

## Quick Guide to

# OverDrive READ

### What is OverDrive Read?

OverDrive Read is a new way of reading eBooks in your **web browser**. There is no need to download software or transfer files across devices – just open up the web browser on your smartphone, tablet or computer and start reading.

### How do I find OverDrive READ books?

1. Go to **elibrarynj.com** in your web browser.
2. Login before searching to see thousands of eBooks available only to OCL customers! Click '**Sign In.**' Select Ocean County Library, then 'Go.' Type your library card # without spaces. Click 'Sign In.'
3. Click on 'Advanced Search' (right side of page).
4. In the Format field, choose '**OverDrive READ.**'
5. Click '**Show only titles with copies available**' if you want something to check out immediately. Otherwise leave box unchecked to see all titles, including those with waiting lists. Click '**Search.**'
6. In your results, on each book cover, you will see a small picture of an open book. This picture will be dark gray if the book is available and light gray if there is a waiting list. Select a book. To borrow, tap '**Borrow**'; to read a Sample, Tap 'Sample'; to add it to your Wish List, tap the ribbon; to see a description, tap 'More.' If title is unavailable, tap 'Place a Hold' & type your email address. When notified by email, checkout within 3 days; or opt for auto checkout.
7. After you tap 'Borrow,' you will see your bookshelf which displays items checked out.
8. Click '**Read (in your browser).**' Bookmark the page in your web browser for offline viewing.

### Why read an eBook in a web browser?

Your eBooks are stored in the **cloud**, which means you can read across a number of different devices and your eBooks will sync so that you don't lose your place. Modern web browsers will save the books in the browser cache, so you can read even when you're not connected to the internet.

### What is a web browser, again?

Your web browser is the software you use to browse and search the internet – the most popular browsers are Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, Firefox and Safari on the desktop, and Safari (on iOS devices) and Chrome on mobile devices.

### Can I read my eBook if I'm not connected to the internet?

Yes! When eBooks are first opened up in a web browser they cache – or save – for offline access. If there are eBooks you think you might want to read offline we recommend you **bookmark** them in your web browser when you first open them up. If you're using an iPhone, iPad or iPod Touch, you can add them to your home screen as web-apps. If you clear your cache or delete temporary internet files, you will need an internet connection to open and download (or cache) the eBook again.

Please note that some OverDrive Read eBooks (especially graphic-heavy ones) are too large to be completely cached (downloaded). So, when you select the download button, you'll only be able to save part of the book.

### **Which devices are compatible with OverDrive Read?**

Any device with a modern web browser. The latest versions of all major web browsers support the full range of features required for full use of OverDrive Read, including offline support.

Some devices (such as Sony e-readers and Kindle Keyboards) are not ideal as their browsers are too basic. The best way to test if your device is compatible is to try it out with a free sample book. Check compatibility here: <http://readinfo.overdrive.com/about/compatibility>

### **Can I read eBooks on my iPad – or other iOS devices?**

Absolutely. Just open up your OverDrive Read eBook in the **Safari** web browser. For easy access to your book either **bookmark it or 'Add to Home Screen'** – the latter will make your eBook into a pretty web-app. Bookmarking or adding your eBook to the home screen will also save it for offline reading.

### **Can I read eBooks on my Kindle, Nook or Sony e-reader?**

OverDrive Read works with any device that has a modern web browser.

The native browser on a Kindle Fire or Fire HD is Kindle Silk. You may need to set the browser to only show mobile sites for Read to work properly.

Some devices (such as Sony e-readers and Kindle Keyboards) are not ideal as their browsers are very basic, while some e-readers don't have browsers at all.

### **My browser says I need to install a 'Chrome Plugin'. What does that mean?**

Google provides a free plug-in for some browsers that don't support aspects of HTML5 and CSS3 that OverDrive Read uses.

Because OverDrive Read is based on these standards, your browser requires the plug-in in order to display an eBook correctly. Thankfully the Chrome Plugin is small, safe and very quick to install.

Be aware that the **Chrome plugin doesn't support offline caching** – so if this feature is important to you, you might be better off installing an alternative web browser.

### **Can I return a book before the lending period is over?**

Yes. You can return OverDrive Read eBooks at any time as long as you haven't downloaded the title in another format. If you have, then you may have to use the OverDrive app or Adobe® Digital Editions to return it.

### **How to take notes and highlight text in an OverDrive Read eBook**

OverDrive Read allows you to take notes and highlight sections of text in an eBook so that you can go back to your favorite sections, or jot down your thoughts on a particularly moving passage. See the following link for details: <http://help.overdrive.com/customer/portal/articles/1481525>