

eBooks in Libraries NEFLIN 2010 Annual Meeting

Recent trends in libraries using eBooks:

Q: What other advantages are there to eBooks?

Q: What is the future of eBooks in libraries?



- Patron driven acquisitions
- 24/7 Access to eBooks
- Reduced load on Circ/Tech Services
- the ability to own eBook titles
- Enhanced ADA support
- Unlimited simultaneous access
- ILL support
- Full text search
- Free MARC records
- Downloadable to devices

The Amazon Kindle:

- e-ink
- ~700,000 books
- 1 month battery life

The Apple iPad:

- Color LCD screen
- Supported by 5 of 6 largest publishers + many others
- Interactive iBooks
- Web/Video streaming
- 10 hour battery life

Q: Imagine the perfect eBook reader. What does it do?



The iPod redefined how the world listened to music. Initial sales of the iPad suggest it will be at least as successful.

Should this happen:

- 1 in 8 Americans will own an iPad
- 25% of all books sold in the world will be iBooks on the iPad
- 70% of all digital media (music, video&eBooks) sold in the world will go through the iTunes store
- ~100% of all mainstream movies, music & TV will be available on the iPad

Q: What is the future for the print Book in libraries?

Q: How will libraries compete with an industry designed for direct business^o to consumer sales?



eBooks

Can I buy eBooks for the library or do I have to lease access?

Depending upon the vendor you may do both. Some vendors, like ebrary, allow libraries to buy eBooks and self-host.

Do I have to pay the vendor to host my eBooks?

If a vendor hosts your eBooks you will have to pay a small fee. However, some vendors, like the eBook Library, waive this fee if you purchase more than \$3,000/year in eBooks.

Can I easily add eBooks to my catalog?

Yes. Many eBook vendors supply free MARC records. Some will even compare your existing catalog before sending the records to remove duplicates.

Is there an eBook "format war" like we had with Beta and VHS?

There are currently three major ebook formats, ePub, MOBI (used by Amazon) and PDF. The iBook format used by Apple is a variation of the ePub and could be considered a fourth. However, unlike the days of Beta and VHS, nothing must be manufactured when a publisher (or Author) creates an eBook. Software exists allowing works to be created in multiple formats at once. In other words creating an eBook in many different formats is not a difficult process.

eReaders

What is e-ink?

e-ink is a display technology that uses tiny black and white particles to create images on screen. The particles are shifted using positive and negative charges. The use of particles is what gives the e-ink an authentic print look.

Is e-ink better for reading books than a traditional computer screen?

e-ink has some clear advantages over LCD. It is readable in direct sunlight, uses less power and some tests have show it to be easier to read. However, e-ink does not currently support color and cannot display motion or video. In essence the superior technology is the one that best meets your needs.

Library eBook Vendors

What is Patron Driven Acquisition?

Patron driven acquisition allows libraries to load the record of eBooks into their catalog without actually buying them. Only after a patron finds and selects the title to read is the library charged.

Library eBook Vendors

What is the main difference between the eBook vendors?

eBook vendors offer different terms for access. Some do not allow offline reading. Some do not support ILL or consortial buying. Access may be limited to one user per book or allow for unlimited simultaneous access. Most vendors have ~200,000 titles (as of Summer 2010) and supply free MARC records.