

Movie Catalog Application - User Guide

Overview

The **Movie Catalog Application** allows users to browse, manage, and stream movies stored locally or on a Samba (SMB) network drive.

The application runs as a lightweight web server, providing a simple web-based interface for accessing your movie collection.

Features

- **Browse and Play Movies**: Navigate through your movie library and stream videos.
- **Local and Network Storage**: Supports local disk storage and Samba (SMB) shares.
- **Admin Settings Page**: Configure catalog settings via a password-protected page.
- **Chapter Selection**: Supports multi-part movies with chapter selection.
- **Resume Playback**: Automatically resumes video playback from the last watched timestamp.

Installation & Setup

Prerequisites

- **Java 8 or later** installed on your system.
- If using a Samba (SMB) share, ensure network access is configured.

Running the Application

1. **Download and extract** the application files.
2. Open a terminal or command prompt and navigate to the application directory.
3. Run the following command to start the server:

```
``sh
java -jar MovieCatalogApplication.jar
``
```

4. Once started, the server will be available at:

```
``
http://localhost:8080
``
```

(Port can be changed in the settings.)

Using the Application

Accessing the Catalog

- Open a web browser and navigate to `http://localhost:8080``.
- Browse movies categorized by folders (Genres or Series).
- Click on a movie title to start playback.

Watching Movies

- The movie will play in an embedded video player.
- **Resume Playback**: The player will resume from where you left off.
- **Restart Movie**: Click the **"Start from Beginning"** button.
- **Back to Library**: Click **"Back to Library"** to return to the catalog.

Navigating Chapters

- If a movie has multiple parts, a **Chapter Selector** dropdown will appear.
- Choose a chapter from the dropdown to jump to that section.

Configuring Settings

Accessing the Settings Page

1. Open `http://localhost:8080/settings`.
2. Enter admin credentials (default: `admin` / `admin``).
3. Modify the available settings:
 - **Movie Directory (Local)**: Set the folder where movies are stored.
 - **Storage Type**: Choose between `Local Disk`` or `Samba Drive``.
 - **Samba Configuration**: Enter the network path, username, and password for SMB access.
 - **Server Port**: Change the default web server port (8080).
 - **Catalog Title**: Customize the catalog's display name.
 - **Admin Credentials**: Update the username and password for settings access.
4. Click **Save** to apply changes.
5. The server will automatically restart to apply new settings.

Troubleshooting

Application Won't Start

- Ensure Java is installed (`java -version`).
- Check if another process is using port 8080 (`netstat -an | find "8080"`).

Unable to Access Samba Movies

- Verify the Samba server is online.
- Ensure the correct username and password are entered.
- Try accessing the SMB share manually (`smb://192.168.x.x/movies`).

Video Won't Play

- Check if the video file is accessible in the **movies** folder.
- Try playing the file in a local media player to confirm it works.
- Ensure the browser supports HTML5 video formats (`MP4``, `MKV``).

Conclusion

The **Movie Catalog Application** is a lightweight and user-friendly way to organize and stream your movie collection. Whether using local storage or a Samba network share, it provides a smooth browsing and playback experience.

Happy Watching! 🎬