



STATE LIBRARY
of LOUISIANA



Talking Books &
Braille Library
STATE LIBRARY
of LOUISIANA

Talking Books and Braille Library

Reader's Handbook

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State Librarian

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Welcome!

The Talking Books and Braille Library is a division of the State Library of Louisiana. As a patron of the library you qualify to receive books in special formats. This handbook will help you understand and use our free library services. We hope you enjoy it and we appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

National Library Service

In 1931 an act of Congress established the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled to serve blind adults. Congress expanded the act in 1952 to include children, in 1962 to provide music materials (details, page 18) and again in 1966 to include the physically handicapped. NLS selects and produces the full-length books and magazines, then distributes these reading materials to a cooperative network of 57 regional and 86 sub-regional libraries that circulate them to eligible borrowers by postage-free mail.

TBBL is Louisiana's Regional Library. New materials from NLS are added to TBBL's collection each month.

Location

TBBL is located in Baton Rouge on the fourth floor of the State Library at 701 N. 4th St., Baton Rouge, LA 70802.

Although some readers pick up books and players in person from the library, most receive materials through the mail. Readers interested in visiting our library should contact us in advance to make sure that our staff is ready to assist.

Contact the library

Readers can contact us with any questions or problems. We want to get to know our borrowers and want to ensure quality library service.

Address: State Library of Louisiana
Talking Books and Braille Library
701 N. 4th St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Telephone: 1.800.543.4702 (Toll-free in state)
225.342.0035 (Baton Rouge)

Call-in Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
Monday – Friday, except for state holidays

Walk-in Hours: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
Monday – Thursday, except for state holidays

Fax: 225.342.6817

Email: tbbl@library.la.gov
tbblkids@library.la.gov (Children's librarian)

Web sites: <https://library.la.gov/> (State Library and TBBL)
<http://www.loc.gov/nls> (National Library Service)

Voicemail: 24 hours a day. We will address service concerns as soon as possible, and return calls if needed.

Voicemail guidelines:

- Leave full name of the person needing services, spelling out last name.
- Leave phone number with area code.
- Leave a detailed message about service needs or book order.
- Let us know if you'd like a return call.

Eligibility for service

Anyone who is unable to read standard print as a result of a visual or physical limitation, whether temporary or permanent, may receive library service. Any visual impairment that makes reading difficult will qualify for services. Legally, blindness is not a requirement. The library also provides service to people with physical limitations such as cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis and muscular dystrophy.

Applications must be certified by a person such as a doctor, social worker, librarian or counselor who can verify visual or physical limitations.

Reading-disabled children and adults may be eligible for library services.

Louisiana residents can sign up for library service by completing the *Individual Application Form* available from TBBL.

Louisiana institutions can sign up for the service by completing the *Institution Application Form*. See the section *Library Service for Institutions* on page 6.

Both TBBL applications are available for download on our website at: www.state.lib.la.us. Select the link *Application for service*.

Completed applications may be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Address:	State Library of Louisiana Talking Books and Braille Library 701 N. 4th St. Baton Rouge, LA 70802
Fax:	225.342.6817
Email:	tbbl@library.la.gov tbblkids@library.la.gov (Children's librarian)

Getting started

The sections that follow give details about how to order books, how to operate equipment, how to sign up for additional services and a frequently asked questions section.

The reading records of library users are confidential and kept as long as a user is active. If a user moves to another state, he or she may request a records transfer.

Library service for individuals

Each new reader is assigned to a reader adviser to ensure that effective service is provided to everyone. Your reader adviser will assist you with selecting reading material, answering questions, taking book orders and maintaining your account.

On your application, you indicated what services you wanted to receive and whether you wanted to select your own books or have books selected for you based on the subject and author preferences you provided. You indicated how often you wished to receive books. Your reading preferences have been set up accordingly. These preferences can be adjusted anytime to best suit your reading habits. Call your reader adviser if you wish to change your preferences.

Patrons who requested audio books will receive an audio book player in the mail. Keep the box that the player arrives in. It has packing material and a pre-addressed mail card to make returning the player easier in the event it needs to be repaired or you decide to cancel the service. The audio books are shipped in a blue plastic container. Patrons who requested large print books will receive them in a green zippered cloth bag.

Library service for institutions

Library service is available to institutions and agencies whose clientele includes blind or physically handicapped persons eligible for materials from the NLS. Such institutions and agencies include schools, hospitals, retirement homes, nursing homes and rehabilitation centers. The institution must assign a specific staff member to be responsible for equipment, talking books and any accessories provided by the library to the institution. These items are federal property and institutions are held accountable for their condition and safe return.

Residents of institutions need to be signed up by using the individual applications. This way, each resident can receive books by the authors and subjects they prefer, and each resident gets individualized service.

Institutions, including schools or school systems, must have one *Institutional Application* form on file with us for each mailing address to which materials will be mailed. If all materials will be mailed and used at one location, then only one *Institutional Application* form is needed. If materials will be sent to multiple locations, an application form must be submitted for each location.

Annual student listing for schools

By federal law, public and private schools that serve a general student body must establish eligibility for students on an individual basis. Each student using our library service must be certified and have a *Certification for Eligible Student* form on file with us in addition to the *Institutional Application* form mentioned above.

At the beginning of each school year, schools must provide the TBBL with a list of certified students. A reminder letter will be mailed with an *Annual Student Listing* form. *Certification for Eligible Student* forms only need to be completed for new students. For returning students the annual *Student Listing* form is all that needs to be completed.

If you would like more information about receiving service for a school, retirement home, nursing home or rehabilitation center please call 225.342.5148 to speak to the institutions librarian.

If you would like more information about receiving service for schools, or service for children and young adults please call 225.342.9563 to speak to the Children and Teens Librarian.

Getting books

There are multiple ways to get books:

1. Order books from the order form in the *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review* catalogs.
2. Use the online TBBL catalog.
3. Call your reader adviser.
4. Use the BARD service to download books.
5. Use the BARD mobile app on Apple, Android, Kindle Fire devices.

1. Order books from the *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review* publications

These publications come out every other month and list the new books that are available. Listings include book numbers, authors, titles and descriptions for each book.

The *Talking Book Topics* (TBT) catalog lists the new audio books recently added to the NLS collection. It is available on audio cartridge and, like the other audio books, must be returned within one month of receipt to avoid interruption in delivery of the next issue. The online text version (PDF or HTML) of the TBT catalog and the order form that goes with it can be accessed online at www.loc.gov/nls/tbt.

Braille Book Review (BBR) lists Braille books and magazines recently added to the NLS collection. It also carries news of developments in services to our patrons. NLS publishes *Braille Book Review* bimonthly in Braille and online text (HTML).

To view both new issues and back issues of *Braille Book Review* (BBR) in text format (HTML), please visit the NLS website at www.loc.gov/nls/bbr. To subscribe to BBR in eBraille, visit BARD or BARD Mobile. Back issues of BBR are also available through BARD.

Braille Book Review has a Braille order form. Completed order forms should be mailed to the Utah Library for the Blind and Disabled which provides Braille material to TBBL patrons. Reference the Braille Book Service section on page 16 for more information about ordering Braille books.

2. Use the online TBBL catalog

The online TBBL catalog lists everything in our collection: audio books, Braille books, large print books, descriptive videos and big books. Readers can sign up for TBBL catalog service by calling their reader advisers to obtain a login ID and password.

Access the catalog at <https://klas.state.lib.la.us/>. Select the link: **Sign in to place requests or manage your account** in the top right of the screen.

Once logged in, your name will appear in the login box and you will be able to access your account details. Starting at the home page you will have several search options.



How to search for a book

Click on the Search button. Enter search terms in the Query, Index and Sort by fields and select the Search button. The system will look at all the available indexes and return a list of your search results. **The “Refine your search” filters on the left side of the screen allow you to narrow down your search until you pinpoint what you want.**

The **Medium** filter allows you to choose a medium. Clicking on the Digital Book medium will narrow your search results to just digital audio books. The **Availability** filter allows you to narrow your search to Hardcopies (available on shelf in the library) or Downloadable books, which can be downloaded if you have also signed up for BARD service. Clicking on the “Download” link will take you to the BARD login page.

The **Subject** filter allows you to choose or eliminate subjects. On the right side of the screen is the Search Results list. Click on the author name to see a list of books by that author. The subject links allow you to find other books with the same subject heading.

How to order an audio book through the online catalog

If you want to order a book and have it mailed to you right away, click on the title in the Search results list and then “Add selected to Book Basket.” In the Book Basket window click on “Rush” under the Actions column. Finally, click “Proceed to Checkout”. Now your book will be mailed to you.

NOTE: If you don’t select “Rush”, the book you ordered will be placed on your request list until the computer selects it to be mailed according to your service profile. If your profile says “2 books per week”, then the computer will select 2 books per week from your request list to be mailed to you - until your book limit is reached. If your profile says “on demand only,” then request list books will not be mailed to you until you contact us to ask for one to be sent.

How to put a book on your request list

If you want to place a book on your request list so that it will be mailed out later, then place that title in your Book Basket. Next, click “Proceed to Checkout.” Now your book will be added to your request list.

NOTE: Books from your request list will be mailed out according to the pre-arranged schedule of frequency and amount found on your profile. If you have questions about your profile settings, please contact your reader adviser at 1.800.543.4702.

How to order a large print book (or a big book)

You cannot use the online TBBL Catalog to have large print books mailed out to you right away; the TBBL Catalog can only be used to put large print books on your request list. Please contact your reader adviser if you need a large print book mailed to you right away. The TBBL Catalog is not able to indicate availability of large print titles.

How to download a book through the TBBL catalog

If you find a book in the TBBL Catalog that you want to download right away, you can do that by simply clicking on the link that says “Downloadable talking book”. This will open a separate web browser window, the BARD login screen.

NOTE: You must already be signed up for the BARD download service in order to use this feature.

How to browse books

Click on the Browse button to see a set of predefined lists which include recently added titles and popular titles based on the number circulated.

How to place an order by book number

You can easily order books by book number. Click on the Quick Request button. Follow the instructions for entering the book numbers. Book numbers can be found in the online catalog or the *Talk Book Topics* catalog.

How to view your account information

Click on the My Account button. You can view your account summary, contact info, reading preferences and reading history. If you have moved you can fill out a form to update your contact information or send an email to update your reading preferences.

3. Call your reader adviser to order books

Toll-free at 1.800.543.4702 or in Baton Rouge call 225.342.0035.

If you need help for:

Call and ask for:

Children & Teens

Elementary & High SchoolsCharlene

Retirement Communities

Nursing Homes & Institutions.....David

4. Use the BARD service to download books

The Braille and Audio Reading Download service known as BARD offers a convenient way for eligible patrons with computer skills to download digital audio and digital Braille books and magazines. BARD is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>.

Materials downloaded from this site may not be shared. It is strictly forbidden to share user IDs and passwords with anyone except personal assistants who will assist readers in downloading material and can be trusted to comply with the BARD user agreement. BARD access can be terminated for anyone found in violation of the agreement.

To use BARD service, patrons must:

1. have an NLS digital player or an authorized purchased player
2. have a computer with high-speed Internet service

3. have an active individual email address
4. have a 1 – 2 GB flash drive or blank cartridge

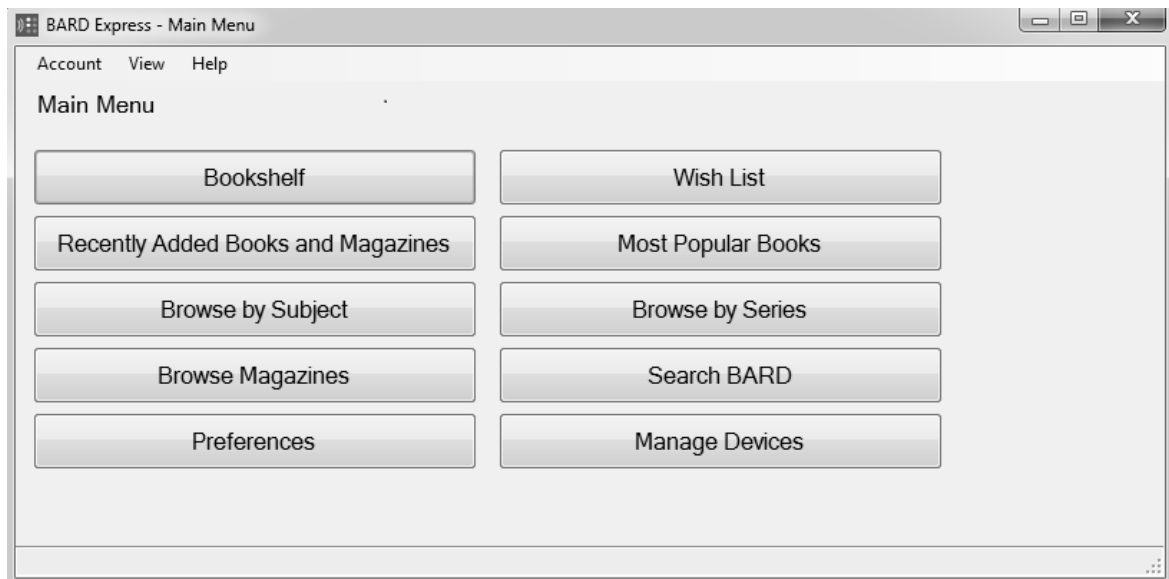
In addition to the NLS playback machine there are several NLS approved third-party devices available for purchase. Purchased devices must be registered and enabled for use before BARD books can be downloaded. To apply for BARD call your reader adviser or complete and submit the online application at:

<https://nlsbard.loc.gov/NLS/ApplicationInstructions.html>

If you plan to use a third party device instead of the player issued to you by the library, select type of player from the dropdown menu.

Notifications will be sent to the player's manufacturer to authorize your player. The manufacturer will send a software key to enable the player. NLS authorized third-party players are listed in Appendix A on page 30.

Downloading instructions using BARD Express on a Windows-based computer



BARD Express is a software application that provides NLS patrons with an easy way to access BARD. Use BARD Express to browse thousands of audio books and magazines, download them to your Windows-based computer, and transfer them to an NLS cartridge or flash drive. BARD Express simplifies the process by providing a menu-driven interface, reducing the need to memorize a complex set of keyboard commands. BARD Express can be used with as few as four keys, while providing advanced functionality for the more adventurous user.

For more information about BARD Express, log in to your BARD account and click on the BARD Express link under the ADDITIONAL LINKS heading. There you will find instructions, frequently asked questions and a link to download and install the software on your computer.

Follow these instructions if you would prefer to download book directly from the BARD website on a Windows-based computer

1. Plug your blank cartridge or flash drive into the computer.
2. Log into BARD at <https://nlsbard.loc.gov>.
3. Find the book you want to download.
4. Select the "Take Action" drop down menu button and click on "Download <name of your book title>."
5. This will cause a zipped folder to be downloaded to your computer. Find that zipped folder and extract all the files.
6. If your computer displays a screen showing you all the files you just extracted, you may need to navigate back a step to see the folder that contains all those extracted files.
7. Once you find the folder that has all the extracted files, transfer that whole folder to your flash drive or cartridge.
8. Remove the flash drive or cartridge from your computer. Note: You can save more than one book to this flash drive. Each must be saved in its own folder.

Downloading using a Macintosh computer

After downloading, Macintosh computers automatically create a folder and extract files to the folder. Simply copy and paste the folder to your cartridge or flash drive.

Other catalogs with links to BARD

You can download books directly from the BARD website or from several online catalogs. Each catalog has a link for each downloadable book that will take you to the BARD log-in page. Links to the catalogs are listed below:

TBBL catalog:

<https://www.state.lib.la.us/klasweb/>

NLS catalog:

<https://nlscatalog.loc.gov/>

The digital player is also capable of playing any MP3 file. These include books, music, old time radio programs and podcasts among others. There are many online sources for MP3 files that are free and in the public domain. The MP3 files must be copied to a folder on the flash drive named “audio+podcasts” in order for the player to recognize the files. Use the Bookshelf feature to access the “audio+podcasts” folder. Then use the fast forward and rewind keys to choose an MP3 file to play.

5. Use the BARD Mobile app for Apple, Android and Kindle Fire devices

Registered BARD users may use the BARD Mobile app on Apple and Android devices and on the second generation Kindle Fire tablet by downloading the free BARD app available through the iTunes Store, Google Play store or Amazon App Store.



BARD mobile on an Apple device

1. Open the App store app on the Apple device. Enter the words “bard mobile” in the search text field. Once you find the app, select the Install button. The NLS BARD Mobile application will install on your device. The device will register itself the first time you log in to BARD Mobile using your BARD user name and password. To access the app in the future, just tap the BARD mobile icon.
2. After opening the app, use the **Bookshelf**, **Get Books**, **Settings** and **Now Reading** tabs along the bottom of the screen.
3. Use the **Bookshelf** tab to select **Audio books**, **Audio magazines**, **Braille books** or **Braille magazines** that have been downloaded. The **Help** menu is available from this tab.
4. Use the **Get Books** tab to select from **Wish list**, **Recently Added Titles** and **Browse BARD**. Books on your Wish list are those you added from the BARD website that are awaiting download. Books or magazines selected from Recently Added Titles are instantly downloaded and ready to read. **Browse BARD** takes you to the BARD website. When you have found a book or magazine, select the **Add to my wish list** link.
5. Use the **Settings** tab to adjust audio, visual and account settings.
6. Use the **Now Reading** tab to listen to a downloaded book or magazine on your **Bookshelf**. **Now Reading** opens the last book or magazine selected from the **Bookshelf**.
7. If you want to download Braille books, you will need a refreshable Braille display device. Be sure to read Section 7 of the *BARD Mobile User Guide*, as it explains how to configure your display and provides keystrokes that make reading Braille a smooth experience.

BARD mobile on an Android device

1. Open the Play store app from the Android device. Enter the words “bard mobile” in the search text field. Once you find the app, select the OPEN button. The NLS BARD Mobile application will install and the app will open on your device.
2. Sign in with your BARD user name and password. You will only need to do this the first time you use the app.
3. Check the Accept Terms of Use service box and then the Login button.
4. Select the Internal Storage Location.
5. Use the **BOOKSHELF**, **GET BOOKS** and **NOW READING** tabs located at the top of the screen to access and listen to books.
6. From the BOOKSHELF tab, select an **Audio book** or **Audio magazine** that has been downloaded. The **User Guide** is available from this tab.
7. From the GET BOOKS tab, select a **Recently Added Audio Book** or **Recently Added Audio Magazine**. Books or magazines selected from Recently Added Titles are instantly downloaded and ready to read. The **Browse Wish List** tab gives you access to books added to the wish list from BARD and that are awaiting download. **Browse BARD** takes you to the BARD website where you can select books to add to your wish list.
8. The NOW READING tab opens the last book or magazine selected from the **Bookshelf**.

BARD mobile on a Kindle Fire tablet (2nd generation and above)

1. Open the Amazon store app on the Kindle. Do a search for “bard mobile” to find the app. Select “Download” to install the app on your device. Click “Open.”
2. Enter your BARD user ID and password and click in the check box to accept the terms of service.
3. Click “Login.” You will only need to do the first time you login to the app.
4. Select the storage location where downloads will be sent. Usually this will be “internal memory” or “SD card.”
5. Refer to steps 5 through 8 above for a description of the Android app.

Braille book service

TBBL has a contract with the Utah State Library for the Blind and Disabled to loan books from its 50,000-item collection to our library patrons who can read Braille. Readers can register for Braille service by calling their reader advisers. After registering for Braille service, the Utah State Library can be reached by calling 1.800.453.4293. To remain active in Braille service you must order at least one book a year.

Patrons who use refreshable Braille devices and who are signed up for BARD service may download electronic files of Braille books, magazines, and music materials from BARD.

Braille eReader Device

TBBL loans refreshable Braille displays, or eReaders, to eligible Braille readers. These are devices with small pins that electronically move up and down through holes representing a Braille cell. Users move their fingers across the cells as if they were reading Braille on paper. Braille notetakers are portable devices with built-in refreshable Braille displays that connect to software applications. The Braille eReader allows patrons to read electronic Braille files (BRFs) as well as Word files, HTML files, DAISY files, and PDFs.

It connects to Wi-Fi so Braille files can be downloaded directly from BARD and has Bluetooth capability so patrons can connect directly to a smartphone and read the info on the screen in Braille. It also can connect to a computer so that the information on the screen will be displayed on the Braille display.

Other features include a Braille translation application and settings to display files in uncontracted and contracted Braille. It can connect directly to NFB Newsline. Its navigational capability includes searching for a passage and moving by sentence, paragraph, and volume.

Large print books

TBBL has a collection of large print books available for adults, teens and children. Available titles can be browsed in our online catalog or selected by reader advisers based on the reader's likes and dislikes. All large print materials must be returned promptly.

If large print books are kept beyond the loan period, and have not been renewed, large print service will be suspended until the items are returned.

Popular magazines

NLS offers a variety of magazines in Braille and on digital audio cartridge for free to registered readers. TBBL mails them directly based on when the magazine is published. Topics include the arts, news, sports, science, parenting, computers, health and finance. Magazine subscriptions are unlimited.

Digital magazines on cartridge must be returned because TBBL reuses the cartridges for the next issues. Weekly magazines must be returned three weeks from the date received. Monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly magazines must be returned seven weeks from the date received. If cartridges are not returned in a timely manner, your subscription will be cancelled.

Call your reader adviser to order or cancel a subscription. See a list of available magazines in Appendix B on page 31.

Newspaper reading service

NFB-Newsline is a free telephone dial-in service that provides more than 50 newspapers and popular magazines. You can easily select a newspaper, a section or an article of interest. The immediacy of NFB-Newsline is made possible by use of synthetic speech, that is, computerized speech. The *Talking Book Topics* catalog is available on NFB-Newsline. Reader advisers can enroll readers in NFB-Newsline.

Music services

People who are blind or physically handicapped may borrow books about music appreciation as well as instructional music directly from the Music Section of the NLS. Music library services from NLS are free.

NLS offers music materials in a variety of formats including large print, Braille books and instructional recordings. Some material is available for download on BARD. If the material is only available on BARD, readers can contact NLS directly at 1.800.424.8567 to possibly obtain the material on a digital cartridge.

Adult summer reading program

Every year, from May 1 to August 31, TBBL hosts a free adult summer reading program. There is a new theme every summer. The goal is to read (or listen) to at least 20 books. Any of our audio or Braille books or magazines qualify. Large print books also qualify. Those who complete the program will have their names put into a drawing for a prize. Call your reader adviser if you wish to participate. Once you sign up, you will be added to the program automatically each year.

Adult book discussion group

We hold book discussions via an email discussion list. The name of our group is TBBL BookTalks. Participants can post their comments and view comments from other readers through this email discussion list.

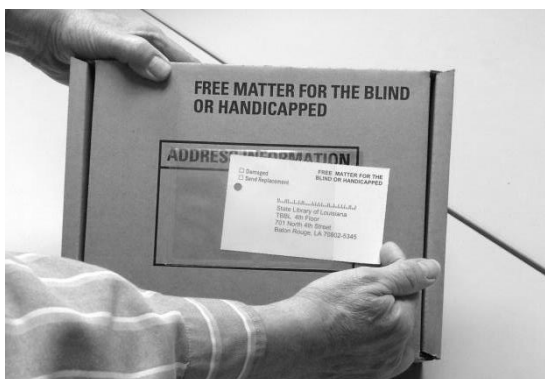
To Join, go to: <http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mailman/listinfo/tbblbooktalks> and create an account by entering your email address and make up a password or, as always, you can call your reader adviser.

Receiving and returning material

We mail books, magazines and playback machines using the U.S. Postal Service. Materials travel by fourth-class mail and can take seven to 10 days.

All material is mailed and returned marked “Free Matter for the Blind or Handicapped.” No postage is required. Materials come with a two-sided pre-addressed postcard. Flip the postcard over to show the library’s return address. The postcard has a hole that is used to orient the card properly for its return. When the postcard is returned to the slot, the hole should be on the upper left side. If the item being returning is defective, it should be indicated in the upper left corner of the card. Mark “Send Replacement” to request another copy of the damaged item.

“Free Matter” privileges are the result of Public Law 91-375, which allows delivery of large print, recorded and Braille materials to persons with disabilities. If any problems mailing books via “Free Matter,” arise, readers should contact their reader advisers.



*Top photo: audio book container,
middle: large print book bag,
bottom: digital machine box.*

Frequently asked questions

What is the maximum number of books I may borrow?

New patrons will only be allowed to check out two cartridges, which should be returned in a timely manner. Each cartridge may contain up to 20 audio books.

Once it is determined that a patron is in good standing, the number of cartridges a patron can receive may be increased. Call your reader adviser to discuss increasing the number of books you wish to receive.

If materials are not returned within a loan period, services can be suspended until books are returned.

To remain an active patron you must order at least one book a year. If you find that you no longer need our services, please let the library know so we can help you return your books and equipment.

What information is needed to order a book?

Please provide the catalog number, title, or author for each book you want to order.

What does the two-letter prefix of the catalog number indicate?

Each item in our online catalog has a two-letter prefix followed by five numbers. The two-letter prefix identifies the medium. The following list identifies the prefixes:

BR Braille
BB Big Books
DB Digital Books
LP Large Print Books

When will I receive books?

You control the number of books sent and how frequently they are sent. Tell your reader adviser how many books to send at a time. Also let your reader adviser know how often to send book. You may select nightly, weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, or bi-monthly delivery.

What are my service options?

With **automatic selection service**, our automated system will select the books and send regular shipments based on your reading preferences. Call your reader adviser to provide your subject and author preferences. You may adjust these preferences at any time. Also, the library keeps track of what you have read and will not send those titles again unless you specifically request them.

With **list only service**, you provide a list of books that are added to your request list. The library will send only the books from your request list. We recommend that you have at least 50 books on your request list to ensure a steady flow of books.

With **on demand service**, the library will not send books on a regular schedule. Books will only be sent when you call in an order.

How many books can I request by mail?

There is no limit. The books will be added to your request list.

How many books can I request by phone?

If you call in a book order, we ask that you limit your requests to no more than 15 books.

How can I get a book that I want to read now?

If you want to read a book immediately, call the library and tell your reader adviser to put it on reserve. If it is available, we send it to you right away. If not, we send it as soon as it is available.

What if I am not receiving enough books?

If you are not receiving enough books, the cause may be that you are not returning your books on time or your maximum checkout limit needs to be increased. Call your reader adviser for assistance.

How long can I borrow a digital book, large print book, magazine, or Braille book?

- ♦ The loan period for a digital book cartridge is eight weeks.
- ♦ The loan period for a large print book is four weeks.
- ♦ The loan period for a Braille book is four to six weeks.
- ♦ The loan period for magazines on cartridge is three weeks for weekly magazines and seven weeks for monthly, bi-monthly or quarterly magazines.

Returning books regularly and promptly assures you of a constant flow of reading material. If you need to keep a book longer, call the library and ask to renew it.

Do you charge fines for overdue books?

No, the library does not charge overdue fines but overdue notices are sent periodically. Also there is no charge for a digital book that is damaged during normal use. If you receive a defective digital book, simply mark “defective” on the mailing label before sending it back, then call the library for a replacement.

Can my service be canceled?

Yes. If you do not return the books or you return them repeatedly in poor condition, your service may be canceled.

Do you have textbooks?

No. See page 29 for information about other organizations that provide textbooks.

Do I have to pick up and return my books at the library?

No, all service is via postage-free mail. All materials may be sent and returned using “Free Matter for the Blind or Handicapped” privileges.

Playback machines

NLS has designed special playback equipment and accessories for easy operation. Playback equipment is loaned for free as long as readers are actively borrowing books. Each individual reader receives one digital player.

This special digital player is required to play digital books. Many readers ask, “Why does there need to be a special player for talking books?” The NLS encoded format makes the books unusable by the public, a requirement under U.S. copyright law that permits NLS free use of copyrighted material.

Readers must SAVE THE BOX in which the player is shipped. If the player needs repairs, the player will need to be returned in its original box which features a barcode for that specific machine.

Operating instructions

Digital players come with large print and Braille instructions. The player also has a built-in set of verbal playback instructions including individual button descriptions. The TBBL machine department can be reached for assistance in operating the player.

Machine maintenance

Keep your digital player plugged in when you are not using it. If it is unplugged for an extended time, the power level in the battery could drop to a very low level and won't ever fully recharge.

Readers should contact the library if their player breaks. There is no charge to repair it. If the reader's borrowing records are in order, a new machine will be mailed immediately. The defective player should be returned to the library in its original container via the U. S. Postal Service. Extra boxes are not available, but a mailing label can be requested.

Players can be mailed under “Free Matter” mailing privileges so readers will not have to pay postage to return or exchange equipment.

Types of players

Standard digital player (DS-1)

The basic playback machine plays NLS digital books on cartridge and downloaded books from BARD. It has a built-in audio guide, and buttons talk when pressed. Each button is also labeled in Braille. Besides the play/stop, fast forward and reverse buttons, the player has controls to adjust volume, speed and tone. A sleep button turns off the player.

Advanced digital player (DA-1)

This player has the same features as the DS-1 but with additional controls to set and retrieve bookmarks and navigate through the book by chapter, phrase or bookmark.

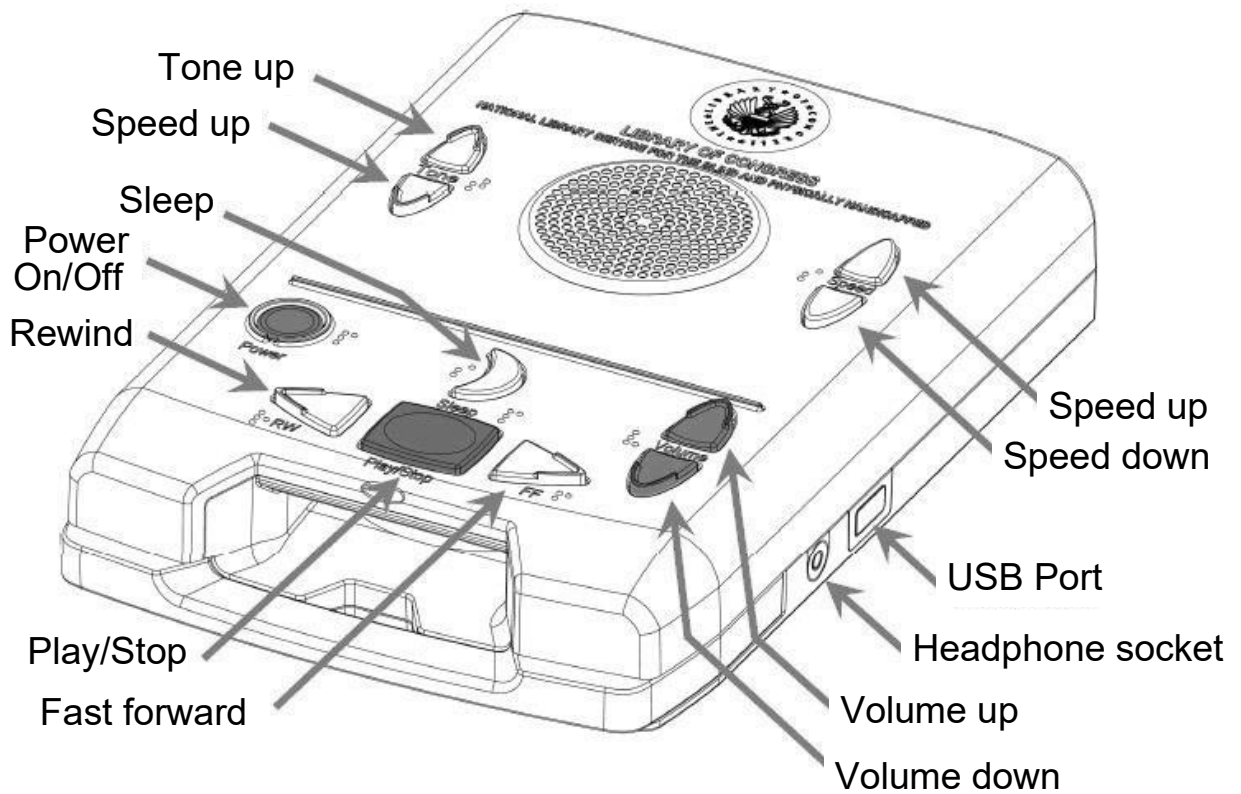


High-Volume digital players (DA-1 and DS-1)

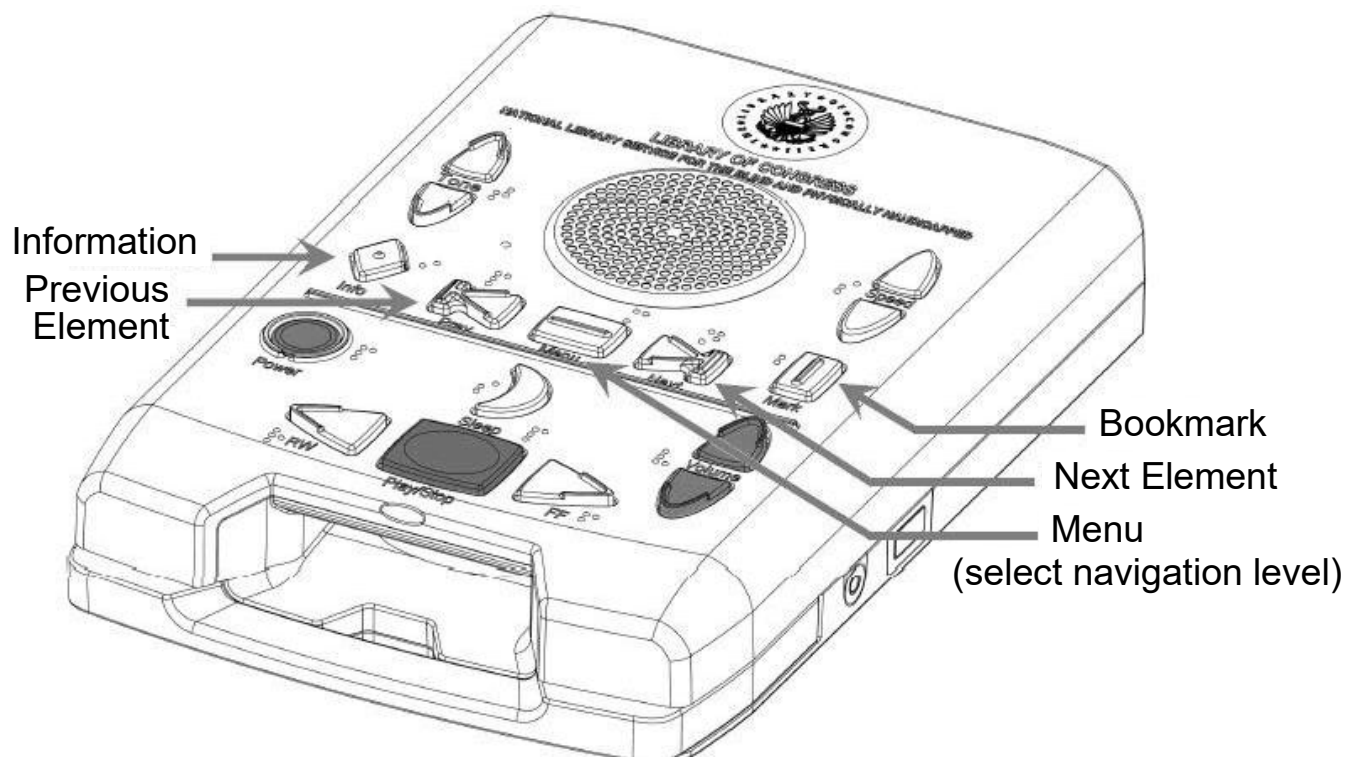
NLS has developed a high-volume version of the digital player for use by patrons who are hearing impaired. The high-volume player, which is paired with a headset, is available as a standard or advanced (DS-1/DA-1) model that has been programmed to have an amplified volume up to 120 decibels.

To receive the high-volume player (with the headset), you must fill out a high-volume player application. Call your reader adviser to request an application. Have the application signed by a physician or audiologist and return it to TBBL.

DS1 button descriptions



DA1 button descriptions



Bookshelf feature

For cartridges containing more than one book or magazine, you may use either Sequential Play or the Bookshelf feature.

Sequential Play: When you hear the player announce “End of book,” press the large green rectangular play/stop button to go to the next book.

Bookshelf Mode: Press and hold the play/stop button for three seconds. When you enter the bookshelf, the player will announce the number of books on the cartridge and the title of the currently selected book. Press the rewind or fast forward buttons on either side of the play/stop button to locate the book you wish to read. When you hear the **entire title** of the book you wish to read, press the play/stop button and that book will be selected and start playing. When you are ready to read another book, return to the bookshelf by pressing and holding the play/stop button for three seconds. Use the rewind or fast forward to find the book you’d like to read, and then press the play/stop button to select it.

Player reset

If the player is unresponsive or you hear an error message while listening to a book, try the following:

Reset the player. Hold down the Power button firmly for at least 7 seconds. A reset beep will be heard. This will not erase any bookmarks or prior book “last marks” from the player. The player will only need to be reset in the unlikely event that it becomes unresponsive in normal operation.

Clear all information from the player. Turn off the player. Hold down the Tone Up, Speed Up, and Volume Up buttons and press the Power button. The player will say “Creating New Profile.” This will remove all bookmarks, set the language to English, and reset all controls to their default position.

Player says “cartridge error.” This may indicate a problem with the files on the cartridge or with the cartridge itself. Return the book cartridge and check mark “Defective” on the return side of the mail card.

Machine accessories

Headphones

Headphones are only issued to readers who require them for reading talking books where loud speakers are not permitted such as in nursing homes, hospitals and schools. If the reader needs headphones, they can be requested from the library.

Pillow speakers

A pillow speaker, for readers confined to bed, is placed under your pillow and the recording is heard only by the reader.

Cartridge cable

This cable allows readers to copy books from BARD onto blank cartridges. One end of the cable attaches to the cartridge and the other end plugs into a standard USB port on a personal computer. Readers must be registered BARD users and purchase their own cartridges.



You can purchase blank cartridges at the American Printing House for the Blind:

<https://www.aph.org/product/digital-talking-book-cartridge/>

USB flash drive adapter

This adaptor attaches to readers' digital players allowing them to plug in a flash drive so that it is flush with the side of the player.



Youth services

The library has both fiction and nonfiction books for children in recorded book, large print, print/Braille (also known as twin vision) and Braille formats. TBBL does not provide books in standard print. If a child needs to “read along” with the recorded books, contact a school library or local public library.

TBBL has one librarian on staff who provides services exclusively for children ages 3 – 18. The Children and Teen Services librarian can be contacted at 225.342.9563 or email tbblkids@library.la.gov for more information.

Catalogs

Children’s books catalogs are available upon request. *For Younger Readers* catalog includes talking books and Braille books for children and teens. *Talking Book Topics* and *Braille Book Review* also have sections announcing children’s books in digital, Braille and print/Braille. Children’s books include notations of appropriate grade levels.

Magazines for children

The National Library Service produces magazines for children including *Cricket*, *National Geographic for Kids*, *Spider*, and *Sports Illustrated for Kids*. Readers can call or write the Children and Teen Services Librarian to subscribe to a magazine.

Twin vision print/Braille books

Twin vision books contain Braille text pages interleaved between illustrated print pages. These books are excellent for sharing between blind and sighted individuals. This print/Braille collection is available through the state library in Utah, which provides both fiction and nonfiction books for grades K through fifth grade. Borrowers can contact their reader advisers if interested in borrowing these books.

Early literacy program

Crib to Crayons is an early literacy program designed to prepare young children for learning to read. Over the course of one year, participants receive six bi-monthly packets of books and materials focusing on six early literacy skills. The program starts every year concurrent with the summer reading program. The Children and Teen Services Librarian has information on this annual program.

Summer Reading Program

Each summer the library organizes a summer reading program for juvenile and teenage readers using the same theme as the public libraries. Past themes have included *One World, Many Stories*; *Dream Big–Read!* and *Make a Splash–Read!* The programs are designed to encourage children and teenagers to read during the summer. The Children and Teen Services Librarian has details about the annual program. We also encourage children and teens to participate in their local library’s reading programs.

Textbooks

TBBL does not offer textbooks; however, some of the curriculum-related required reading may be available. The organizations listed below have recorded, Braille and large print textbooks for loan or purchase:

American Printing House for the Blind

1839 Frankfort Ave.
Louisville, KY 40206
1.800.223.1839
www.aph.org

Bookshare

480 California Ave., Ste. 201
Palo Alto, CA 94306-1609
www.bookshare.org

Learning Ally

20 Roszel Road
Princeton, NJ 08540
1.800.221.4792
www.learningally.org

Library Reproduction Service

14214 S. Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, CA 90061
1.800.255.5002
<https://largeprintschoolbooks.com>

Appendix A – Purchased Players

At present, NLS authorizes 14 compatible, accessible, commercial devices for playing NLS downloadable books:

- **APH Book Port DT, APH Book Port Plus**
<http://www.aph.org/>
- **HIMS Blaze EX and HIMS Blaze ET**
<http://hims-inc.com/products/blaze-et/>
<http://hims-inc.com/products/blaze-ez/>
- **HIMS BookSense**
<http://hims-inc.com/products/booksense/>
- **HIMS BookSense DS and HIMS BookSense XT**
<http://hims-inc.com/products/booksense-ds/>
<http://hims-inc.com/products/booksense-xt/>
- **HIMS Sense Notetaker**
<http://hims-inc.com/products/braille-sense-notetakers/>
- **Humanware Apex BrailleNote/VoiceNote**
<http://www.humanware.com/en-usa/home>
- **Humanware Victor Reader Stratus**
<http://www.humanware.com/en-usa/search?keywords=stratus&go=yes>
- **Humanware Victor Reader Stream**
<http://store.humanware.com/int/victor-reader-stream-new-generation.html>
- **LevelStar Icon**
<http://www.levelstar.com/>
- **Milestone 212 and Milestone 312**
<http://www.bones.ch/milestone212.php>
<http://www.bones.ch/milestone312.php>
- **PLEXTALK Pocket PTP1 and PLEXTALK PTN2**
<http://www.plextalk.com/americas/top/products/ptp1/>

Appendix B – magazines

AARP The Magazine and AARP Bulletin
American History
American Indian
Analog Science Fiction and Fact
Asimov's Science Fiction
The Atlantic Monthly
Audubon
Baseball Digest
Best Friends
Better Homes and Gardens
Bon Appétit
Bookmarks
Braille Book Review
Braille Chess Magazine
Braille Music Magazine
Choice Magazine Listening
Consumer Reports
Contemporary Sound Track
Conundrum
Consumer Reports: On Health
Cook's Illustrated
Cooking Light
Cricket
Discover
The Economist
Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine
Essence
FIYAH Literary Magazine
Foreign Affairs
Good Housekeeping
Golf Digest
Guideposts
Harper's Bazaar
Harper's Magazine
Harvard Men's Health Watch
Harvard Women's Health Watch
Health and Nutrition Newsletters
Health Newsletters
Horticulture

Humpty Dumpty
International Living Magazine
Jack and Jill
Kiplinger Personal Finance
Kiplinger Retirement Report
Make
Magnolia Journal
Missouri Conservationist
Mother Jones
Muse
Musical Mainstream
The Nation
National Geographic
National Geographic Kids
National Review
The New Yorker
The New York Times Book Review
The New York Times Large Print Weekly
NLS News
Oklahoma Today
Overseas Outlook
PC World
People
Piano Technicians Journal
Poetry
Popular Mechanics
Popular Music Lead Sheets
Psychology Today
Prevention Magazine
QST
Quarterly Music Magazine
Reader's Digest
Rolling Stone
Science News
Scientific American
Scout Life
Selecciones del Reader's Digest
Short Stories

Appendix B – magazines, continued

Smithsonian
Sound & Vision
Southern Living
Spider
Sports Illustrated
Sports Illustrated Kids
Sports Schedules
Stone Soup
The Sun Magazine
Travel & Leisure
True West
Vital Speeches of the Day
Wax Poetics
The Week
Wired
Yankee Magazine

