



BMBridge Lite — User Manual

Complete reference for BMBridge Lite

BMBridge Lite 1.0.1 · SDE-Software (SDES.DEV)

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Version: Lite 1.0.1 **Publisher:** SDE-Software (SDES.DEV) **Purpose:** Serve user-entered custom price notes to Bookmap Cloud Notes over local HTTP.

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1. Overview

BMBridge Lite is a lightweight Windows application that allows the user to author custom price notes, render them to CSV files in Bookmap's Cloud Notes format, and serve those CSV files on `127.0.0.1` over HTTP so that Bookmap can poll and render them as chart annotations.

The program does not source, import, or redistribute market data. All note content is entered manually by the user.

2. System Requirements

- Windows 10 or 11
- For source execution: Python 3.10+, PyQt6, pandas
- A running Bookmap installation with Cloud Notes support
- A local firewall that permits loopback (`127.0.0.1`) connections

3. Installation and First Launch

Installation

- **Compiled EXE:** place `BMBridge_Lite.exe` in any folder with write access. The settings file and all CSV outputs are created next to the executable.
- **Source:** run `python BMBridge_Lite.py` from the folder containing the script.

Windows SmartScreen and Antivirus

The EXE distribution is not code-signed. On first launch Windows SmartScreen will display a "**Windows protected your PC**" dialog. Click **More info** → **Run anyway** to proceed. The warning does not reappear on subsequent launches on the same machine. Some third-party antivirus products may also prompt once or require an exception for `BMBridge_Lite.exe`. This is a known consequence of shipping unsigned Python-compiled executables and is unrelated to program behavior.

Single-Instance Enforcement

Only one copy of BMBridge Lite can run at a time on a machine. Attempting to launch a second instance displays a message box and exits immediately. If the program appears to be missing, check the system tray — it may be minimized there.

First Launch

On first launch, an **About / Disclaimer** window appears. The user must click **I Understand & Accept** to proceed. Clicking **Decline & Exit** closes the program. The acceptance flag is persisted in `bridge_lite_settings.json`; the disclaimer does not reappear on subsequent launches.

The About window can be reopened at any time using the **About** button in the top-left of the main window.

4. Interface Reference

Left Panel (fixed, 260–360 px)

Element	Purpose
Status light	IDLE (red) when servers are stopped, LIVE (green) when running
About / Guide buttons	Top-right of the header; reopen disclaimer or quick-start guide
Global Bookmap Symbol	Default symbol applied to all feeds without an override
START / STOP SERVERS	Toggles all HTTP servers and the sync loop
Last Sync	Timestamp of the most recent CSV write pass
Active Feeds	Summary list of configured feeds (name, LED, symbol)
Add Feed	Creates a new feed tab (maximum of two)
UI Font Size	Small / Normal / Large / X-Large / XX-Large — applies immediately
Sync Interval (sec)	Frequency of CSV write passes. Minimum 0.5
Close Button Behavior — Minimize to tray	If checked, closing the window hides to tray; servers keep running
■ Minimize to Tray Now	Hides to tray on demand
Activity Log	Timestamped log of events, errors, and warnings

Right Panel (Tabbed)

Each tab is a single feed and contains:

- **Header:** Broadcasting checkbox, Name field + rename button, Port, server LED, URL (read-only) + Copy URL, Symbol Override, Last polled timestamp, ■ Delete Feed button
- **Entry Form:** Load/Save Template, Description, Price, Align, Draw Line, Text Color, BG Color, Preview, ADD NEW / UPDATE
- **Sort Toolbar:** Name ▲ / Name ▼ / Price ▲ / Price ▼
- **Note Cards:** one card per note, with enable, SEL, color badge, line toggle, reorder, clone, delete

Every interactive control has a tooltip — hover to see a short explanation.

5. Feeds

Creating a Feed

- Click **Add Feed** in the left panel. A new tab is created with a default name (**Feed N**) and the next available port starting at **8000**.
- Maximum of two feeds.

Configuring a Feed

- **Name:** edit the Name field and press Enter or click the green check. Name is used in the CSV filename. Only letters, numbers, spaces, -, and _ are accepted. Duplicates across feeds are blocked.
- **Port:** edit the Port field. If the port is already in use, a **Port In Use** dialog explains and the server does not start.
- **Symbol Override:** optional per-feed Bookmap symbol. If blank, the Global Bookmap Symbol is used.
- **Broadcasting:** checkbox controls whether the feed's HTTP server is live. Toggling it while servers are running immediately starts or stops that feed's server.

Deleting a Feed

Click the **Delete Feed** button in the feed header. A confirmation dialog shows the number of notes that will be lost and the CSV file that will be deleted from disk. Deletion requires at least one feed to remain.

6. Custom Notes

Adding a Note

- 1 Select the target feed tab.
- 2 Fill in **Description** and **Price**. The Price field accepts digits and one optional decimal point only (for example **6840.00**, **4500.5**, **-1.25**). Scientific notation, letters, commas, and multiple decimals are rejected at input time.
- 3 Select **Align** (Left / Center / Right).
- 4 Toggle **Draw Line** for a horizontal price line on the chart.
- 5 Pick **Text Color** and **BG Color**.
- 6 Click **ADD NEW**.

Editing a Note

- Click **SEL** on the note card. The entry form loads with that note's values and the **UPDATE** button becomes enabled.
- Modify any field and click **UPDATE** to save.
- **ADD NEW** is disabled while a note is selected. Click **SEL** again to deselect.

Enabling / Disabling a Note

Uncheck the enable checkbox on the note card to omit it from the CSV output. The note is preserved in the feed and can be re-enabled at any time.

Reordering, Cloning, Deleting

- ▲ / ▼ — move the note up or down within the feed.
- ■ — insert a copy of the note directly below the original. The clone's description is suffixed with (copy).
- ■ — permanently delete the note. There is no undo.

Sorting

The **Sort** toolbar sorts the entire feed by Description or Price, ascending or descending. Sorting is destructive to the note order; there is no undo.

7. Color Templates

The Load / Save Template buttons live above the Description field on each feed tab.

Saving

- Click **Save Template**. Enter a unique template name.
- Choose **Colors only** or **Colors + Text**. "Colors + Text" also saves the current Description field contents.
- Names can be reused across sections — a **Red** Colors-only template and a **Red** Colors + Text template are independent. Attempting to overwrite a template with the same name in the same section triggers a confirmation dialog.

Loading

- Click **Load Template** to open the selector.
- Templates are grouped into two sections: **Colors Only** (loads only colors) and **Colors + Text** (loads colors and replaces the Description field).
- Each template is shown as a colored button preview. Click to apply.
- Use the trash icon to delete, or the arrows to reorder within the section.

Templates are stored globally and are available to all feeds.

8. Connecting Bookmap

- 1 Start BMBridge Lite servers.
- 2 Copy the feed's URL using the **Copy URL** button, for example `http://127.0.0.1:8000/Feed_1.csv`.
- 3 In Bookmap, open the Cloud Notes / Custom Notes configuration panel for your version.
- 4 Paste the URL as a new Cloud Notes source.
- 5 Configure the Bookmap-side poll interval.
- 6 Save. The notes render as chart annotations.

Authoritative reference: <https://bookmap.com/knowledgebase/docs/KB-Appendices-All-CustomNotes>

CSV Output Format

The CSV served to Bookmap contains these columns in order:

```
Description, Symbol, Price Level, Note, Foreground Color, Background Color, Text Align  
ment, Draw Note Price Horizontal Line
```

Only enabled notes are written. The sync loop rewrites the CSV at the interval set by **Sync Interval (sec)**.

HTTP Server Behavior

Each feed's HTTP server binds to **127.0.0.1** on the configured port. The server only serves the feed's own CSV file — all other paths return HTTP 404. Directory listings are disabled.

9. Monitoring & Alerts

Each feed header displays a **Last polled** timestamp that shows when Bookmap last fetched the CSV. The label updates every sync tick:

- **Last polled: 14:32:07 (3s ago)** — polled recently
- **Last polled: —** — no server running for this feed (Broadcasting off, or servers stopped)
- **Last polled: never** — server is live but no polls have come in yet

Stale-Poll Toast

If a feed's server is live but no polls have been received for **2 minutes (120 seconds)**, a system tray balloon notification appears:

> **BM Bridge — Feed 1** > No polls received for over 2 minutes. Check that Bookmap Cloud Notes is still pointed at this feed.

A warning is also written to the Activity Log. The alert fires once per stall — if polling resumes and then stalls again later, the alert re-fires.

Stopping and restarting the feed (via the Broadcasting checkbox or a full STOP → START cycle) resets the poll timer, so a re-started feed will not immediately fire a stale-poll alert.

10. Settings Reference

Setting	Location	Description
Global Bookmap Symbol	Left panel	Default symbol for all feeds
UI Font Size	Left panel	Small (10) / Normal (12) / Large (14) / X-Large (16) / XX-Large (18)
Sync Interval (sec)	Left panel	CSV rewrite frequency, minimum 0.5
Minimize to tray on close	Left panel	If checked, close button hides to tray
Feed Name	Feed header	Drives CSV filename and URL
Port	Feed header	TCP port for the feed's HTTP server
Symbol Override	Feed header	Per-feed symbol; blank uses the global value
Broadcasting	Feed header	Starts/stops the feed's server immediately when toggled

All settings persist to `bridge_lite_settings.json` on change.

11. System Tray Behavior

- A blue / BMBridge Lite tray icon is created on launch (if the system tray is available).
- If **Minimize to tray** is enabled, closing the main window hides the app to the tray and servers continue running in the background.
- The **Minimize to Tray Now** button in the settings card hides the app on demand, regardless of the checkbox state.
- Double-click the tray icon, or right-click and select **Show**, to restore the window.
- Right-click and select **Quit** to stop servers, save settings, and exit.
- Stale-poll toasts also surface as tray balloon notifications.

12. Data & Settings File

- **Settings file:** `bridge_lite_settings.json` in the same folder as the executable (or script).
- **CSV output files:** one per feed, named `<Feed_Name>.csv`, in the same folder.
- The settings file is written atomically (`.tmp` + rename) to reduce corruption risk.
- Back up `bridge_lite_settings.json` before making manual edits.

Settings File Schema (summary)

```

global_symbol      : str
tab_keys           : list[str] # UUIDs
sync_interval     : float
ui_font_size      : int
presets           : dict      # { "colors": {...}, "colors_text": {...} }
close_to_tray     : bool
disclaimer_accepted : bool
manual_data_<key> : list[dict] # one entry per feed
tab_name_<key>    : str
<key>_port        : str
<key>_srv_enabled : bool
feed_symbol_<key> : str

```

13. Troubleshooting

Symptom	Probable Cause
Server fails to start for a feed	Port in use by another program — dialog explains. Change the port.
Bookmap does not render the notes	Incorrect URL in Bookmap; Bookmap polling disabled; firewall blocking loopback
Feed header shows "Last polled: never"	Bookmap has not polled yet, or is pointed at a different URL
Stale-poll toast appears	Bookmap stopped polling for >2 minutes. Verify Bookmap's Cloud Notes source
CSV file locked warning in the log	Another program (often Excel) has the CSV open; close it
Notes show wrong price on chart	Verify price entry; Bookmap caching — force refresh in Bookmap
Program does not appear to exit	It may be minimized to tray; right-click tray icon and select Quit
"Already Running" dialog on launch	Another instance is live; check the tray or end any orphan process

The Activity Log on the left panel is the primary diagnostic tool. All errors, warnings, and status events are logged there.

14. Known Issues

None material to normal use as of 1.0.1.

Previously-known issues fixed in this release:

- *URL stale after rename* — fixed, URL updates on rename.
- *Duplicate tab names colliding CSV files* — fixed, duplicates blocked.
- *Path traversal via tab name* — fixed, names sanitized.
- *No in-app feed deletion* — fixed, Delete Feed button added.
- *Broadcasting toggle inert during runtime* — fixed, starts/stops server immediately.
- *Stale-poll timer not resetting after restart* — fixed.
- *Price sort mis-handling scientific notation* — fixed, prices validated at input.
- *Empty template name silent no-op* — fixed, shows warning.
- *Same-named templates overwriting across types* — fixed, now stored by (section, name).
- *Settings file unicode corruption* — fixed, UTF-8 throughout.
- *HTTP info disclosure* — fixed, server restricts to feed's CSV only.
- *Rapid-interaction crashes* — fixed, defensive guards added.

15. Limitations

- Maximum of two concurrent feeds.
- Notes are user-entered only. There is no CSV import, no data source integration, no automated level generation, and no hit tracking.
- The HTTP server binds to `127.0.0.1` only. Remote access is not supported and not recommended.
- Sort and delete operations have no undo.
- The program is Windows-first; other platforms are not tested.

16. Disclaimer

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