

E-BOOK AND E-READERS :AN OVERVIEW



e

book

Adding another
dimension to
the written word

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Thiruvananthapuram

Introduction

- Increasing penetration of the internet in all areas of life, is significantly changing reading pattern and reading behavior.
- E-books can be considered as a further book format in addition to paperback and hardcover.
- In future , our reading could be mainly digital and the fact that e-readers are one of the emerging technologies, we need to understand what these devices are suitable for.
- E-books can be accessed from any where at any time and free from time lag with an internet connected computer. Thus it satisfies the five laws of library science.

Definition of E-book

- The Oxford Dictionary of English defines the e-books as “**an electronic version of a printed book**” but e-book can and do exist without any printed equivalent. E-books are usually read on dedicated hardware devices known as “**E-Readers or e-book devices**”
- E-books are digital versions of printed books which are distributed through the internet.
- It can be read on e-readers, tablets, personal computers smart phones and also on some mobile phones.

Benefits of e-book

- E-book promotes reading.
- E-book preserves books.
- E-books are easily updatable for correcting errors and adding information.
- E-books are globally searchable.
- E-books can be portable.
- E-books can be printable.
- E-books defy time.
- E-book defies space.

Continues..

- E-books can be hyperlinked for easier access to additional information.
- E-book with additional software and hardware can read aloud to you.
- E-books with their capacity to storage, encourage the publishing of books with many pages, books that might be too expensive to produce and purchase in paperback
- E-books defeat attempts at Censorship.
- E-book posted online encourage comments, corrections and feedback, which eliminate mistakes and improves accuracy especially important when dealing with scientific and technological issue.

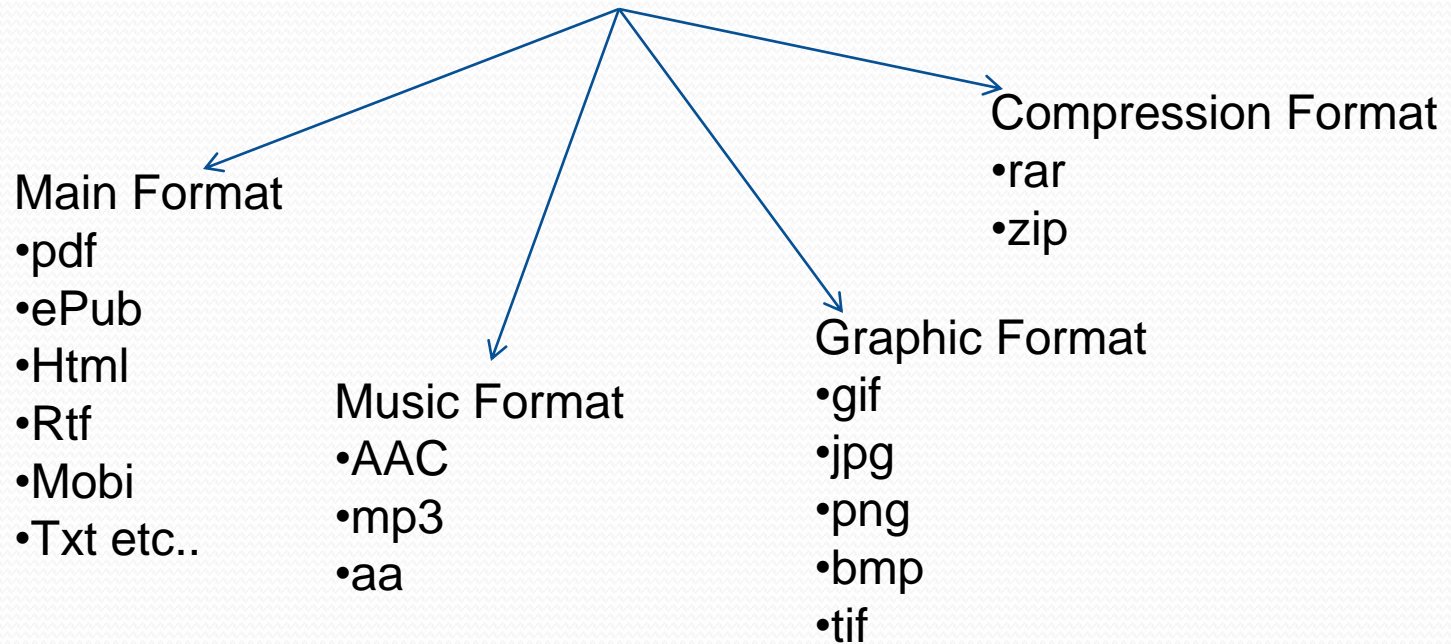
Limitations of e-book

- E-books formats and file types continue to develop and change through time through advances or developments in technology or the introduction of new proprietary formats.
- Not all books are available as e-books.
- The shelf list of a printed book exceeds that of an e-book reader, as over time, the readers battery will drain and require recharging.

Continues...

- E-books and software can easily track data, times, usages, pages and details about what one is reading and how often.
- Books with large pictures (such as children's books) or diagrams are more inconvenient for viewing and reading
- The screen resolutions of reading devices are currently lower than actual printed material.
- Due to digital rights management, customer typically cannot resell or loan their e-books to other readers.

E-book Format



E-reader

- E-reader promises a comfortable computer free experience for reading.
- It does not require background lighting. Easy to read even in direct sunlight.
- Do not consume a lot of battery.

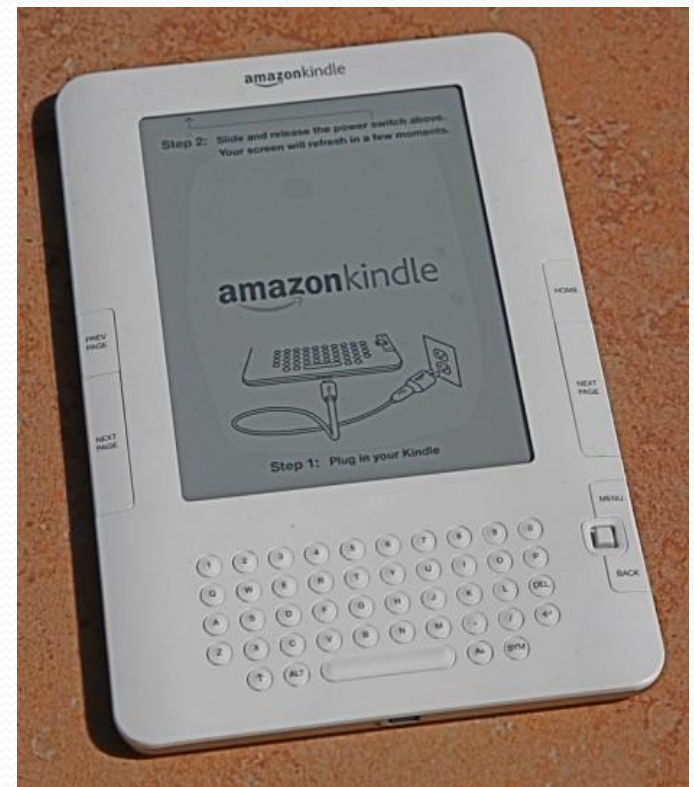


Examples of e-readers

Wink



Amazon Kindle



Examples of e-reader

- Sony Reader
- Android Devices
- Apple ios Devices
- Nook
- Pocket book
- Cybook
- Kogan ebook Reader
- Alex eReader
- eReader WiFi etc

Advantages of e-book reader technology

- Have the ability to store multiple books on a single device.
- Compact and lighter in weight than the equivalent number of printed books.
- Tremendous versatility and instant accessibility.
- Convenient to carry, easy to learn to use, and some have backlit screens so they can be used anywhere, even in the dark.
- Have capabilities useful for book reading such as the ability to electronically bookmark a page, highlight passages, and search for words or phrases.

Continues...

- Copyright Protection: The e-book reader make use of Digital Rights Management.
- Radical Transparency

E-reader Limitation

- Inconvenient in the sense that e-readers represent yet another device that the user must purchase and learn to use.
- Standards for e-books are still in development, so an e-book for one type or brand of e-reader may not be readable on another..
- Potential need for technical support.
- Readability factor.

Continues...

- Must buy replacement if device breaks.
- Battery life/cost issues.
- Potential environmental burdens associated with electricity use.
- Users find some e-readers awkward and uncomfortable to use because the screen images scroll up and down instead of left to right like a conventional book

Electronic Publishing

- Electronic publishing or ePublishing includes the digital publication of ebook and electronic article, and the development of digital libraries and catalogs.
- It has become commencing in scientific publishing.
- Distribution via the internet (online publishing or web publishing)is strongly associated with electronic publishing.

Creation of e-book

- E-books are produced simultaneously with the production of printed format.
- E-books also produced from pre-existing hard copy, generally by documents scanning.
- Use of robotic scanners, having the technology to quickly scan books without damaging the original print edition.
- Scanning a book produces a set of image files, which may be converted into text format by an OCR program.

continues...

- Some e-text projects, a book may be produced by re-entering the text from a keyboard.
- Electronic book can be converted to printed book by print on demand.
- There are exceptions as tradition dictates that a book be launched in the print format and later if the author wishes an electronic version is produced.

Major open acces ebook providers

- Freebookspot (<http://www.freebookspot.in/>)
- 4ebooks (<http://4ebooks.org>)
- Free-ebooks. (<http://www.free-ebooks.net>)
- manybooks (<http://manybooks.net>)
- Getfreeebooks (<http://www.getfreeebooks.com>)
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- Book yards (<http://www.bookyards.com>)
- digital.library.upenn.edu/books/(<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>)

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- Open J Gate (<http://www.openj-gate.com/>)
- Bentham Science (<http://www.bentham.org/index.htm>)
- Springerlink(<http://www.springerlink.com/content>)
- BiomedCentral(<http://www.biomedcentral.com/>)
- Saudigastro(<http://www.saudijgastro.com/>)
- Hindawi(<http://www.hindawi.com>)
- Biogeosciences(<http://www.biogeosciences.net/>)
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- Vidyanidhi(<http://www.vidyanidhi.org.in/>)
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- National science digital library (<http://nsdl.niscair.res.in/>)
- Authorised Content Management
(<http://portal.acm.org/dl.cfm>)
- Online Books Page(<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>)
- Digital Library of India(<http://www.new.dli.ernet.in/>)
- Childrens Library (<http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>)
- Knowfree (<http://knowfree.net>)

Role of ebook for professional development and research

- E-book helps the research scholars and students by giving more possibility of access and media of learning.
- Accessed from anywhere at any time and free from time lag .
- The books need not go out-of-print.
- Researchers can create a personal book library from the collections they holds.
- Can be carried and transferred anywhere.
- Changeable font size makes it easy for use.
- Searchable and navigable through links are provided.

Conclusion

- E-book can promote better knowledge delivery/accessibility and long lasting knowledge repository, hence the readers should make use of this facility to keep abreast with the e-book technology.
- The printed book will not disappear overnight. Continuing trend in the balance between print and e-books will definitely support the users.
- E-books are changing the methods by which people read, as it is easy to use and are rapidly becoming a viable alternative. It is providing growing advantages over the traditional printed medium.



Thank You

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