# URL Shortening

Many URLs are very long. This makes formatting difficult for small screens and also makes it difficult for readers to retype the URL if they are reading it from a PDF or printed book. To help improve accessibility in this way, the system automatically applies a URL shortener to any links that are longer than a certain number of characters.

In some cases, however, URL shortening may not be desirable. To prevent URL shortening, you can do one of the following:

1. **Change the displayed text in the link to descriptive text.** This is preferable from a usability perspective, because it explains to the reader where the link will take them rather than providing a meaningless text link.
2. **Disable URL shortening for the book.** In the book's settings, you can turn off the "URL Shortening" setting to prevent this feature from being used across the book.

Read this online at <https://edtechbooks.org/userguide/url_shortening>