

eReaders

Before my love of hiking came (and remains) my love of reading. A [book podcast I enjoy](#) uses the term Velocireader and that describes me to a T; During the pandemic I was reading about 25 books a month, though now it's back down to about 15 books a month.

I'm also the kind of person who will read literally anything if I don't have a book (hello cereal boxes!) so it is imperative I have a book with me at all times. (My main criteria for jackets used to be a pocket large enough for a mass market paperback.) With eReaders, I no longer have to fill half my suitcase with books when we go on vacation, (True story.) I just download books to my eReader and I'm set—plus I can switch books without digging into my bags!



From the left: Boox Note Air2 Plus, Kindle Oasis, Kobo Libre 2, Kindle Paperwhite

eInk

But what makes eReaders truly marvelous is eInk.

You've heard that using [electronic devices before bed interferes with sleep](#). However, [eInk devices do not seem to have those problems](#). Which means you can read yourself to sleep and not worry about sleep interference—or dropping the book and losing your place.

eInk (like other digital devices) allows you to change the font and page layout on the fly. Don't want to wear your reading glasses? Change the font size. Want to read in bed without disturbing your partner? Change the font spacing and the lighting. There are even font faces that—combined with margins and line spacing—can make reading easier for those with dyslexia.

Best of all? Lower vision readers are no longer limited to the somewhat sparse availability of large print books, since they can personalize their experience to meet their needs.

eReader Brands

These are your primary eReader options in the US:

- [Boox](#) (independent)
- [Kindle](#) (Amazon)
- [Kobo](#) (Rakuten)
- [Nook](#) (Barnes & Noble)

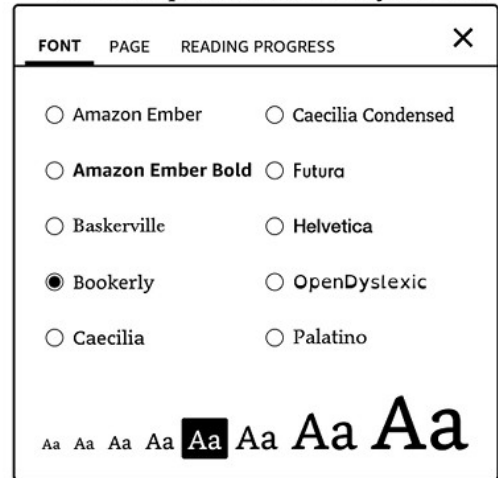
Kindle dominates the market for eReaders, and for good reason. Their devices are sturdy and well made (I can't count the number of times I've dropped a Kindle onto my hardwood floor). Plus, they dominate the market, so if it's an eBook, it's almost always available from Amazon.



Left: Kobo Libre 2. Center: Kindle Oasis. Right Kindle Paperwhite

It flowed hastily back into proper Radio-man's shape.

"Exotic shapes will undoubtedly be called



last interview, "we need this planet desperately."

"Yes sir," Pid had said, standing at full

19 mins left in chapter

19%

Kobo and Nook also have associated eBook stores that will send purchased books directly to your Kobo or Nook eReader.

More importantly (or perhaps dangerously) eBooks come with instant gratification. Finished book four of a series? Immediately purchase and start reading book five! No waiting until the bookstore has opened (assuming that book is even available at your local bookstore).

What eReaders have I used? (deep breath): Kindle Keyboard, Kindle Paperwhite (multiple versions), Kindle Voyage, Kindle Oasis, Nook 1st Edition, Kobo Libra 2, Boox Note Air 2 Plus.

My favorite: the Kindle Voyage, which they discontinued. (sigh)

What eReader Should You Choose?

How do you decide which eReader is for you?

First you have to determine what factors are most important to you: Size? Weight? Battery life? Physical buttons?

I strongly prefer smaller, lighter eReaders because they are easier on my hands when I read for several hours. I also like physical buttons, because I like to read one-handed.

Lower vision readers may prefer an eReader with a larger screen size, allowing more words on the page with an extra-large font size.

If you are planning on using your eInk tablet to take notes (Kobo Elipse, Kindle Scribe, Boox Note Air) then you might want to consider a larger eReader.

Here are some specs for a few of the more popular eReaders currently available.

BOOX Note Air2 Plus

Screen size: 10.3-inch
Weight: 445 g / 15.7 oz
Storage: 64 GB
Touchscreen + Stylus

Kindle Oasis

Screen size: 7-inch
Weight: 188 g / 6.6 oz
Storage: 4 / 8 / 32 GB
Touchscreen + Buttons

Nook GlowLight 4

Screen Size: 6-inch
Weight: 170 g / 6 oz
Storage: 32GB
Touchscreen + Buttons

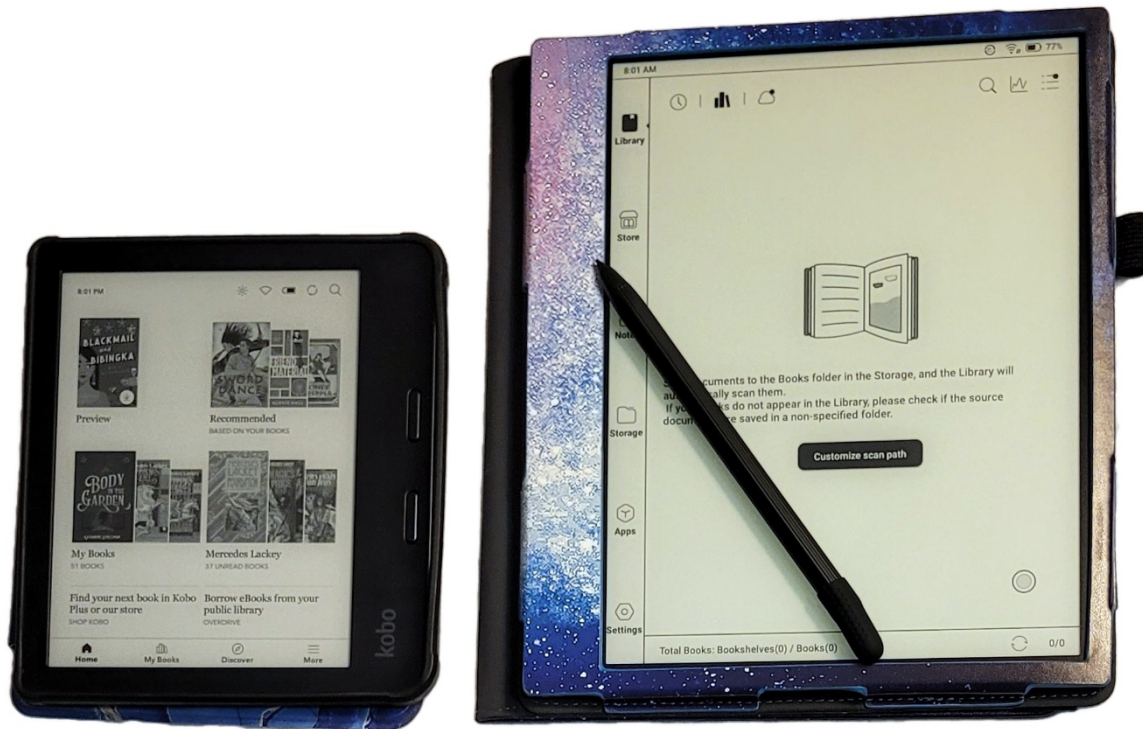
Kindle Paperwhite

Screen size: 6.8-inch
Weight: 205g / 7.2 oz
Storage: 8GB / 16GB
Touchscreen

Kobo Libra 2

Screen size: 7-inch
Weight: 215g / 7.6 oz
Storage: 32GB
Touchscreen + Buttons

One thing to note about all the above eReaders is that they are **NOT** color—black and white only. If you often read magazines or comics or picture books, you may want to stick with a tablet (like an iPad or Kindle Fire) or invest in one of the new color eInk readers that are starting to come out.



Clockwise from top left, Kobo Libre 2, Boox Note Air2 Plus, Kindle Paperwhite, Kindle Oasis

Finding eBooks

If you [read mostly library books](#), [Overdrive](#) and [Libby](#) allow you to borrow books to read on your eReader, computer, or phone. These apps also let you to download and listen to audiobooks. All you need is a library card and a computer or smart phone. You can send most borrowed eBooks directly to your Kindle, or (even better) install and use the [Libby app](#) on Kobo and Boox eReaders.

- [Morgantown Public Library](#)
- [Charleston Public Library](#)
- [Kanawha County Public Library](#)
- [Marion County Public Library System](#)
- [WV Library Commission Library Directory Map](#)

Other Considerations

The comparisons below are all for “naked” eReaders. I highly recommend getting a case for your eReaders, for two primary reasons. First, to protect the device—you don’t want to shove your eReader into a bag full of loose, and pointy or sharp objects. Second, most eReaders have a magnetic on/off switch, so when you close the cover, it puts the device to sleep, and when you open the cover, it wakes up the device. Additionally, I personally find book-type covers make reading one-handed much easier, however, there are also easel covers, which allow you to stand the book up to read (instead of having to lean it against a cereal box at the breakfast table).

Battery life is also important. If you read a lot, you might not want to have to charge your eReader every other day. You get a low battery warning before the device shuts off. All the devices I’ve used charge with a micro-USB or USB-C cable, allowing you to use a portable charger.

Like all other electronic devices, you can conserve battery power by turning off the wireless, turning down or off the backlight, or putting the device into airplane mode. Also like other electronic devices, the batteries do not last forever and cannot easily be replaced.

Most sellers have trade-in programs for tablets and eReaders that might give you credit towards the purchase of a new device, and otherwise will recycle the device for you.

Something else to note: processors. If you use an older eReader, you may note a delay/lag for page turning you won’t encounter on newer eReaders. It doesn’t make the experience slower than reading a paper book, but if you are a fast reader, it might be noticeable,

hadn’t messed with their code. I kept an eye on him through one of the drones. He kept looking at me, or trying not to look at me, which was worse. I didn’t need the distraction right now. When the next attack came, it was going to be fast.

“I do think of it as a person,” Gurathin said. “An angry, heavily armed person who has no reason to trust us.”

“Then stop being mean to it,” Ratthi told him. “That might help.”)

“They know their SecUnits successfully gave our SecUnit the combat module,” Mensah

Comparisons

I only have pictures of eReaders I own, although I do have the information for the most popular Nook, the GlowLight, to give you an idea of its size—at least in comparison to the other eReaders.



	BOOX Note Air2 Plus	Kobo Libra 2	Kindle Paperwhite	Kindle Oasis	<i>NOT SHOWN</i> Nook GlowLight 4
Screen	10.3"	7"	6.8"	7"	6"
Weight	445 g / 15.7 oz	215g / 7.6 oz	205 g / 7.2 oz	188 g / 6.6 oz	170 g / 6 oz
Device Size	9 x 7.7"	6.38 x 5.71	4.9x 6.9	5.6 x 6.3	4.9 x 6.9
Thickness	0.23"	0.35"	0.32"	0.3"	0.2"
Resolution	227 dpi	300 ppi	300 ppi	300 ppi	300 ppi
Storage (GB)	64	32	8 or 16	4, 8 or 32	32
Page Turning	Touchscreen + Stylus	Touchscreen + Buttons	Touchscreen	Touchscreen + Buttons	Touchscreen + Buttons
Other	USB-C, Libby App	USB-C, Bluetooth, waterproof, Libby App	micro-USB OR USB-C + Bluetooth	micro-USB, Bluetooth, waterproof	USB-C

Weight: GlowLight 4, Oasis, Paperwhite, Libra 2, Note Air2 Plus

Screen Size: GlowLight 4, Paperwhite, Oasis, Libra 2, Note Air2 Plus

Storage: Paperwhite, Oasis, GlowLight 4, Libra 2, Note Air2 Plus

Thinnest: GlowLight 4, Oasis, Paperwhite, Libra 2, Note Air2 Plus

Smallest: GlowLight 4, Oasis, Paperwhite, Libra 2, Note Air2 Plus

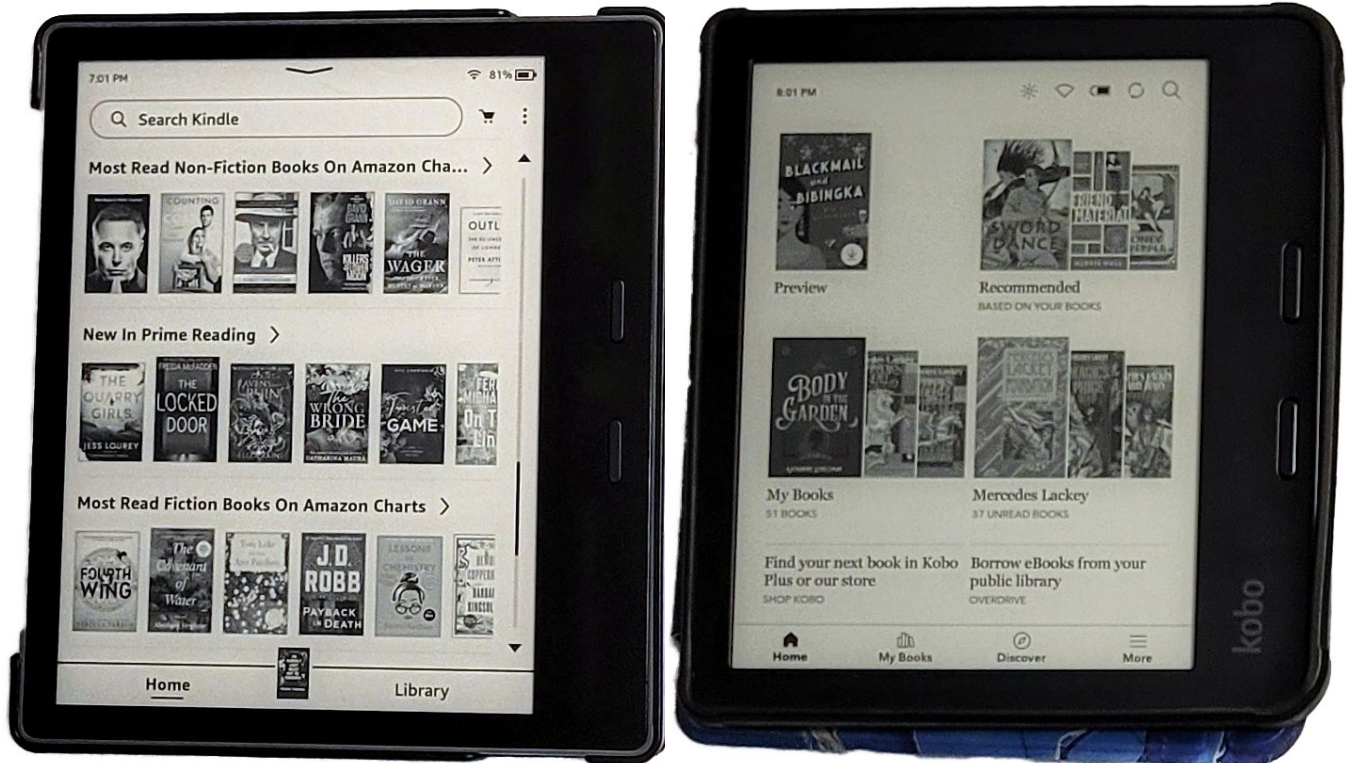
Screen Size to Device Size: Oasis, Note Air2 Plus, Libra 2, Paperwhite, GlowLight 4



Left: Kindle Oasis. Right: Kindle Paperwhite (Signature Edition)

	Kindle Oasis	Kindle Paperwhite
Screen	7"	6.8"
Weight	188 g / 6.6 oz	205g / 7.2 oz
Length	6.3"	6.9"
Width	5.6"	4.9"
Thickness	0.3"	0.32"

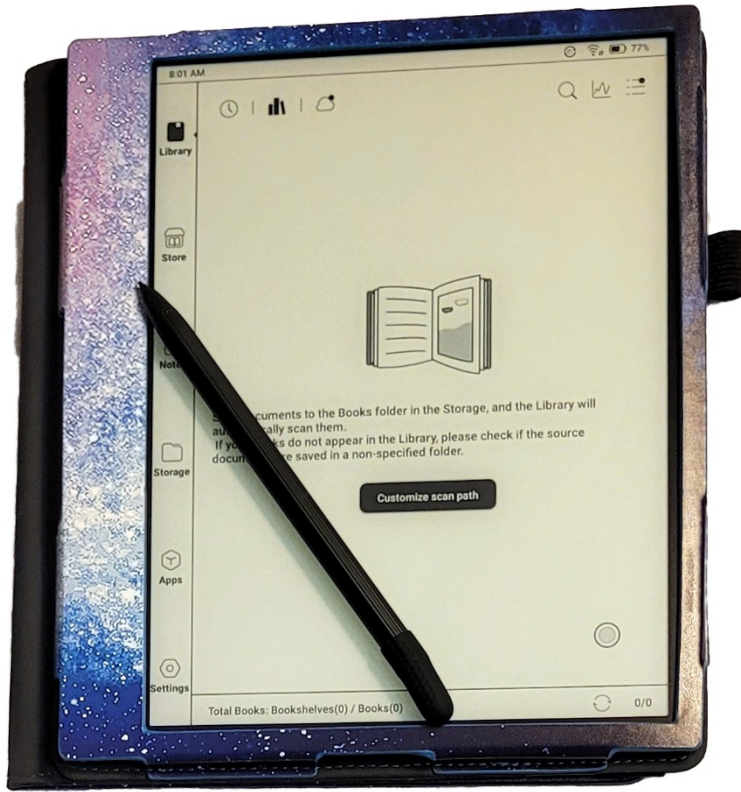
The Kindle Oasis has physical buttons, and the screen automatically flips when you rotate the device 180°. The paperwhite does not have physical buttons and the screen does not automatically flip when the device is rotated.



Left: Kindle Oasis. Right: Kobo Libre 2

	Kindle Oasis	Kobo Libra 2
Screen	7"	7"
Weight	188 g / 6.6 oz	215g / 7.6 oz
Length	6.3"	6.38"
Width	5.6"	5.71"
Thickness	0.3"	0.35"

Both the Oasis and Libre 2 have physical buttons, and the screens automatically flips when you rotate the devices 180°.



Left: Boox Note Air2. Right: Kobo Libre 2

	BOOX Note Air2 Plus	Kobo Libra 2
Screen	10.3"	7"
Weight	445 g / 15.7 oz	215g / 7.6 oz
Length	9"	6.38"
Width	7.7"	5.71"
Thickness	0.23"	0.35"

Resources

- Nook & Cloud Library: <https://help.barnesandnoble.com/hc/en-us/articles/5398883545115-Borrowing-eBooks-from-Your-Local-Library>
- CloudLibrary: <https://www.yourcloudlibrary.com> (No WV libraries available)
- How to Responsibly Recycle Your Ereaders: <https://bookriot.com/how-to-recycle-ereaders>
- Boox with Libby: <https://superflyby12.wixsite.com/thebookishclub/post/using-boox-ereader-with-libby>
- Kobo and Libby: <https://help.kobo.com/hc/en-us/articles/4477058367895-About-the-Libby-app>