



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

## San Diego Public Library

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### **New eBook App Makes it Even Easier to Download San Diego Public Library's FREE eBooks**

*The San Diego Public Library is a Leader in Offering eBooks and Other Technologies*

**San Diego, CA** – Borrowing FREE eBooks from the library just got easier. OverDrive, one of the Library's eBook providers, has launched its Media Console app, which allows San Diego Public Library patrons to wirelessly download eBooks on the go. The app is now available at <http://sdpl.lib.overdrive.com/> for Windows and Mac computers, plus Android, BlackBerry, iPhone/iPad, and Windows Mobile devices. A recent *Wall Street Journal* review of the free app noted the ease and speed of the process. (See [online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748703529004576160421561955208.html](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB20001424052748703529004576160421561955208.html).)

The demand for eBooks has grown tremendously over the last year. According to January 24, 2011 Issue of *Publishers Weekly*, there was a 164% increase in 2010 eBook sales over the previous year. Just since the 2010 holiday season with eReader sales on the rise, the San Diego Public Library has seen an increase of 12% in users of our eCollection. Currently the San Diego Public Library has thousands of eBooks in its Overdrive collection and through other sources, from the latest James Patterson novel to career development guides to finance how-to books.

Anyone who has a San Diego Public Library card can check out eBooks, as well as eAudios, eVideos and other documents in the Library's eCollection. "When I was first looking to purchase an eReader, I was concerned that eBooks were so expensive," said Amy Blum, a San Diego Public Library patron. "When I found out that the Library had so many for checkout, I went right out and bought the reader. I am never without a good book now!"

**-more-**

The Library continues to expand its eBook collection. In 2010, through the assistance of the San Diego Library Foundation and a generous grant from Sony Electronics, the library was able to significantly expand its eBooks collection. As part of that grant, Sony Electronics also donated 17 Sony eReaders that are available for checkout at five locations including the Central Library, City Heights/Weingart Branch Library, Mission Valley Branch Library, North University Community Branch Library and Rancho Bernardo Branch Library. San Diego Public Library was one of the first Libraries in the county to offer free eReader devices for check out by patrons.

The San Diego Public Library system is at the forefront of using modern technologies to better serve the community. The San Diego Public Library was among the nation's first to offer free Wi-Fi Internet access at all its locations. The Library has more than 65 online databases, which allow library card holders to access encyclopedias, photos, biographies, maps, information about health care, and home repair manuals. The Library also has Live Online Homework Tutoring, Text a Librarian, Early Childhood Literacy workstations, and thousands of eAudio books, which are extremely popular with people who want to listen to books on their iPods or in their cars on the way to work.

“The Library continually looks for ways technology can better serve the community,” said Deborah Barrow, San Diego Public Library Director. “Technology is extremely important for bridging the digital divide, promoting literacy, and providing students with the resources they need to succeed now and in the future.”

“The Library Foundation is dedicated to helping the Library fulfill its mission, and we know that technology is an increasingly important way to do that,” said Jay Hill, Chief Executive Office of the San Diego Public Library Foundation. “The Foundation is proud of its partnership with Sony Electronics and so many other corporate and private donors who help make these resources available to the community when they are most needed.”

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The Library's website offers detailed, step-by-step instructions for new eReader users or those unfamiliar with checking out eBooks. The collections are easily searchable by language, genre, rating or intended audience, and are accessible from any computer with Internet access. The eBooks are compatible with a variety of tablets and eReader devices, including the iPad, Sony Readers, Barnes & Noble Nook and Dell Streak 7 tablet.

To view the San Diego Public Library System's eBook collections or for more information on the wide range of technology resources at the Library, please visit [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

**The San Diego Public Library** system consists of the Central Library and 35 branch libraries. Learn about events throughout the system, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library's catalog online at [www.sandiegolibrary.org](http://www.sandiegolibrary.org).

**The San Diego Public Library Foundation** works with community partners and donors to support Library collections and programs, including the Library's selection of eReader devices and eBooks. For more information, please visit [www.SupportMyLibrary.org](http://www.SupportMyLibrary.org) or call 619-238-6620.

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