

# Putting downloaded library eBooks on your Sony Reader

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## Overview

This guide tells you how to download an eBook from the TBLC Digital Media web site (OverDrive Catalog), then transfer it to your Sony Reader. Sony makes several models of the Reader. These instructions should work with all of them.

## Step One--Finding a book

On your computer, browse to <http://digitalbooks.tbtc.org> This site contains eBooks and audiobooks that you can borrow just as you would any other library material. The site is shared by seven libraries in west central Florida: Heartland Library Cooperative, Hernando County, Hillsborough County, New Port Richey, Pasco County, St. Petersburg College, and State College of Florida—Manatee/Sarasota. If you have a library card at any of these libraries, you can use this service. All of the material on this site is purchased from a company called OverDrive, so we will refer to it as the “OverDrive” catalog.

If you need any help figuring out how to use the site, click on the *Digital Media Home* tab near the top of the screen. Look for six squares, numbered 1 through 6. Click on Square 1. Choose [Guided Tour](#) or [Quick-Start Guide](#). Better yet, do both.

## Step Two--Using Adobe Digital Editions

OverDrive uses the *Adobe Digital Editions* software to manage its electronic copyright rules for eBooks. (This is also called DRM or Digital Rights Management.) You will have to install *Adobe Digital Editions* on your PC in order to get an eBook from the OverDrive Catalog to your Nook. Here is how you do it.

Click on *Digital Media Home* to get to the main page of the OverDrive Catalog. Look down the left side of the screen until you find the blue, underlined link to *Adobe Digital Editions*.

Click on that link, then click on “Get ADOBE DIGITAL EDITIONS”.

This will take you to a page on the Adobe site. If you have time, read the page. If you’re in a hurry, find the **Download now** link near the top of the screen on the right, and click it.

This will take you down the screen to the *Adobe Digital Editions* Installer. *Adobe Digital Editions* requires *Adobe Flash* in order to run. If you do not already have *Flash* on your PC, the Installer will install that first, then install *Adobe Digital Editions*. There may be several steps on your PC, so read what the Installer box says, and follow its instructions.

If you have a fast Internet connection (5 Mbps or faster) this should take less than a minute. If you have a slower connection, it will take longer.

*Adobe Digital Editions* will launch itself, as soon as it is installed. It will then ask you if you want to create an Adobe ID and “authorize” the PC you are using. Say “yes”. All you need is an email address

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and a password of six characters or more. Adobe will step you through the process and will associate the MAC Address of your PC with your Adobe ID.

Your PC's MAC address is like the VIN on your car. It identifies your PC as positively as your VIN identifies your car. You can associate up to six devices (PC's or eReaders) with one Adobe ID. When you download a book from the OverDrive Catalog, you can put it on all six of these devices at the same time, if you want to. Think of the devices as a "family" of PC's and eReaders that Adobe and OverDrive will allow to "share" the same book.

## Step Three--Downloading a book to your PC

Now that you have *Adobe Digital Editions* on your PC, you can return to the OverDrive Catalog and download an eBook. Here is how to find one in a hurry.

Click on *Digital Media Home*, then click on *Advanced Search*, which is just below the main search box.

Click the down arrowhead in the box that says **All formats**, then click on *Adobe EPUB eBook*

Now, click a check into the box near the bottom that is labeled "Only show titles with copies available"

Now click *Search*

Sort the displayed titles by title, creator, release date or whatever you wish, then scroll through them.

When you find one you like, click on **Add to Cart**, then click on **Proceed to Checkout**

Click on the down arrowhead at the end of the **[select library]** box and click on your home library

Enter your library card number. If you are asked for a PIN, enter that also.

Click on **Confirm check out**

Click on **Download**

When asked whether you want to open or save this file, click on *Open*

This will cause *Adobe Digital Editions* to open on your PC, and within a few seconds the book will download and show you its cover.

You can read the book on your PC, and *Adobe Digital Editions* makes this easy and pleasant, but we won't stop here. We want to get the book onto your Sony Reader.

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## Step Four--Transferring the eBook to your Sony Reader

Leave *Adobe Digital Editions* open, but “close” the book you downloaded. You can do this by clicking on the icon in the upper left that looks like three book spines standing together. If you float your cursor over it, you will see “Go to Library view”.

Find your Sony reader and the cable you use to charge it with.

Make sure your Reader is powered ON. It can be asleep, but not OFF.

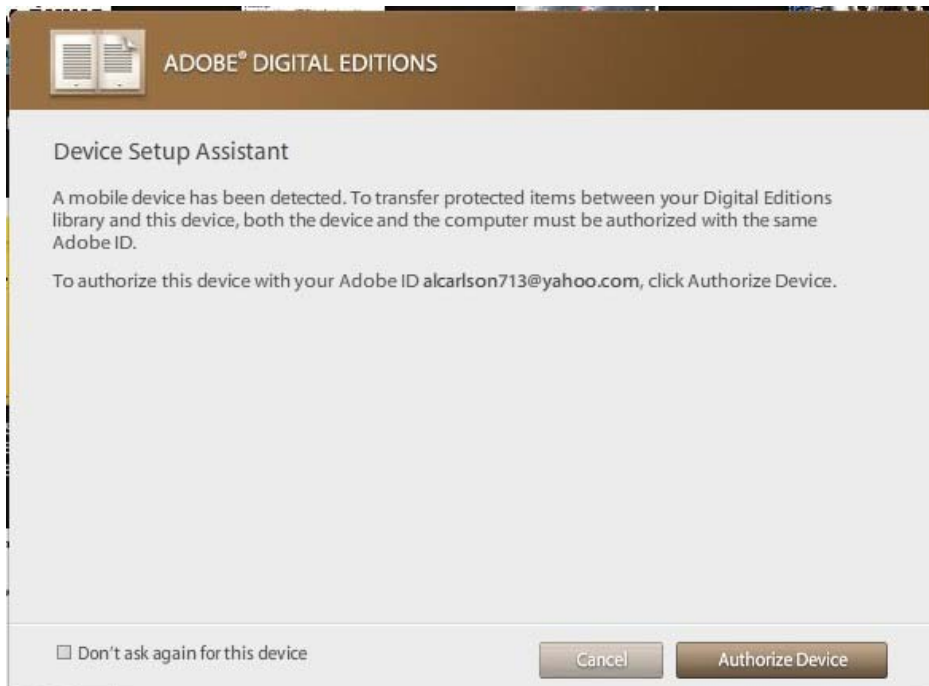
Connect the small end of the cable to your Reader, as you do when you are charging it.

Connect the USB end to any USB port on your PC. The USB end has a “right side up” and will go in only one way. Don’t try to force it in upside down.

Your PC and the Reader will introduce themselves to one another and to *Adobe Digital Editions*.

At this point, two separate programs may try to run at the same time. One is *Adobe Digital Editions*. The other is *Reader Library*, a Sony program that is similar to—but not identical to—*Adobe Digital Editions*. Either one may pop up first on your PC. They may even come up at the same time. We’ll deal with them one at a time here, and I will arbitrarily cover Adobe first.

You will then see a pop-up window that will look something like this



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The pop-up on your PC will display the Adobe ID that you just created a few moments ago.

Click on **Authorize Device**.

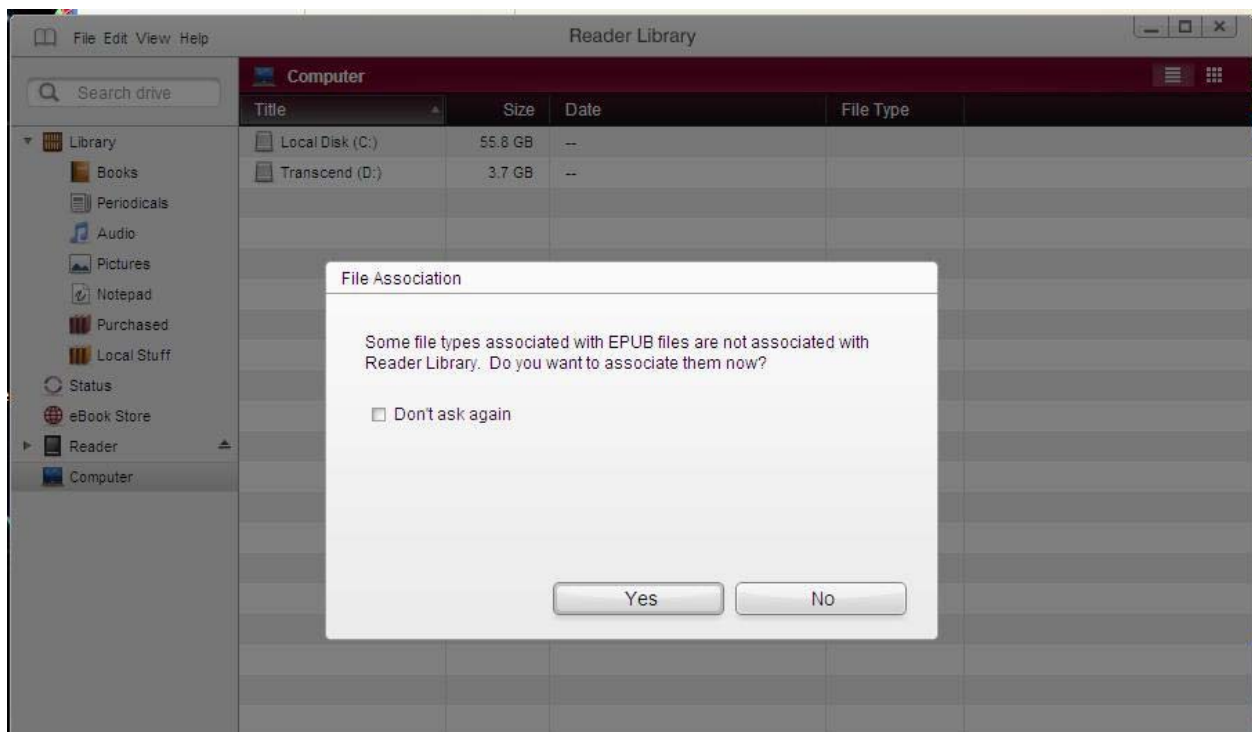
Adobe will add your Reader to the “family” of devices that can share the book you just downloaded.

Once Adobe had authorized your Reader, it will appear (in *Adobe Digital Editions*) as its Model Number (e.g. PRS-600) at the bottom of the list of Bookshelves on the left side of your screen.

To transfer the eBook that you just downloaded to your Reader, just click on its cover and drag the cover onto the “PRS-600” or whatever model displays on your screen. While you are dragging the cover, you will see a red circle with a white X inside it near your cursor. When you are close enough to the Reader for the transfer to work, the red circle will turn green, and the X will become a + (Plus sign). When you see that, just “drop” the book cover, and it will transfer to the Reader very quickly. That’s right—transfer is just “drag and drop”.

## Step Five—Dealing with *Reader Library*

As your PC and your Sony Reader talk to one another when you first connect them, your Sony Reader will probably launch a program called *Reader Library*. This is an eBook management program that Sony wrote. It is similar to Adobe Digital Editions. When it loads the first time, it will offer you the chance to let it be your default eBook management software. Here is what the screen may look like:



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Click a check into the box that says “Don’t ask again”, then click on “No”. Then close the *Reader Library* window behind the question box. The *Reader Library* software is not “bad” software, but it is not supported by OverDrive, and they will neither be willing nor able to help you with problems that come up while you are using it.

## **Step Six--Reading the eBook on your Sony Reader**

You can download and transfer several more books, if you want to. You can borrow up to ten at a time from the OverDrive Catalog. Or you can stop with one, so you can see how it works on the Sony Reader.

When your Sony Reader is fully “loaded”, find the icon on the right side of your taskbar (at the bottom of your PC screen) that says “Safely remove hardware”. It is a gray rectangle with a green arrow above it, pointing left. When you click it, you should see the words “Safely remove...” and a reference to the Drive Letter your Sony Reader is using.

Disconnect your Sony Reader and choose “Books”

When that folder opens, choose the book you just borrowed, and just read it.

When the book is due, it will stay on your Reader, but will be ‘dead’ and unreadable. You should delete it to save space.

## **Summary**

This process seems awkward and complicated the first time you do it, doesn’t it? However, you only have to install and authorize *Adobe Digital Editions* once. From then on, you can visit the OverDrive Catalog, find the eBooks you want, check them out, download them to *Adobe Digital Editions*, connect your Reader, and just drag them onto it.

For more OverDrive and eBook guides, go to <http://sites.google.com/a/tblc.org/digital-delight>

--Al Carlson 11-23-2010