

FACT SHEET

Introduction to eResources



ABOUT

eBooks are digital versions of traditional books and are a great option for educational or recreational reading. They come in various formats and may use web access only or may require additional software to be installed on your computer or device.

Some eBooks require users to simply enter their library card number to access material whereas other eResource platforms require users to set up an additional account with a user name and password.

Benefits:

- eBooks allow for user flexibility and mobility and are great for people who cannot get to a physical library
- Great for reading or browsing at home, work, or while travelling.
- eResources do not attract fines like traditional library lending materials do.

Hurstville LMG eLibrary includes:

- Overdrive eBooks: Online books in digital and audio format
- OneClick Digital: Audio books
- Tumblebooks - Talking picture or animated books, graphic novels and puzzles for children.
- Instantflix: A film streaming catalogue containing short films and documentaries covering all genres, including international and local film festival favourites and award winners.

What about "borrowing"?

- The eBooks you borrow are managed separately to your physical library items. Items are automatically checked in once your borrowing period ends.
- Licence restrictions with subscriptions such as Overdrive and OneClick only allow one user to borrow a specific title at a given time - while you can borrow several titles at a time, multiple users cannot borrow the same title at the same time.
- Users can easily place a hold on items that are not currently available by using the "Place a hold" function.
- Some resources like TumbleBooks are browser based only - you can download a web page to view but you cannot borrow. Titles are available for all users to view at all times.

Keeping up with available technology:

- eBooks are relatively new technology, and as such the digital resources environment is dynamic and constantly changing.
- There are a variety of devices for reading and listening to eBooks and audio books. Device compatibility with some e-library platforms can vary. If in doubt, check the Help pages specific to your device, or check with your manufacturer regarding their licence conditions.

DIGITAL RIGHTS MANAGEMENT:

Digital Rights Management (DRM) is used to control use of eBooks (access, copying, printing, sharing etc). Due to DRM, some suppliers limit the amount of access and the compatibility of devices to available resources through libraries. For example, Overdrive requires the installation of an Adobe Digital Editions with an Adobe ID.

Availability of titles:

- The titles that are available through online stores compared with those provided through libraries can vary significantly. Like many libraries, Hurstville library only has access to the titles available through their suppliers, for which we are licensed as part of a subscription.

Device Compatibility

- Ensure you check device compatibility and geographic restrictions when choosing a device. Some devices will allow you to download titles multiple times, while others will only allow one download.
- View the list of devices compatible with **Overdrive's eBook and eAudio service**. Formats vary (depending on the publisher/provider), and may or may not be compatible with your device. Eg Kindle is not compatible with Overdrive in Australia. For a list of available formats visit this Wikipedia entry on **Comparison of eBook formats**

TROUBLESHOOTING, HELP AND FAQs

- Should you experience difficulties with eBook services or downloading titles please re-read the information on this page and verify the compatibility of your device.
- If you are having difficulty using the library's eLibrary / eBook services, we recommend you:
 - Try re-setting and verifying your password on your account
 - Visit the Help pages and browse the FAQs for a question that relates to the issue.
- If you cannot resolve your problem, please **contact us** using the form on our website, providing your full name, library member number and contact details, and the details of the digital resource and eBook title you want (ie Overdrive) and any specific error messages. We will endeavour to resolve your query.