



TEXAS TALKING BOOKS PROGRAM

What is the Texas Talking Book Program?

The Talking Book Program is a free library service for people unable to read standard print because of a visual, physical, or reading disability. The Talking Book Program (TBP) is a division of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission. Since 1931, TBP has participated as a regional library of the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, a division of the Library of Congress.

What does it cost?

Nothing. All TBP services and the use of playback equipment are free, including return postage.

What formats are available?

Books and magazines come in various formats, including:

- Downloads to a computer, transferable to a flash memory cartridge or thumb drive;
- Books and magazines in Braille, audio, and large print format are also available by mail.

What kinds of books do you have?

Many. TBP has both fiction and non-fiction books in many categories including: mystery, romance, western, science fiction, history, biography, cookbooks, how-to books, and nutrition.

Where do the books and magazines come from?

The National Library Service provides books and magazines in Braille and as recordings done by professional narrators. The Talking Book Program also produces books locally. Volunteers record between 35 and 40 books every year. Most are done in English and some in Spanish.

How do I get books?

Two ways. First, select from the 80,000 books and 50 magazines, complete an order form, and send it in. Second, talk with a Reader Consultant who can suggest other books as well as help order books and answer questions.

How do I get started?

Complete an application and send it in. TBP will call you to set up an account. To learn more, contact the Talking Book Program.

- Call toll-free 1-800-252-9605.
- Click on the Web site www.TexasTalkingBooks.org
- Send e-mail to tbp.services@tsl.texas.gov