



Free Software For Reading Kindle Books

By Philip Siddons

By now, we know that there has historically been a huge revolution in publishing. Hard copy printed pages are, and have been, migrating to electronic forms. We noticed it first when many of our print magazines, to which we have subscribed for years, were migrated to electronic only versions. Publications reappeared in electronic form and have become the new standard for publications. That's because it is cosmically cheaper and more efficient to publish electronically than on paper. We could be riding on a subway, hear of a new book title, get it on our smartphone and start reading in thirty seconds. Not to mention the cost difference in an eBook over the paper version. (Someone once said that the problem with 'instant gratification' is that it isn't quick enough. That fear might not apply with the instant-access Kindle books.) Then there is the gas and time savings from not having to go to a store.

Far and away the most widely used electronic publication form is Amazon's Kindle. There are other digital electronic book formats but the Amazon Kindle format is the standard with the widest use. You can read a Kindle book on iPhones, iPads, PC or Apple computers, Android phones and pads. You can read the books in most languages and countries around the world. And all of Kindle reader software for all of these devices is free. And [ublishing your own writing on Amazon Kindle is free. This year alone, I published three books and I hope to put up more on Amazon in next year.

Of course there are various hardware devices that have the Kindle reading software built into them. They are actually dedicated hardware devices referred to as "Kindle readers." These little portable devices are for people who don't already have iPads, portable computers or smartphones AND for those of us who like the convenience of carrying a small portable reader that can hold hundreds of our favorite books. So to read a Kindle book, you need some form of a computer hardware device to run the Kindle reader software to a Kindle book.

As of late 2015, the dedicated Kindle device types for those without computers and smartphones are:

- Kindle Paperwhite 6" high display about \$119.
- Kindle Fire Kids Edition, 7" display, about \$90
- Kindle Fire 7" display, 8 GB about \$65
- Kindle Fire HD 10.1" display, 16 GB about \$180
- Kindle Fire HD 6" display, 8 GB about \$80
- Kindle Voyage 6" High Resolution about \$200.

And the list goes on and will change everytime a new hardware device hits the market.

My advice, as with all continually changing technology, **get the highest and most capable model that you can afford**. Do that because the time savings and feature benefits are always worth it. It will pay for itself.

The Kindle Reader software comes built into the Kindle devices but if you want to read Kindle books on smartphones, iPads and computers that you already own, here is where to get the free software.

This is the Amazon web page to which to go with your internet-connected device to download what the site sees is the type of device you have:

https://www.amazon.com/gp/digital/fiona/kcp-landing-page?ie=UTF8&ref=kcp_mn

To install on your PC, go here:

<http://www.amazon.com/gp/kindle/pc/download/>

Kindle Reader from the MAC or iTunes store:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/kindle/id405399194?mt=12>

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In the end, like cultivating feminist egalitarian relationships, the continuing work is worth it.