Getting Started with OverDrive on Desktop Computers (except Windows 10)

OverDrive eBooks, Audiobooks and Magazines can be downloaded directly to Apple, Android and Windows 10 mobile devices. Refer to the Getting Started with OverDrive eBooks, Audiobooks and Magazines guide.

Finding eBooks and Audiobooks
1. Open the Toronto Public Library’s OverDrive website: toronto.overdrive.com
2. Click on Search to search by title or author or on Collections to browse. Look for the eBook or Audiobook indicator to select the correct format.
3. If the word Available appears in the banner above the book cover, then the book can be checked out immediately. Wait List indicates that all copies are currently checked out and a hold can be placed.

Finding Magazines
1. Open the Toronto Public Library’s OverDrive website: toronto.overdrive.com and scroll down the webpage until you find the Always Available Magazines section.
2. Click on See All. To see more information about a magazine, click on the cover image.

Finding Streaming Video
1. Open the Toronto Public Library’s OverDrive website: toronto.overdrive.com and click on Collections.
2. Under More Collections, click on Streaming Video. To see more information about a video, click on the cover image.

Borrowing eBooks, Audiobooks, Magazines and Streaming Video
1. Click on Borrow button. If there is a Place a Hold button, click on the button to be added to the waiting list.
2. Enter your library card number and PIN (last four digits of your phone number). Click on Sign In.

Placing and Picking Up Holds
1. Tap on the cover image of the item to see the length of the holds (waiting) list.
2. Tap on the Place A Hold button. Type in your email address and then the next Place A Hold button to receive a notification when a copy of the item is available for you.
3. When a copy of the item placed on hold becomes available, it will be held for 3 days. During this time, there is the choice to borrow, cancel or have the item delivered later. Deliver later creates a suspension of the hold for a period of your choice. Your position in the holds list will be maintained.
4. If no action is taken during the 3 days, the hold will automatically be suspended for 7 days. The next time a copy of the item available for you, the hold will expire after 3 days. The courtesy automatic 7-day suspension occurs only once.

Read eBooks and Magazines, Listen to Audiobooks or Watch Videos
1. Click on Loans page then click on the Read now in Browser button (or Listen now or Stream now for audiobooks and video). Do not use the Download button.
2. A new tab in your browser will open and the book or magazine will be available to read. For audiobooks, press the Play button to start the audiobook. Streaming video will start to play right away.
3. Click in the centre of the page to access the OverDrive Read controls to change the display or search the book or Magazine. For Magazines, use Zoom to make the text larger.
4. Use the OverDrive Listen controls to change the playback speed, set the sleep timer, place bookmark or view the Table of Contents (Chapters).

Renewing eBooks and Audiobooks
The place a renewal request option is available 3 days before the end of the borrowing period.

OverDrive items will automatically expire at the end of the borrowing period. Returning early is optional.

Visit help.overdrive.com for help with OverDrive.