

Listen NJ/ Ocean County Library Quick Start Guide

What are digital audio books?

Digital audio books are similar to audio books, but can be downloaded to your home computer. Digital audio books can be played either on your PC, or PC based MP3 player or burned to a CD-Rom and listened to on a CD player.

What is ListenNJ?

ListenNJ is a 24/7 service that gives you access to digital audio books from your home computer. ListenNJ offers access to fiction, biographies, business and career, children's literature and learning aids, current events, history, mystery, romance, suspense, religion, spirituality, and self-improvement through the Ocean County Library website: www.theoceancountylibrary.org, or www.listennj.com.

Accessing the Digital Audio Book Collection

To access digital books at ListenNJ, you will need:

- A valid library card
 - Access to the Internet
 - Free software for the computer and/or device on which you wish to use the material you download from this site.
 - An MP3 player or CD player (*Sorry, IPODs are not currently compatible!*)
- Windows Media Player® 9.0 or better Materials can be checked out and downloaded in the OverDrive Media Console™ format.

Please note that digital downloads can be enjoyed at home, at work, or when you travel, but are generally not for use on the computers in your library. In addition, this service is NOT compatible with iPODS/ Apple products.

Step 1: Download & Install Free Software

As a first step, you will need to install free software.

OverDrive Media Console™ is required for listening to digital audio books. OverDrive Media Console™ utilizes Windows Media Player® 9 Series or newer, to play files. The first time that Windows Media Player® attempts to open a protected file, it will alert you that a Security Update must be performed before the file may be opened. The update takes just a few moments, and is a one-time process that must be performed before Microsoft Windows Media Player® will allow any copyright-protected files to be played.

Step 2: Register Your Free Software

Before you check out a digital book, you'll need to activate the software that you downloaded. You only need to activate the software once for each machine on which you'll use the material.

Step 3: Check Out, Download, and Enjoy

You can browse or search this site for downloadable materials. When you locate a title of interest, simply add it to your cart and check out the title.

If a desired title is not available, you may place a hold on the title.

Once you have checked out a title, a download page will be displayed. Click the download link to start the download. Once the download is complete, you can close your Internet connection and enjoy the materials offline.

You will never accrue late fees with titles you download from this website. At the end of the two-week loan period, titles will expire and be automatically “returned” to the library. At this time, you can delete the expired file(s) from your machine.

Basic Audio Book Search

Search for a book under the Digital Book Search column:

- By author, title, or all
- Browse the collection by availability in Always Available, Recently Added, Try These and Classics
- Browse the collection by genre in Fiction: All Fictions, Mystery and Thrillers, Romance Science Fiction and Fantasy and Children’s Fiction
- Browse the Non-Fiction collection by subject: All Nonfiction, Biography and Autobiography, Business, Self-Help, Learn a Language
- Select your book by clicking the “add to cart” link, your cart will then be displayed.
- To select another book, click on Continue Browsing, or if you are finished, Proceed to Checkout
- Select Ocean County Library from the dropdown menu and type in your library card number

You are now ready to download your selection to the Windows Media Player®. After the book has been transferred you have three options:

1. Listen to the audio book on your PC
2. Burn the audio book to a CD-Rom
3. Sync the audio book to your MP3 player

Troubleshooting

The most common problem when attempting to download a book is your computer’s firewall, if you have one.

- If you are running Norton Internet Security, you will need to set up a rule to allow it to accept downloads from OverDrive.
- Check your Windows XP firewall. If an error message says you need an Internet connection.
 - Check the Windows Media Player® connection. To do so, open the Windows Media Player®, go to Tools, Options. Under Player Settings select the option that says Connect to the Internet.

Need more information? Have a question not covered on this page, or on the troubleshooting tips from ListenNJ? Click on Ocean County Library’s website to send an email requesting additional assistance. Click on the “Library Catalog” scroll down to Catalog Comments. When emailing please send as much information as possible.

Your operating system and the browser you are using
Do you have a firewall?
Steps to replicate the problem
Screen shots would be helpful
Exact text of error message
Anything else you can think of that might be helpful