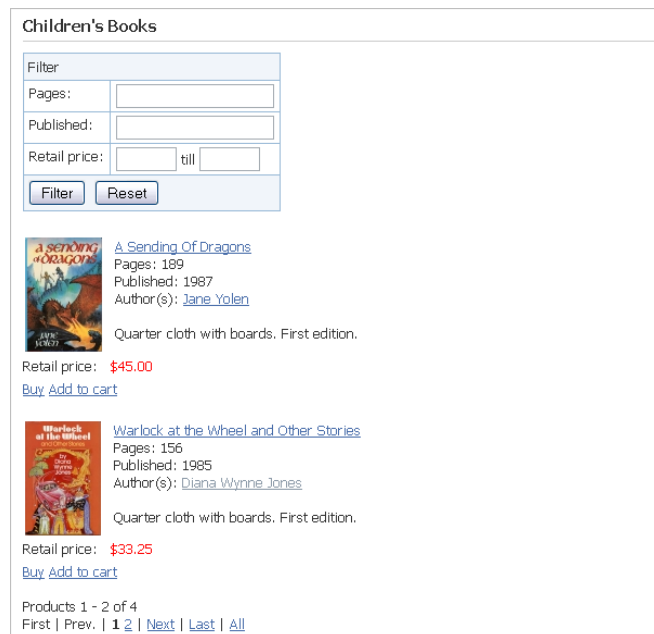


Fig. 4.15 The section elements page

Visitors will get to this page by clicking the section name on the sections page.

Creating the Catalog Element Details Page

This page will show the entire information on a selected product including the price. In this case, such a page will contain the book details.

- ¶ Open the site section where the page is intended to be found. If no such section exists, create it first.
- ¶ Create a new page in this section. If the page exists, open it in the visual editor.
- ¶ In the visual editor, add the **Catalog element details** component to the page body (*Components 2.0 > Content > Catalog*) (fig. 4.16).

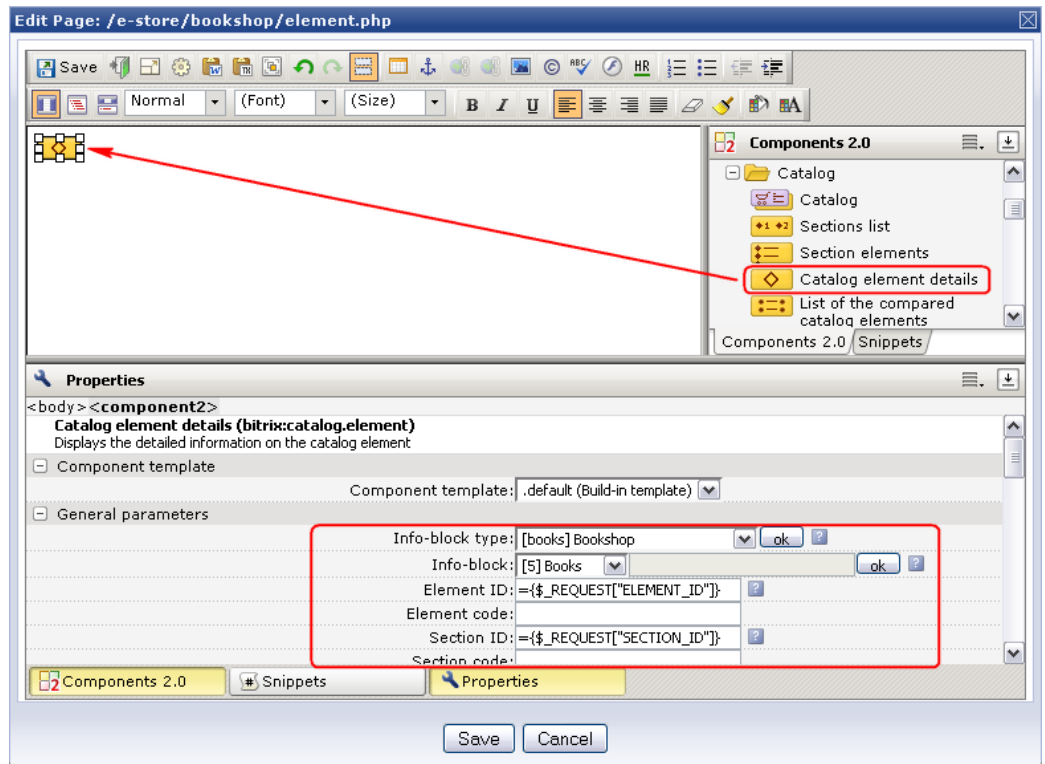


Fig. 4.16 Inserting the **Catalog element details** component

- After the component has been added, the component properties bar (fig. 4.16) will appear at the page bottom (otherwise, select the component and then click the collapsed **Properties** bar at the bottom).
- Configure the component properties.

- § In the **General parameters** group, select the information block type and the information block containing the product catalog (select **Bookshop** and **Books**) (Fig. 4.16).
- § In the **Visual appearance** group, specify the required parameters and add the **AUTHORS** property (fig. 4.17).

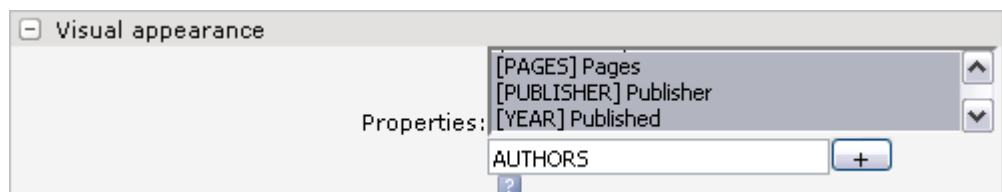


Fig. 4.17 Configuring the component layout

- § Select the required **Price type** (fig. 4.18).

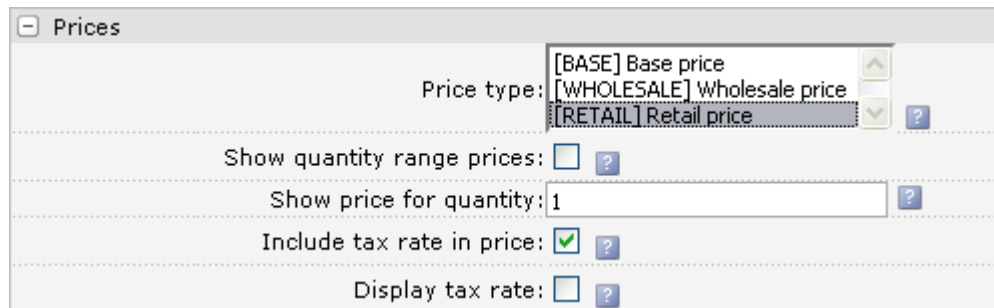


Fig. 4.18 Configuring the price types

§ A common practice for the online bookstores is enabling visitors to read the book reviews. This can be done by establishing the links between an element whose details we are showing (a book) and an element containing a review. In the **Linked elements settings** group, configure the book review display as shown on fig. 4.19.

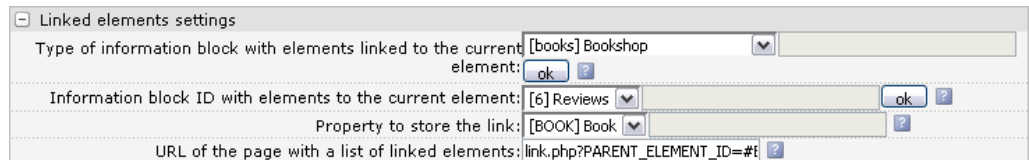


Fig. 4.19 Configuring the book-to-review link

§ Configure other parameters if needed.

□ Click **Save** to save the edited parameters.

Having done the configuration, we can view the result in the public section (fig. 4.20):

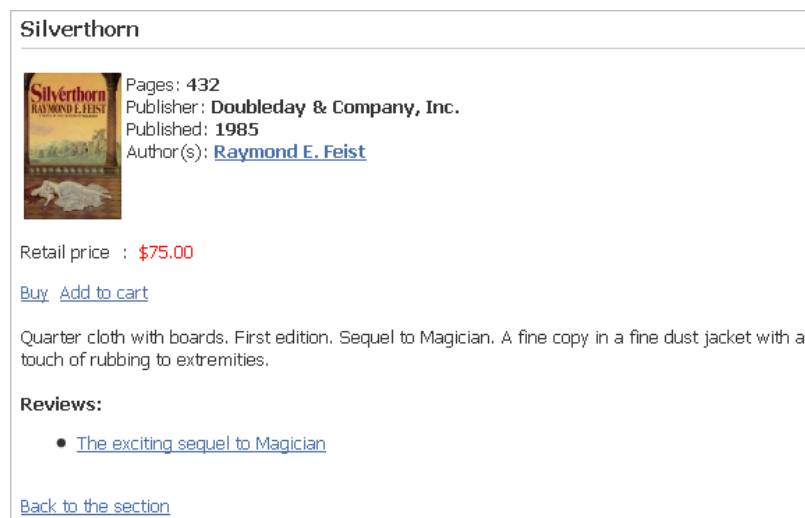


Fig. 4.20 The book details page

Showing the Bound Elements

This section describes how to show bound elements (e.g. all books of the same author) in the public section.

We have already configured the information block structure. The books have been attached to their authors, and can have as many reviews as required.

Let us consider showing this kind of structure in the public section.

In order to show the book authors specify the required property code (**AUTHORS**) in the **Catalog element details** component settings (fig. 4.21).

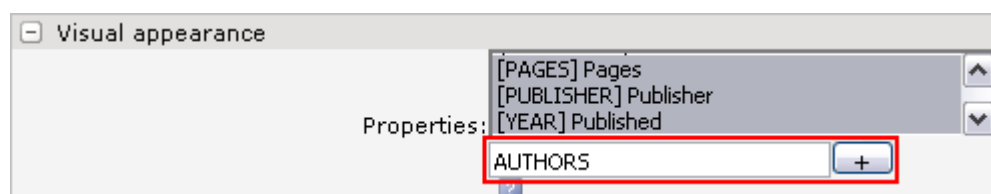


Fig. 4.21 Setting up the component to show the values of the **AUTHORS** property

Note. This component parameters form is also available in the public section in **Design** mode which highlights the include areas and components.

Having done this fairly simple configuration, we made the authors show for each element (fig. 4.22).



Fig. 4.22 The book authors indicated in the public section

You can render the book authors in the complex component similarly.

Creating a Page Showing the Bound Elements

Now, consider an example of using the **List of linked elements** component (*Components 2.0 > Content > Catalog*).

Visitors can view the detailed information about an author by clicking the author name link. The link (*/e-store/books/authors/detail.php?AUTHOR=#ID#*) is taken from the **Authors** information block parameters.

Let us create a page and print the author details and the list of bound elements which are the books written by the author (fig. 4.23).

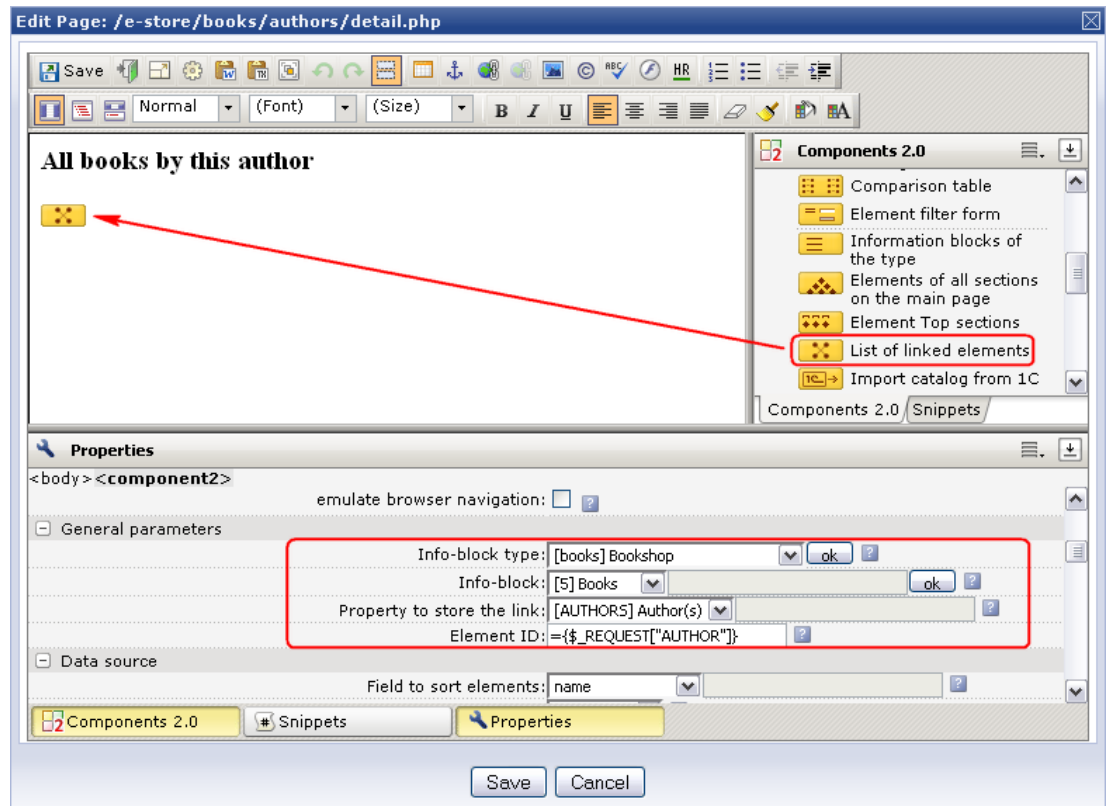


Fig. 4.23 Adding the **List of linked elements** component

In the component properties, specify that the books written by the author are the bound elements that are to be displayed.

Now the page has the following appearance in the public section (fig. 4.24).



Fig. 4.24 A page showing the links to the author's books


The **Catalog element details** simple component is capable of showing the bound elements as well. All you have to do is configure the required bound elements in the component settings (fig. 4.25).

<input type="checkbox"/> Linked elements settings	
Type of information block with elements linked to the current element:	[books] Bookshop <input type="button" value="ok"/> <input type="button" value="?"/>
Information block ID with elements to the current element:	[6] Reviews <input type="button" value="ok"/> <input type="button" value="?"/>
Property to store the link:	[BOOK] Book <input type="button" value="ok"/> <input type="button" value="?"/>
URL of the page with a list of linked elements:	link.php?PARENT_ELEMENT_ID=#t <input type="button" value="ok"/> <input type="button" value="?"/>

Fig. 4.25 The bound elements in the **Catalog element details** simple component

As a result, the page will show the book review link (fig. 4.26):

Silverthorn



Pages: 432
 Publisher: **Doubleday & Company, Inc.**
 Published: **1985**
 Author(s): [Raymond E. Feist](#)

Retail price : **\$75.00**

[Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)

Quarter cloth with boards. First edition. Sequel to Magician. A fine copy in a fine dust jacket with a touch of rubbing to extremities.

Reviews:

- [The exciting sequel to Magician](#)

[Back to the section](#)

Fig. 4.26 The book review link

Publishing the Catalog Using Composite Component

The compound component combines features of multiple simple (single page) components allowing to create a fully functional catalog. Let us discuss the process of publishing the book catalog using this compound component.

- Open the site section in which the book catalog is to be published. If such a section does not exist, create it first.
- Create a new page in this section. If the page exists, open it in the visual editor.
- Add the **Catalog** component to the page (*Components 2.0 > Content > Catalog*) (Fig. 4.27).

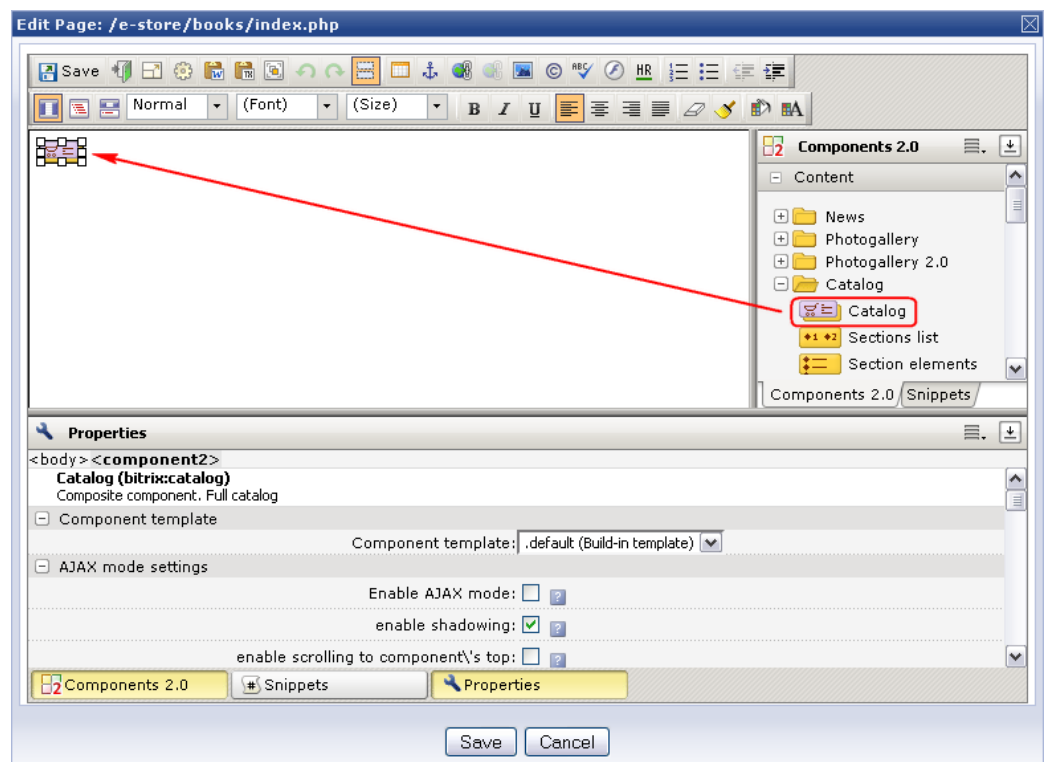


Fig. 4.27 Adding the **Catalog** component

- The component properties bar (Fig. 4.27) will appear at the page bottom (otherwise, click the component in the page body and then click the **Properties** tab).
 - Configure the component properties.
- § In the **Page address management** group, specify the URL settings (Fig. 4.28).

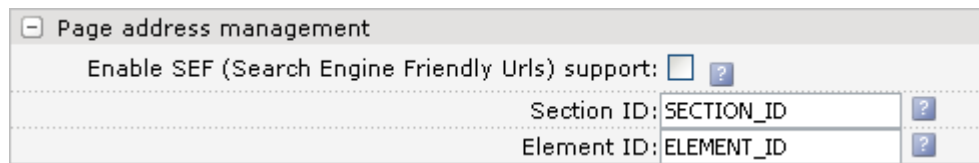


Fig. 4.28 The **Page address management** property group

- § In the **General parameters** group, select the information block type and the information block containing the product catalog (select **Bookshop** and **Books**, fig. 4.29).

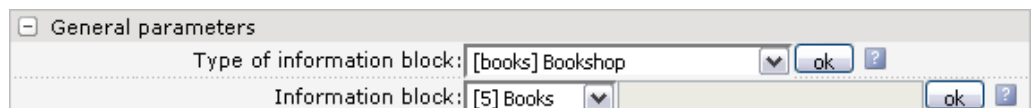


Fig. 4.29 The **general parameters**

- § Scroll to the **Reviews Settings** group and allow visitors to leave their opinions on the books on the product details page (fig. 4.30).

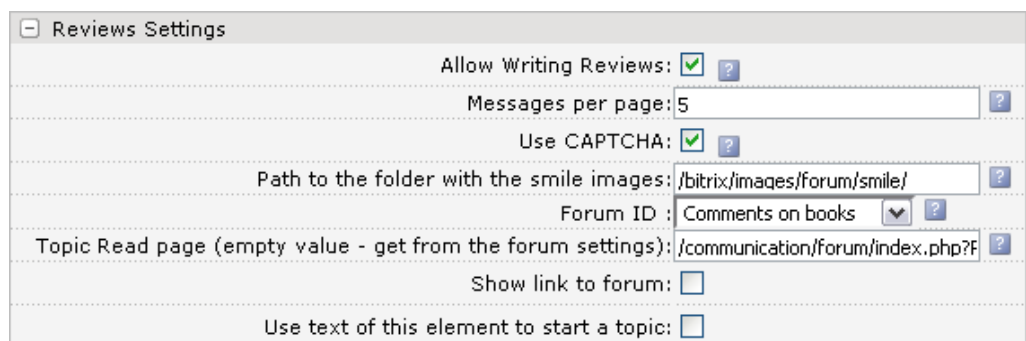


Fig. 4.30 **Configuring the reviews settings**

- § In the **List settings** group, enter the number of elements per page and row. (fig. 4.31).

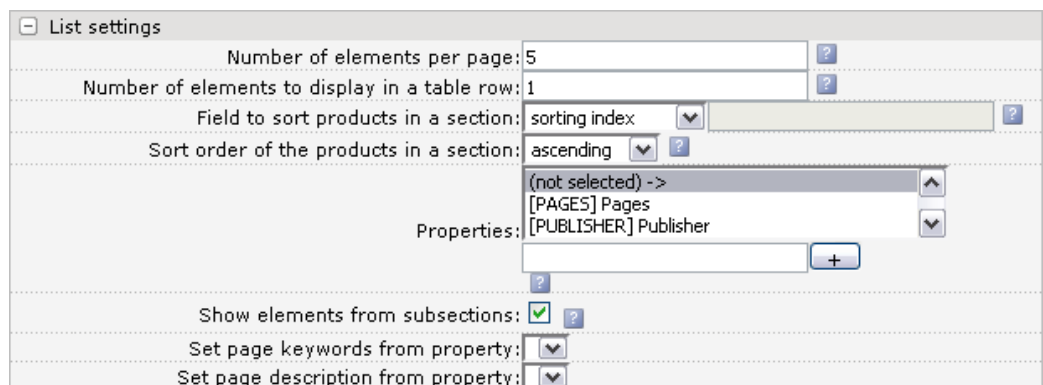


Fig. 4.31 The **list settings**

- § In the **Details view settings** group, select the required parameters and add the **AUTHOR** property (fig. 4.32).

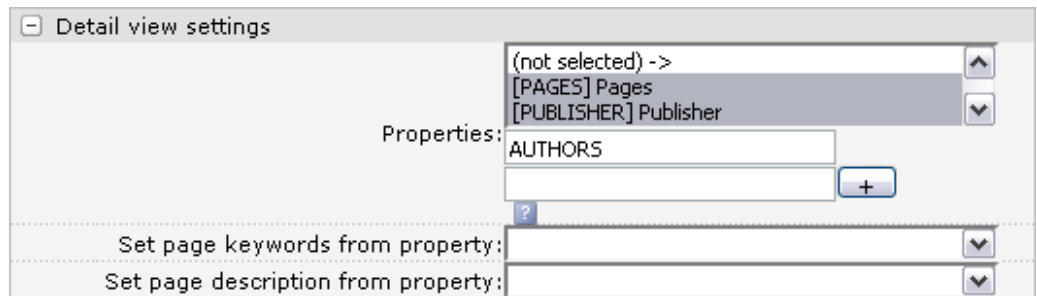


Fig. 4.32 The details view parameters

§ In the **Prices** group, select the price type and check the **Display Tax Rate** box so your customers can see how much tax they will pay (fig. 4.33).

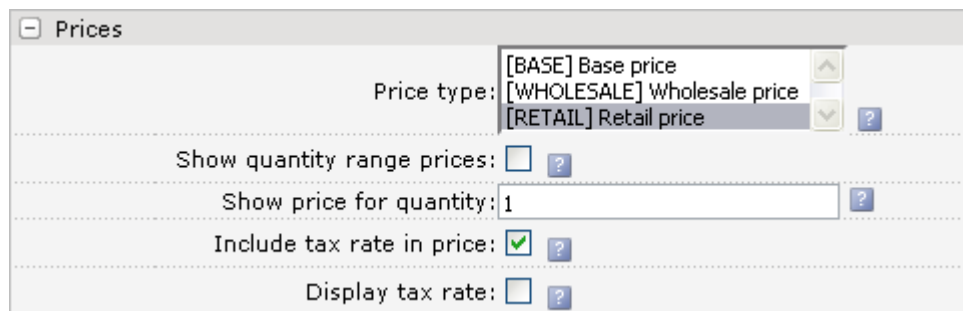


Fig. 4.33 The price parameters

§ In the **Linked elements settings** group, configure the book review display (fig. 4.34).

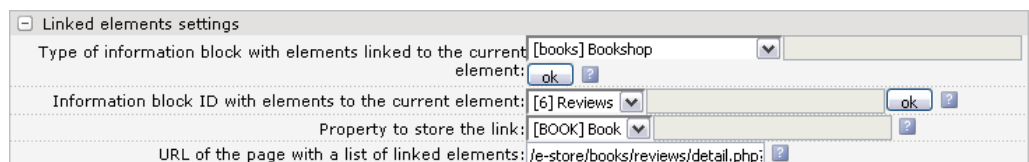


Fig. 4.34 Configuring the bound elements to show the reviews


§ Configure other parameters if needed.

□ Click **Save** to save the component parameters.

Now, the component main page should look similar to the following illustration (fig. 4.35):

Demo Bookstore

- [Adventure Fiction \(4\)](#)
- [Business & Investing \(3\)](#)
- [Children's Books \(4\)](#)
- [Computers & Internet \(4\)](#)
- [Fantasy \(3\)](#)
- [Science \(6\)](#)
 - [Chemistry \(2\)](#)
 - [History & Philosophy \(3\)](#)




[A Sending Of Dragons](#)

Quarter cloth with boards. First edition.

Retail price: ~~\$45.00~~

[Compare](#) [Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)



[Developing Feeds with RSS and Atom](#)

This step-by-step guide offers bloggers, web developers, and programmers an understanding of content syndication and the technologies that make it possible. It highlights all the new features of RSS 2.0, and offers complete coverage of its rival technology, Atom. Confidently teaches you how to produce your own data feeds to syndicate news and blogs.


Retail price: ~~\$40.00~~

[Compare](#) [Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)

Fig. 4.35 The catalog main page in the public section

The section page (fig. 4.36):

Business & Investing




[Create the Perfect Sales Piece](#)

A self-instructional guide to producing brochures, catalogs, fliers and pamphlets...

Retail price: ~~\$46.55~~

[Compare](#) [Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)



[Viewpoints of a Commodity Trader](#)

The psychological aspect of trading is considered by many to be the most important. In this classic, veteran trader Roy Longstreet explores many areas that are of psychological significance to the futures trader and offers guidance on how to deal with each effectively.


Retail price: ~~\$30.60~~

[Compare](#) [Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)

Fig. 4.36 The catalog section page in the public section

The element (book) details page (fig. 4.37):

Create the Perfect Sales Piece



Pages: 243
Publisher: **John Wiley & Sons**
Published: **1995**
Author(s): [Robert W. Bly](#)

Retail price : **\$46.55**

[Buy](#) [Add to cart](#)

A self-instructional guide to producing brochures, catalogs, fliers and pamphlets. From initial concept development through final publication, this step-by-step handbook covers all phases of literature production including marketing strategy, copywriting, photography, illustration, design, mechanicals, printing, folding, and binding. Also discusses the ten basic types of visuals and how to use them, how to find and work with outside vendors, freelancers, and agencies, how to estimate the cost of a job, how to estimate printing costs, and much more. Includes many samples outlines for annual reports, product brochures, service brochures, and catalogs.

[Back to the section](#)

Fig. 4.37 The book details page

The component has so many parameters that you can easily fine-tune every functional or visual aspect of it to match the requirements of your site. One composite component commutes for about nine simple components saving time and sparing strength required to create so many pages.

Chapter 5. Final Notes

This manual has given you some insight of using the **Information blocks** module to create the product catalog.

You can ask your questions at the Bitrix corporate forum:

<http://www.bitrixsoft.com/support/forums.php>,

Should you have any difficulty using Bitrix Site Manager, do not hesitate to send a request to the technical support service:

<http://www.bitrixsoft.com/support/index.php>.