Getting Started

Kindle controls

You need to learn only a few simple controls to use the Kindle Paperwhite.

Power button: To turn your Kindle on, press the Power button. If you need to turn off your Kindle completely, such as when traveling on an airplane, press and hold the Power button for seven seconds until the screen goes blank, then release the button.

Your Kindle will automatically go into sleep mode after a few minutes of inactivity and a screensaver appears on the display. This static screensaver uses no battery power. To put your Kindle in sleep mode, press and release the Power button. To wake up your Kindle, press the Power button.

If the Kindle does not power on or is unresponsive during use, you can restart it by pressing and holding the Power button for 20 seconds.

Micro-USB/power port: To charge the Kindle use the AC adapter with the USB cable.

When the device is charging, a lightning bolt appears on the battery icon at the top of the Home screen. The indicator light on the bottom edge will turn amber while the battery is charging and green when it is fully charged. Charging should take less than four hours using a Kindle AC adapter.

Onscreen actions
Your Kindle Paperwhite features a touchscreen interface that allows you to perform many tasks with just a tap or swipe of a finger. To select an item, simply tap it. For example, tap a book cover or title on your Home screen to open the book, or tap a button to perform that button’s action.

**Tap zones**

The EasyReach feature of Kindle lets you effortlessly turn pages in a book or periodical while holding the device with just one hand. Tapping almost anywhere in the display area will take you to the next page; the area is large enough to be tapped whether you hold the device with your left or right hand. Tap the left side of the screen to go to the previous page. The EasyReach tap zones differ depending on whether your Kindle is in portrait or landscape mode. When reading, you can change the screen orientation by tapping on the Menu button and selecting Portrait or Landscape Mode. Note that the option displayed depends upon the current orientation of your Kindle.

**Portrait mode**

**Landscape mode**

If you prefer, you can change pages by swiping the screen with your finger. To go to the next page, swipe your finger from the right to the left across the screen. To go to the previous page, swipe your finger from the left to the right across the screen.
EasyReach also lets you tap the top of the screen to display a toolbar. Toolbar options vary depending on what you are viewing. Standard options include:

Home button: This button takes you to the Home screen, where you’ll find a list of books and other content stored on your Kindle.

Back button: Use this button to retrace your steps. For example, you can follow a link from a book, then tap the Back button to return to your place in the book.

Screen Light: Slide your finger along the scale to adjust the screen brightness. Tap the “+” button to use a higher light setting, and tap the “-” button to use a lower light setting. Press and hold the “-” button to turn the light to minimum brightness. Press and hold the “+” button to turn the light to maximum brightness. You can also tap anywhere on the light scale to select a specific setting.

A secondary toolbar appears when you’re reading a book.

Text button: Tap to display font and text options for your Kindle books, including font size, typeface, line spacing, margins, and publisher font.

Go To button: The options displayed will vary depending on the content you’re reading, but may include Beginning, Page or Location, and chapter titles.

X-Ray button: The X-Ray feature lets you explore the “bones” of the book with a single tap. For example, you can see all of the passages in a book that mention specific ideas, fictional characters, historical figures, and places or topics. If X-Ray is not available for a book, the button will be disabled or the Sync button will display.
Clip This Article button: Tap to clip an entire periodical article to the My Clippings file. The My Clippings file is located on your Home screen and stores your notes, bookmarks, highlights, and clipped articles.

Status indicators

At the top of the Home screen, you’ll see indicators that inform you about the status of your Kindle Paperwhite. To view these indicators within a book or document, tap the top of the screen to display the toolbars.

Wireless status indicators

The Amazon Whispernet service wirelessly delivers content to the Kindle whenever and wherever you want it. Your Kindle can connect to Whispernet via its built-in Wi-Fi capability; the more bars on the Wi-Fi status indicator that are filled, the stronger the signal.

- The Kindle is connected to Whispernet using Wi-Fi.

- Your Kindle is in Airplane Mode and you have no wireless connectivity.

Battery status indicator. The Kindle battery indicator shows the various states of the battery as it discharges. Note that a weak wireless signal can increase power consumption. To turn wireless off, from the Home screen tap the Menu button, select Settings, and enable Airplane Mode.

Special Offers and Sponsored Screensavers

For Kindle with Special Offers devices, you will receive Special Offers and Sponsored Screensavers that display only on the Home screen or screensaver—not within a book.

Reading Kindle Documents

Understanding Kindle display technology

Your Kindle uses a high-resolution display technology called electronic ink (E Ink). The display is reflective, which means you can read it clearly even in bright sunlight. E Ink uses ink just like books and newspapers, but it displays the ink particles electronically.

A “flash” may appear when you turn pages. This is part of the process of updating the E Ink. By default, your Kindle features fast, smooth page turns, minimizing the number of flashes. To refresh the page with every page turn, from the Home screen tap the Menu button and select Settings. Tap Reading Options and use the Page Refresh setting to set your preference.

Customizing your text display

Your Kindle provides a quick way to adjust the appearance of books and periodicals. To access those settings when reading, tap the top of the screen to bring up the toolbars, then tap the

Text button (Aa). A dialog box will appear that lets you change the font size, typeface, line spacing, and margins of the content on the Kindle screen. The Publisher Font option is available on select books that include the ability to view the fonts embedded by the publisher.
Zooming images

You can increase the size of an image in a Kindle book for easier viewing. Press and hold your finger on the image and then release to display a magnifying-glass icon, and then tap on the icon. To return the image to normal size, tap on the image again.

Panning tables

To pan a table, press and hold your finger on the table to display a panning icon. Tap the icon, then drag your finger across the screen in the direction you want to pan. You can select text in a table by pressing and holding on the text, and then dragging your finger across the screen to select it. A dialog box will appear with options to highlight the text, add a note, and share. To exit this mode, tap the Done button.

Enhanced viewing mode

Enhanced viewing of images and tables is available for select Kindle books, enabling you to both pan and zoom. Press and hold your finger on the image or table and then release to display a magnifying-glass icon. Tap the icon to enter enhanced viewing mode. To zoom in further, place two fingers close together on the center of the screen and move them apart. To zoom out, place two fingers a little apart on the screen and pinch them together. While zoomed, drag your finger across the image or table to move to the area of interest. To return to reading, tap the X in the top right corner of the table or image.

Interacting with your documents

Your Kindle gives you access to features that are not available with printed materials, such as instantly viewing word definitions and searching for specific content.

Dictionary: Your Kindle includes one or more dictionaries for each supported language

If you select a single word, a definition of the word displays and options include Show Full Definition, Highlight and More. Tap More to display additional actions, including sharing the selection, adding a note, looking up the word in Wikipedia, instantly translating the selected word, or reporting an error with the content.

If you select a sentence or multiple words, a dialog box will appear with options to Share, Add Note, Highlight, and More. Tap More to display additional actions, including looking up the selection in Wikipedia, instantly translating the selected words, or reporting an error with the content.

Notes will appear as superscripted numbers within the text. To view a note the next time you visit that page, simply tap on the number. If several other Kindle users have highlighted a particular passage in the book you are reading, you will see that passage underlined. To turn off these highlights, select Settings from the Home screen menu, then tap Reading Options and change the Popular Highlights setting. You can also display highlights and notes from people that you follow on https://kindle.amazon.com. To turn off this option, select Settings from the Home screen menu, tap Reading Options, and change the Public Notes setting. The Public Notes feature is not supported in all countries.
Bookmarks: Amazon’s Whispersync technology automatically saves your place in whatever content you are reading. To add a bookmark, select Add Bookmark from the menu or simply tap in the upper right corner of a page. The top right corner of the page will appear folded down. To delete a bookmark, tap in the upper right corner again or select Delete Bookmark from the Menu.

X-Ray: The X-Ray feature lets you explore the “bones” of a book with a single tap. For example, you can see all of the passages in a book that mention specific ideas, fictional characters, historical figures, and places or topics that interest them. Note that X-Ray is not available for all Kindle books.

When you’re reading a book, tap the top of the screen to display the toolbars. The secondary toolbar contains an X-Ray button. If X-Ray is not available for a book, the button will be disabled or the Sync button will display. X-Ray scans your entire book for characters, historical figures, and terms. It can also provide detailed information from Wikipedia and Shelfari, Amazon’s community-powered encyclopedia for book lovers. To find out if a book has X-Ray, look for X-Ray Enabled in the Kindle Store description of the book. X-Ray is not available in all countries.

Viewing reading progress

Your Kindle Paperwhite includes several metrics that allow you to view your reading progress and location within a book, including location numbers, time left in chapter, time left in book, percentage of content read, and actual page numbers. (Not all Kindle books include page numbers.)

Because Kindle books can be read on devices with different screen sizes, locations identify specific places in a book, just like a page number would for a print book. Location numbers allow you to direct a friend to the exact same place in a Kindle book you are reading.

The Reading Progress feature uses a unique algorithm to estimate the amount of time it will take you to complete the chapter or book based on your past and current reading speed. Your specific reading speed is stored only on your Kindle; it is not stored on Amazon servers. When reading, select Reading Progress from the menu, then choose a display option. Options include Location in book, Time left in chapter, and Time left in book.

Many Kindle books also contain page numbers that correspond to the real page numbers in an actual print book. To view the page number of the book you’re reading, tap the top of the screen to display the toolbars. The current location, page number, total number of pages, and percentage of content read are displayed at the bottom of the screen. The reading time left will also display at the bottom of the screen.

On the Home screen, dots below the book title indicate how long the book is, with bold dots showing how far you have read.