

eBook Technology: Rights, DRM & Archiving

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E-books and Rights

- First-sale Doctrine
 - Allows libraries to lend items without permission of copyright holder
 - Are e-books owned or licensed?
 - Can it be applied to a virtual object?
 - Lending the e-reader instead of the e-book
- Shifts from ownership to access and from collection to distribution

Digital Rights Management (DRM)

- Technologies used by publishers and copyright holders to limit the use of digital content and devices
- Ensures a continuing revenue stream by limiting transfer of content
- Places limitations on copying, printing and sharing of e-books; limitations vary by provider
- Some providers such as Barnes & Noble place DRM on all books, *including* public domain e-books

Interlibrary Loan and e-books

- Sample language from a license with an e-book provider: *“It is understood that Licensee may not use the Database for the purpose of fulfilling occasional requests from other collections, a practice commonly called Interlibrary Loan.”*
- Few providers allow Interlibrary Loan of e-books
 - Not easy technically in online reading environment
 - Some that do require lending library to print and either mail or fax via Ariel
- Purchase on Demand, e-books and print
 - Necessitates collaboration between ILL, Collection Development, Acquisitions
- Short-term Purchase/Lending of e-books
 - Often based upon the average price of an ILL transaction

Archiving

- Again, ownership vs. access
- Subscribed content: access during active subscription period only
- Purchased content - “perpetual access”
 - Some providers place a copy in an archive on libraries’ behalf
 - Onus placed upon the library to download or request a copy and then provide access if provider goes out of business
 - Some licenses do not allow archival copies to be networked
 - Some functionality may be lost (e.g., ebrary InfoTools)
- Portico/CLOCKSS – archiving/preservation services

e-book Technology Hot Topics

- Harper Collins controversy
 - e-book user's bill of rights, online petition w/ ~60,000 signatures
- University of Washington study on e-readers in an academic setting – not well suited for this type of use
 - <http://www.washington.edu/news/articles/college-students2019-use-of-kindle-dx-points-to-e-reader2019s-role-in-academia>
 - Results of CU-Boulder faculty survey support these findings
- E-readers vs. tablet computers
 - http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/05/05/ereader-tablet_n_857766.html?ir=Books
- E-books being published as apps
 - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LX2Bz6xC4s>

Questions? Comments?

Thank you!

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