

eReaders and eBooks

The February 2nd, 2010 General Forum meeting topic of the Front Range PC Users Group was eReaders. This document provides additional information on sources of eReaders, and also sources of eBooks. These lists are not exhaustive. If you don't find what you are looking for, try a search using Google on either eReaders, eBooks, or "free eBooks."

EBOOK HARDWARE

eSlick Reader: FoxIt

<http://www.foxitsoftware.com/ebook/overview.html>

jetBook: ECTACO

<http://www.jetbook.net/?refid=29532>

Kindle: Amazon's New Wireless Reading Device

http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B000FI73MA/ref=pe_21800_9485350_pe_k1

Nook: Barnes and Noble

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/nook/>

Que proReader: Plastic Logic

<http://www.plasticlogic.com/>

Sony Portable Reader

<http://ebookstore.sony.com/reader/>

FREE EBOOK SOURCES

Alpha Publishing House

<http://www.alphapub.com/>

A small number of free books and essays based on the work of Richard W. Wetherill.

Baen Free Library

<http://www.baen.com/library/>

A number of free, primarily science fiction, books.

BookGlutton

<http://www.bookglutton.com/>

This web site describes itself as a "New way to read on-line with friends." Some books are free, some are not. Various categories (fiction, non-fiction, etc.) are available.

Bookyards.com » Library to the world

<http://www.bookyards.com/>

On the home page of this web site is this statement: "Our goal is to be "The Library To The World", a web portal in which books, education materials, information, and content will be freely to anyone who has an internet connection."

Civil War - Harper's Weekly

<http://www.sonofthesouth.net/>

"This web site features an online archive of original Civil War Harper's Weekly newspapers."

Although not a source of eBooks, this web site is included in this list as a sample of the many quality free resources available on the internet.

eBooksRead

<http://www.ebooksread.com/>

This web site claims to have over 200,000 books in its catalog (all free). You can search using the alphabetical list, or there is a search function (untested). It is clear that English is not the first language of the creators of this web site.

eSlick eBooks

<http://www.eslickbooks.com/>

There is a "Free eBooks" category on this web site.

e-Sword - the Sword of the LORD with an electronic edge

<http://www.e-sword.net/>

On the home page of this web site is this statement: "e-Sword is a fast and effective way to study the bible."

eZine Articles

<http://ezinearticles.com/>

This web site provides access to short magazine-style articles. From the web site is this description: "EzineArticles.com is a matching service -- bringing real-world experts and

ezine publishers together. Expert Authors & Writers are able to post their articles to be featured within the site."

You can view the articles for free. All articles are (apparently) in web format (HTML), so if you want to load an article into one of the new eReader devices, you will have to copy it from the display on your computer into a text-capable application (a word processor or text editor), save it, and then load it into the device. The articles cannot be downloaded.

Feedbooks: Public Domain Books

<http://www.feedbooks.com/publicdomain>

Books in the public domain (and some new books) can be downloaded for free in a variety of formats.

Free Classic Audio Books

<http://freeclassicaudiobooks.com/>

While not directly related to the eReader/eBook topic of the February presentation, this web site provides access to free audio books in 2 different formats.

Free Library

<http://www.thefreelibrary.com/>

This web site is from a company that provides online reference products, including the Free Library.

This description was extracted from the web site: "The Free Library has offered free, full-text versions of classic literary works from hundreds of celebrated authors, whose biographies, images, and famous quotations can also be found on the site. Recently, The Free Library has been expanded to include a massive collection of periodicals from hundreds of leading publications covering Business and Industry, Communications, Entertainment, Health, Humanities, Law, Government, Politics, Recreation and Leisure, Science and Technology, and Social Sciences. This collection includes millions of articles dating back to 1984 as well as newly-published articles that are added to the site daily."

Free PDF Search Engine

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Internet Archive

<http://www.archive.org/index.php>

From the web site: "The Internet Archive is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that was founded to build an Internet library. Its purposes include offering permanent access for researchers, historians, scholars, people with disabilities, and the general public to historical collections that exist in digital format."

There are movies, live music, audio and "texts" categories. So, although not specifically a source of eBooks, the "texts" category offers access to libraries. The "texts" are, apparently, all scanned images. Compatibility with the new eReaders remains untested.

Internet Public Library

<http://www.ipl.org/>

You will find links to many web sites organized in various ways, including by subject. This is not a direct source of eBooks.

LibriVox

<http://librivox.org/>

LibriVox provides free audio books from the public domain.

ManyBooks.net - Free eBooks for your PDA, iPhone, or eBook Reader

<http://manybooks.net/>

From the web site: "Many of the etexts are from the November, 2003 Project Gutenberg DVD, which contains the entire Project Gutenberg archives except for the Human Genome Project and audio eBooks, due to size limitations, and the Project Gutenberg of Australia eBooks, due to copyright. As of July 2004 most current PG texts are available here, usually within the week of release. There are also public domain and creative commons works from many other sources."

Open Content Alliance (OCA)

<http://www.opencontentalliance.org/>

The Open Content Alliance is not a source of eBooks.

"The Open Content Alliance (OCA) is a collaborative effort of a group of cultural, technology, nonprofit, and governmental organizations ... that helps build a permanent archive of multilingual digitized text and multimedia material. An archive of contributed material is available on the Internet Archive website and through Yahoo! and other search engines and sites."

Project Gutenberg

http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page

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Scribd - Explore Most Popular Documents

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Scribd calls itself "...the largest social publishing company in the world...." Some items are free, some must be purchased. There are several categories offered in addition to books (e.g., Brochures and Catalogs, How-to-Guides and Manuals, etc.). You must register in order to download anything.

The National Academies Press eBooks

<http://www.nap.edu/>

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The Online Books Page

<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/>

This site is hosted by the University of Pennsylvania Libraries. Its purpose is to "...facilitate access to books that are freely readable over the Internet." Note that "readable" and "downloadable" are not synonymous.

The Open Library

<http://openlibrary.org/>

"Open Library is a project of the non-profit Internet Archive (see above)."

"If a book is available in digitized form on Open Library, a "READ ONLINE" button will appear on the page. Additional options are also available on the right for books that are not believed to be in the public domain. This includes options to buy the book at other sites, see if the book is available at your local library, or if it is available in full or in part from Internet Archive or Google Book Search."

COMMERCIAL EBOOK SOURCES

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Here are links to several well-known and two probably unknown sources of eBooks:

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Barnes and Noble

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/>

Borders

<http://www.borders.com/>

eBooks-Online

<http://www.ebooks-online.com/>

eBooks-Online is an Online Publishing company.

Sharing History

<http://www.sharinghistory.com/bookcds.htm>

SharingHistory.com was formed to offer CDs containing scanned images of public-domain publications (older history books and maps). The CD's are not free, but they are inexpensive.

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