

Group management when using Bookstack with Keycloak

Bookstack supports OIDC protocol and if you decide to use Keycloak as Single Sign On for Bookstack you can also assign users to Bookstack roles via Keycloak.

Keycloak can not automatically create the roles on Bookstack so the first step is to create the roles on Bookstack.

In order to manage users and groups via Keycloak you will need to follow the steps below:

1 - Go to the Bookstack admin panel

```
https://<your-bookstack-domain>/settings/roles
```

and click Create New Role. Check existing roles to get an idea of the permissions.

User Roles

Create New Role

Roles are used to group users & provide system permission to their members. When a user is a member of multiple roles the privileges granted will stack and the user will inherit all abilities.

Search

Sort

Name



Bookstack Admin

Administrator of the whole application

8 users assigned

57 permissions

Bookstack Editor

User can edit Books, Chapters & Pages

27 users assigned

37 permissions

Bookstack Public

The role given to public visitors if allowed

3 users assigned

10 permissions

Bookstack Viewer

User can view books & their content behind authentication

24 users assigned

10 permissions

2 - Choose a name for the role. Use the pattern Bookstack + Name of the role because we will later need to create this on Keycloak and it will be easier to identify if the name of the role starts with Bookstack.

Create New Role

Role Details

Role Name

Bookstack Staff

Short Description of Role

☐ Requires Multi-Factor Authentication

External Authentication IDs

3 - Choose the permission you want members of this role to have and then click Save role.

System Permissions

[Toggle All](#)

- ☐ Manage all book, chapter & page permissions ¹
- ☐ Manage permissions on own book, chapter & pages ¹
- ☐ Manage page templates
- ☐ Access system API
- ☐ Export content
- ☐ Import content
- ☐ Change page editor
- ☐ Receive & manage notifications
- ☐ Manage app settings
- ☐ Manage users
- ☐ Manage roles & role permissions

Be aware that access to any of the above three permissions can allow a user to alter their own privileges or the privileges of others in the system. Only assign roles with these permissions to trusted users.

¹ These permissions will technically also provide visibility & searching of users & roles in the system.

Asset Permissions

These permissions control default access to the assets within the system. Permissions on Books, Chapters and Pages will override these permissions.

Toggle All	Create	View	Edit	Delete
Shelves Toggle All	☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Books Toggle All	☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Chapters Toggle All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Pages Toggle All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Revisions Toggle All	–	☐ All	–	Controlled by page delete permissions
Images Toggle All	☐	Controlled by the asset they are uploaded to ¹	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Attachments Toggle All	☐	Controlled by the asset they are uploaded to	☐ Own ☐ All	☐ Own ☐ All
Comments Toggle All	☐ ²	Controlled by the asset they are uploaded to	☐ Own ² ☐ All ²	☐ Own ☐ All

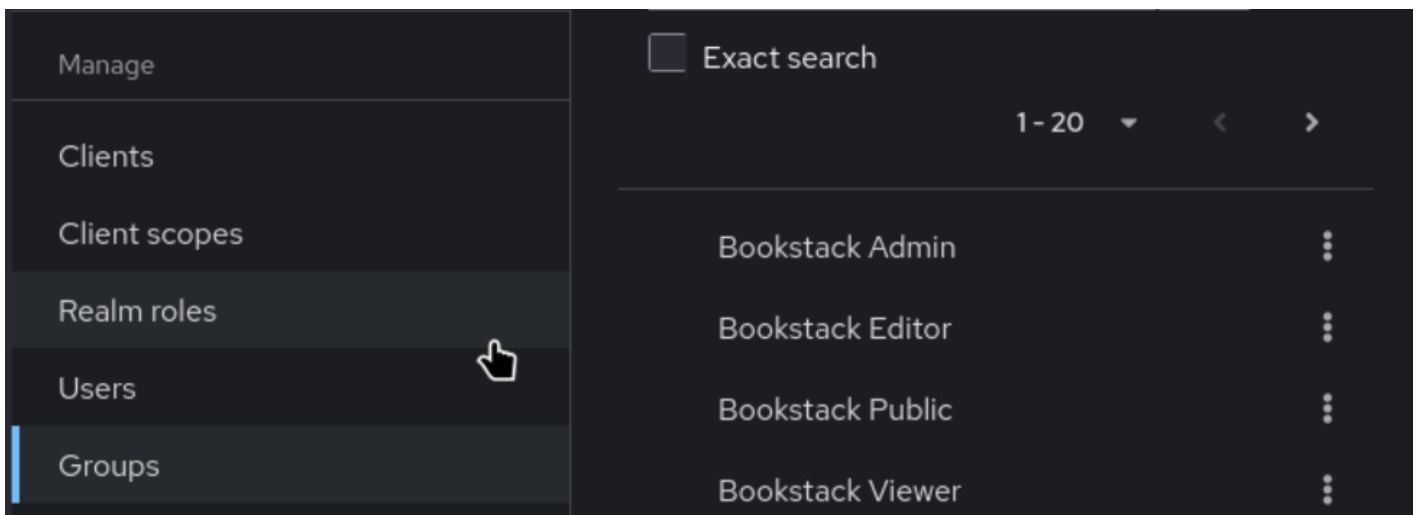
¹ This is related to visibility within the image manager. A set of pages of uploaded images (flow) will be dependent upon system images.

This is all that is needed to be done on the Bookstack.

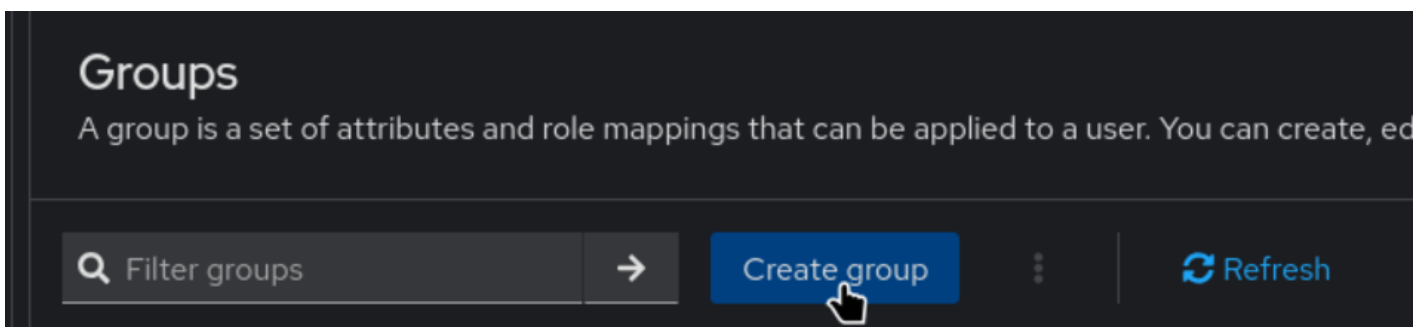
4 - Now go to your keycloak admin panel

`https://<your-keycloak-domain>ce.org/admin/`

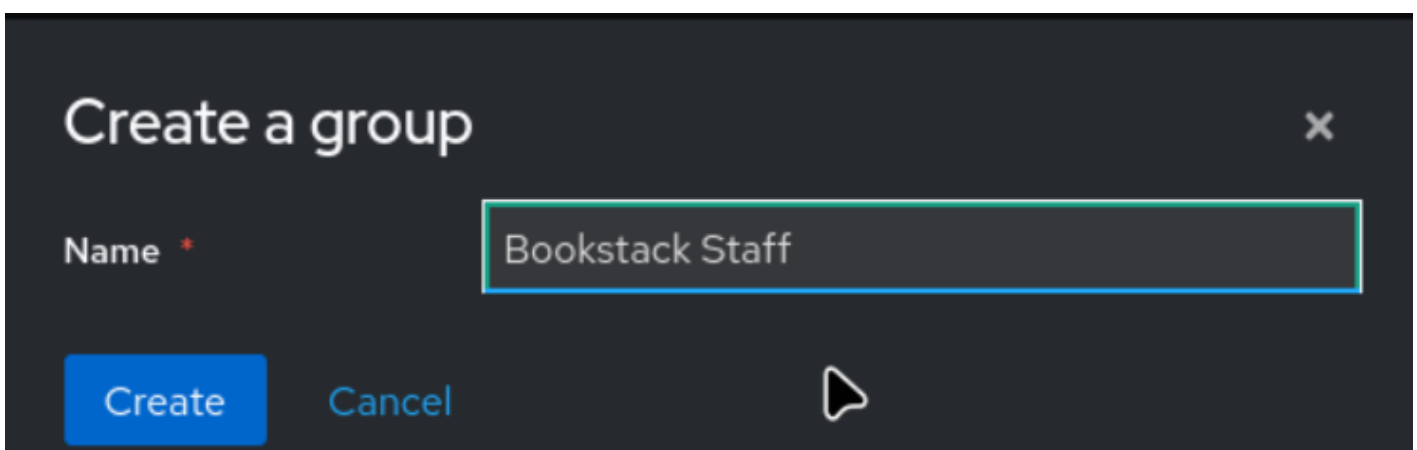
and click on Groups on the sidepanel



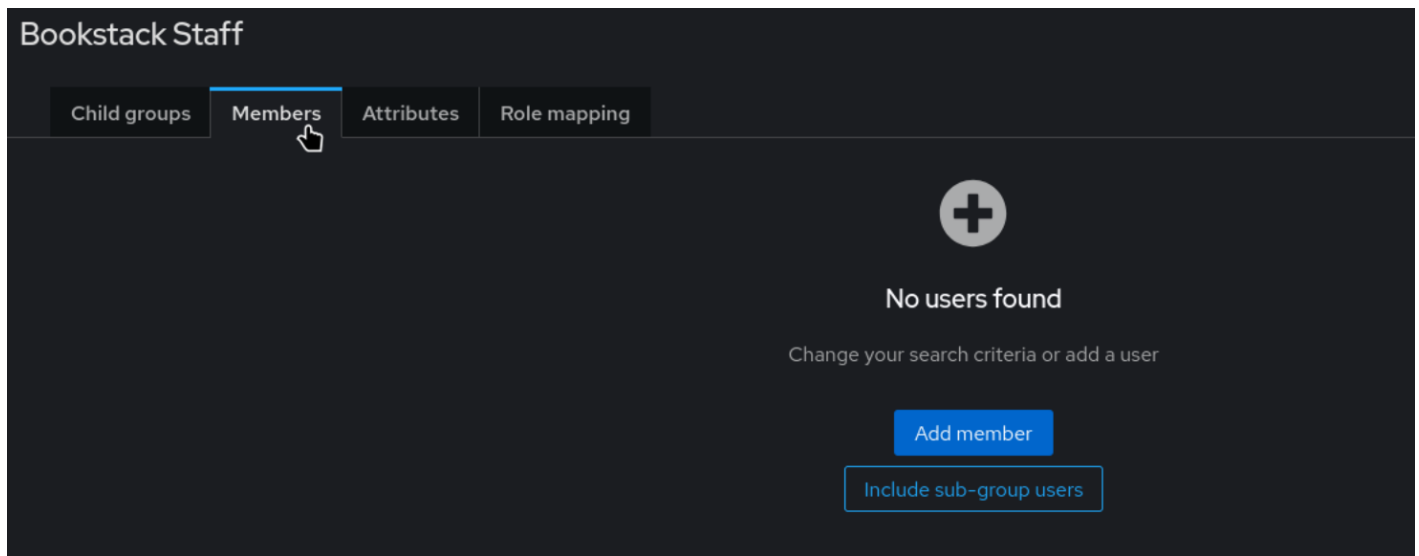
5 - Click on Create group so we can mirror the roles creates on Bookstack.



6 - Use the name you used on the Bookstack role.



7 - Once the role on Bookstack is created and the Group on Keycloak is created all you have to do is go to Members of the group on Keycloak to add existing users to the group.



8 - For new users, assign them to the group when creating the new user. Steps on creating a new users and adding them to groups are here <https://docs.cloud68.co/books/single-sign-on-sso/page/how-to-create-a-user-on-keycloak>

After creating the roles with permissions on Bookstack and mirroring the group to Keycloak the user management is done on the Keycloak side. Users will need to log out and log in again in order to have the permissions of the roles they are assigned to.

Revision #1

Created 2026-09-24 10:11:27 CET by Irdi

Updated 2026-09-24 10:37:21 CET by Irdi