WHAT IS THE ONLINE “HOLD” SERVICE?
When searching NovaCat, you may now put a hold on up to 20 items on most circulating books, DVDs, audio books and CDs. No more calling the circulation desk to request a hold! In most cases, the library will process your hold request within two business days. However, the process will take longer for items that are already checked out.

WHAT CANNOT BE PLACED ON HOLD?
- Non-circulating items: items from Reference or Special Collections
- High demand items: reserves, study rooms, laptops, and any hourly loan
- Electronic resources: e-books and online journals
- Items already on loan to you, or that you have already requested

WHO CAN REQUEST A HOLD?
Any local NSU faculty, student, staff or public Alvin Sherman Library card holder in good standing (there are no overdue books or outstanding fines on your account) may use the online hold service. NSU distance students will use the ILLiad service to have library materials shipped to their homes. Public patrons can only put holds on Alvin Sherman Library materials.

HOW DO I PLACE A HOLD?
1. Locate the item in NovaCat.
2. Click on the “Hold for Pick-up” button.
3. Enter your username and password.
4. Specify a “Cancel if not filled by” date if you need an item before a certain date.
5. If your request is successful, you will see a confirmation message on the screen.

You will be notified on the screen immediately if your hold request was unsuccessful.

Some reasons a hold could not be placed:
- You already have 20 items on hold. That’s the maximum number of holds allowed.
- You already have an unfilled hold on the item.
- You already have the item checked out.
- You have overdue items and/or you owe money.
- Your library record has expired.

WHEN A HOLD REQUEST IS SUCCESSFUL, NovaCat will place your name in the hold queue for the next available copy. It can take up to two business days to pull an item already in the library after you place the hold. If other holds are ahead of yours or the item is checked out by someone else, it will take longer. To verify the status of your hold request, log in to your NovaCat account. You will get notified via email when the item is ready for pickup. Items ready for pickup are kept at your library’s pickup location for a maximum of five days.

PICKUP LOCATION
When your hold request is filled, you will receive an email message informing you to pick up your item. There are 5 pickup locations: the circulation desks of the Alvin Sherman Library, Health Professions Division Library, Law Library, North Miami Beach and the NSU Oceanography Library.