Learn how to mass merge duplicate shared authorities and find information about the Authority Key in Amlib.

**Mass merge duplicate shared authorities**

This is a process where the system will automatically mass merge any Shared Authorities (for example: Subject headings or Authors) that have identical Search Keys without User Intervention.

The fuller Authority is retained, and the shorter version merged with it.

Note: This option should be used with caution as some Authors may have the same name but in fact are different Authors – for example: John Smith (1866 - 1924) and John Smith (1948 -) are different authors but they have the same Search Key (Authority Key) – these would be merged if this option is run.

**What is the Authority Key?**

An Authority Key is the actual Database Key. It is how the Authority is stored by *Amlib* in the database. It is used for searching purposes within *Amlib*.

- You can see an example of the current Authority Key by going to Main > Supervisor > Authorities and searching for an authority – for example: Peter Carey

  - The Authority Key appears in GREY BOLD text below:

```text
Author - Personal name

Carey, Peter, 1943-

CAREY PETER 1943

Security  0     Group: LIBRARY
Tag No    100

Sub  Date
a  Carey, Peter,
d  1943-
```

https://help.oclc.org/Library_Management/Amlib/Authorities/Merge_duplicate_shared_authorities

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Merge the Shared Authorities

1. Launch the Amlib client

2. Go To Main > Authorities > MarcTagMaintenance – the Marc Tag Maintenance screen will display:

3. Enter the following settings:
   ◦ 1. Choose the Marc Tag Maintenance Task: select Mass Merge Duplicate Shared Authorities
   ◦ 2. Specify which Marc Tags(s) to apply the change to: click the Select Tags... button – the Select Tag(s) screen will display:
Select the Marc Tag(s) to which to apply the task (for example: 650 | Author – Personal Name) and click the OK button

2. Specify which Marc Tag(s) to apply the change to:

- The 3. Select other options relating to the maintenance task box will be greyed out
- The 4. New subfield type box will be greyed out

4. Click the F3 Start button to begin the task process – once the process is completed a prompt will display how many Authority records were merged:

XXX Authorities have been merged into XX Authorities.

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5. Click the **OK** button