Visiting your local library





Your local library provides much more than books. It's also a vital <u>community hub</u> with free safe spaces for work, study, and play.

Libraries have expanded what they offer too. Some examples include musical instruments, game consoles, bike repair kits, seeds, and child or pet toys. Most libraries offer a range of programs and services. However, you can still browse books and find free entertainment.

You can learn more about how and why to keep reading as you age <u>here</u>.

Free and equal access

Libraries provide free and equal access to information and resources. From the comfort of your home, you can also access many online resources. For example:

- Books
- Magazines, and newspapers
- Audiobooks
- CDs and DVDs
- Materials that can be used for education, entertainment, or personal growth

Libraries provide free access to computers and WiFi. Many libraries offer training programs and workshops to help you develop digital skills.

When you can't get to a library

Libraries can keep you connected in other ways when you can't get out and about. For example, access to technology, resources, and services such as:

- Online platforms to access books, media, programs, courses, and resources.
- Book bundles and grab bags if you can't browse the shelves.
- Outreach services with mobile libraries, pop-up libraries, window visits, and drop-in events. Some libraries also partner with local organisations like food banks.
- Libraries with mobile services offer WiFi, laptops, and telehealth access.



A community hub

Libraries play an important role in community engagement, social inclusion, and diversity. They have traditionally been the go-to place for local history and genealogy research. This hasn't changed, but now you may also find your local library is organising and hosting:

- Book and media clubs
- Author talks
- Workshops to teach various skills
- Book and film clubs
- Film screenings

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Why you'll enjoy visiting a library

Libraries use new technology to meet growing community needs. However, people still enjoy visiting libraries for the social aspects and community interaction.

Most libraries are well-designed and welcoming spaces that make you feel good. They're anchors of community life and great spaces to meet new people. Free access to computers, WiFi, and safe spaces are other bonuses.

Libraries contribute to the idea that the community is a good place to be. They enhance the social and cultural health of the community.

Find your nearest library

To find your nearest library service, use the links below:

- Australian Capital Territory
- New South Wales
- Northern Territory
- <u>Queensland</u>

- <u>South Australia</u>
- <u>Tasmania</u>
- <u>Victoria</u>
- Western Australia

More helpful information

If you need more information, get in touch with one of our helpful team members on **1800 951 971**.

CONTACT US

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