

President's Corner: Hoopla
By Eric Moore
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Hoopla is a digital media service provided by the [High Plains Library District](#) (HPLD) that allows library patrons to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comic books, and TV episodes for free. The digital media may be viewed/played on a computer or mobile device. The mobile app is available for Apple iOS, Android, and Kindle Fire HDX. The only software required for a computer is a web browser such as Internet Explorer, Google Chrome, or Safari.

To get started, you will need a computer or mobile device with Internet service and a library account in good standing. If you have questions about or need help with your library account, visit your local library or call HPLD at 866-861-READ (7323).

Once you have your library account information—card number and PIN—you may sign up with Hoopla by visiting www.hoopladigital.com or by installing the free Hoopla app on your mobile device (search for "Hoopla Digital" by Midwest Tape, LLC). To use the service with a web browser, you will need to create a Hoopla account with a valid e-mail address and password.

Once you are logged in, you may begin searching for and borrowing items. You may borrow eight items per calendar month. The checkout periods are:

- 3 weeks for books, comic books, and audiobooks
- 7 days for music albums
- 72 hours for movies and TV episodes

Once the checkout period expires, the item is automatically returned. There is no option to renew an item, but you can always borrow an item again, so long as you have not exhausted your eight borrowings for the month.

You may search for items by the title, author, or keyword. If items matching your search criteria are found, you may refine the search by clicking a link on the search results page to select a genre, such as music or audiobooks. Clicking a title in the search results will open a page showing details about it. Click the Borrow button to check it out. Then click Play or Read and enjoy. (A handy feature of the mobile app is that you may download the item to your device, so you may play/read it anywhere without an Internet connection.) When you are finished with an item, you may return it, so it no longer appears in your list of currently borrowed items. If you have downloaded it to your mobile device, you may also delete it to free up storage space.

I have been using Hoopla for a few months. I have taken advantage of the large library of classical music, which I can download to my smartphone. This along with the Music Choice app provide me with hours of musical entertainment while reading, driving, or resting after a long day. I highly recommend trying Hoopla, as it is free and easy to use.

For more information, visit www.hoopladigital.com or visit MyLibrary at www.mylibrary.us and search the site for "Hoopla".