

What We Wish We Knew Before We Migrated

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Your old system has way more idiosyncrasies than you realize

- Vendors
- Location codes
- Dummy records
- Duplication galore

Data mapping forms are more challenging than you expect



- Alma configuration form
 - Policies primarily
- III to Alma migration form
 - Libraries, locations, item statuses, types, users, fines/fees, etc.
- III to Alma field mapping form
 - Mapping III fields to ExL fields
- Validation tool
 - Make sure all your data extracts are valid
- P2E
 - Which records are electronic



Implementation is not what you're expecting

What we thought would happen

- Other Iowa institutions assured us that this migration was easy
- Documenting the process and everything we did
- Handholding

What *did* happen

- It was not easy.
- Mad scramble
- Rogue Librarians and Staff!

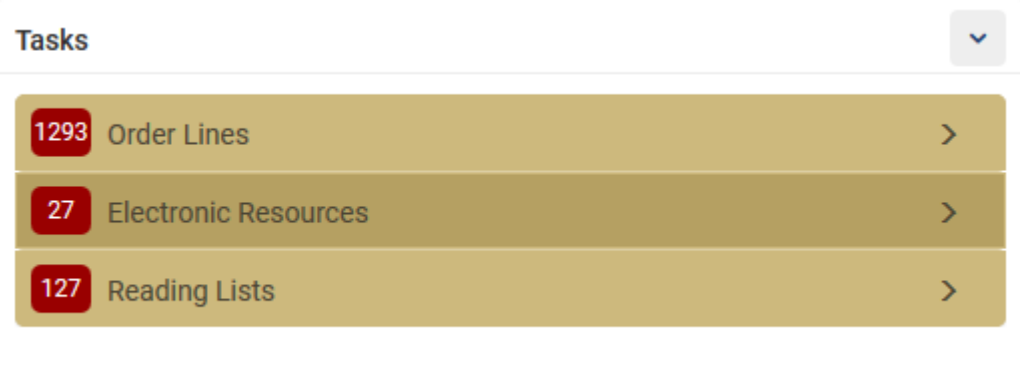
It's *really, really* difficult to migrate as a small institution

- You do the same amount of work, whether you have 30 people to do it...or 5.



Workflows aren't what you're expecting – you still need to know your own processes

- We heard Alma had workflows and tasks lists...and thought that would streamline our processes.
- In actuality, these workflows are only labels for processes that already exist.
- Tasks lists are only as good as the people who use them.



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