

OverDrive® AND OUR DIGITAL LIBRARY

Why do I have to put digital books on hold?



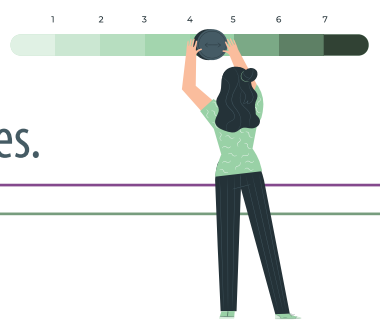
Why are wait times so long at my library?

Here's what the process looks like behind the scenes:

1

THE PUBLISHER

decides the lending terms for digital books and prices.



2

OVERDRIVE

partners with **publishers** as the distributor of digital books to libraries.

3

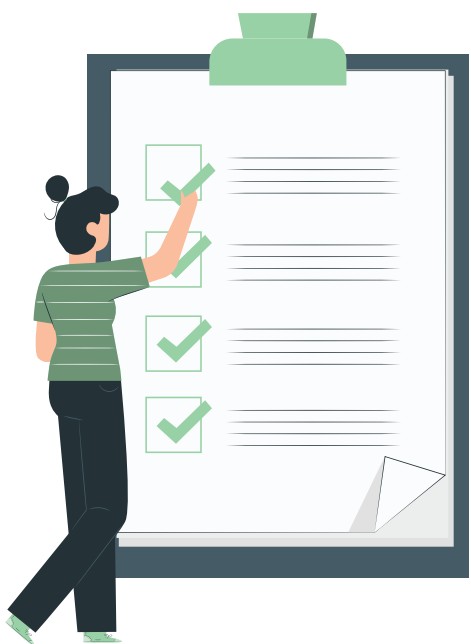
OUR LIBRARY

purchases digital books from **OverDrive**.



Digital books have lending terms which vary by publisher. For example:

Some books are like physical books where **one copy can be checked out at a time**. If that copy has been checked out, patrons must place a hold. **Our library decides how many copies to buy to meet demand and stay within budget.**



Some books are **limited by time or checkouts**—once a title reaches that limit, **our library decides if we will repurchase.**

Some books are available as **pay-per-use**, meaning that every time a title gets checked out **our library pays a fee.**

Some books are available for **unlimited, concurrent use**—one book can be checked out to everyone at the same time. These titles usually come as part of a subscription and expire after a set time. **Once time is up, our library decides if we want to renew.**

When purchasing digital books, our library considers several factors to maximize our budget, including cost, lending terms, and how many copies are needed to best meet demand and interest from our community.