

# Text Input Search from Hosted List

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## Description:

The **Text Input Search from Hosted List** extension enables a **search-ahead** (autocomplete) experience on text input fields using values pulled from a hosted CSV list (e.g., Google Sheets). Users can either pick from suggested entries or, optionally, enter custom values.

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## Setup Instructions

### 1. Required Metadata for Search-Ahead

On any text input field, add the following metadata:

- **Key:** `search_list_url`
- **Value:** Public CSV/Google Sheets URL to load options from

#### Optional Attribute:

- **search\_ahead\_min\_chars:** Minimum characters to trigger dropdown (default is 3)

By default, the extension validates that submitted values match a record from the list. To turn off the validation on the **same text input**, add this field-level metadata:

- **Key:** `skip_auto_match_validation`
- **Value:** `true`

This will **bypass the strict match requirement** during form validation.

## Notes

- The extension automatically detects whether your CSV source is a Google Sheet and fetches it using export formatting.
  - Style definitions for the autocomplete dropdown are inserted into the body tag automatically.
  - Ensure your CSV contains a single column of valid options.
  - You can apply this to multiple fields by assigning `search_list_url` metadata to each.
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