

Sony's eBooks to work with libraries

August 26 2009, By Brier Dudley



READER DAILY EDITION

Maybe now it's an actual competition between Amazon's Kindle and Sony's forlorn "Reader" e-book.

Sony [recently announced](#) a new larger-screen model going on sale by Christmas for around \$399. The Reader Daily Edition (aiming to deliver newspapers, perhaps?) has a seven-inch-wide [touchscreen](#) and includes 3G wireless service from AT&T.

But it's Sony's new software and services that are going to change the dynamic.

Sony also said it's partnering with OverDrive, a company that distributes electronic books to libraries, so Reader users will be able to "check out" free digital library books that expire at the end of the lending period. That's a much bigger deal than the earlier announcement that Sony's

working with Google to bring public domain material to the Reader.

If you're a heavy book buyer looking for a digital reader, Amazon's big selection may still pull you in.

But the [Kindle](#) will be marginalized if e-books from [Sony](#) and others get enough books from a wide variety of sources, especially free and current titles from libraries. The question is, would Amazon ever make it easy to borrow instead of buy books on the Kindle?

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Citation: Sony's eBooks to work with libraries (2009, August 26) retrieved 25 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2009-08-sony-ebooks-libraries.html>

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