

## Mobile App and Mobile Bases Services in Libraries

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*Abstract - Paper discusses about the mobile library apps and mobile based services in libraries growing day by day. Dynamic nature of technology has significant impact on every aspect of modern life. Particularly advice and advice technologies (ICT) has provided faster admission to advice and it is additionally arduous the libraries to amend and acclimate their casework adopting the abstruse changes. A mobile application (app) is computer software designed specifically for handheld mobile devices such as a smartphone or a tablet. Mobile apps must typically be bought and downloaded online, but there are many available at no-cost.*

**Keyword:** Mobile apps, Library mobile apps, mobile library services, Applications of mobile technologies

### Introduction

Both mobile library apps and mobile based services in libraries growing day by day. Dynamic nature of technology has significant impact on every aspect of modern life. Particularly advice and advice technologies (ICT) has provided faster admission to advice and it is additionally arduous the libraries to amend and acclimate their casework adopting the abstruse changes. In the accomplished few decades, libraries accept adopted ICT and anesthetized through adorning stages like automatic house-keeping operations, accouterment faster admission to its collection, and digitisation to accommodate assorted accesses at users desktop. In the avant-garde world, libraries are not abandoned advice providers, Web provides advanced ambit of advice although the agreeable may not consistently be chargeless and/ or with amount addition. To criterion its abode as an advice provider, libraries charge not alternate to accept all accessible new technologies like ICT, Wi-fi, adaptable communications, and Library 2.0 and 3.0 to redesign, and transform its casework so as to bear advice and its casework to the added ambitious users whenever, wherever and about they prefer.

### What is Mobile apps for Libraries

A mobile application (app) is computer software designed specifically for handheld mobile devices such as a smartphone or a tablet. Mobile apps must typically be bought and downloaded online, but there are many available at no-cost.

The wireless technology and mobile phones are becoming an integral part of everyday life and are changing the way one connects and interacts with the world. A cell phone application with modem allows farmers to remotely access their irrigation pumps and to check availability of power to their irrigation systems and turn on/off the pumps. Doctors are also using mobiles to access electronic medical record, view medical images, access drug information, and take notes. Latest is mobile real-time remote patient monitoring and an iPhone application, iStethoscope to monitor heart rates of patients on the go. Already mobile phones are no longer a luxury, but a necessity not only for simple voice or text communication, but also for accessing the internet. Such connectivity seems to be the wave of the future.

Browser allows browsing sites online and helps the user to search information from all the access points, they differ greatly in terms of their operating systems supported, the best can display most websites and offer page zoom and keyboard shortcuts, while others can only display websites optimized for mobile devices. Vendors are searching for the best and adapting significant change due to the changing needs of the patrons as it evolves from a lay man's internet to full-fledged web experience.

Independent browser software vendors such as Opera, Open wave and ACCESS have all been working on browsers that incorporate the latest Web standards and start to create an experience that overcomes some of the inherent shortcomings of mobile devices. Today many smart phones ship with browsers from these vendors, as well as some internally developed by Nokia and others that can render many Web pages without the need for proxy server-based content adaptation, and automatically adjust layout for the screen and navigation requirements of a handset.

## **Mobile optimized library websites**

Libraries have been talking about optimizing their web sites for mobile devices for years, but mobile browsers have lagged in their ability to display content and have had limited functionality. The evolution of mobile device browsers (listed above) has benefited from a marked increase in processor power and the increased speed and coverage of wireless network infrastructures. The browser development has also been accelerated by the increased number of web sites being optimized for the mobile users. Megan Fox's who is web and electronic service Librarian at Simmons College explains topic in her site [web.simmons.edu](http://web.simmons.edu) which covers many of her presentations on mobile trends and use in libraries and discuss about the various aspects in this regard. He also lists several libraries with mobile optimized sites including:

- National Digital Library of India  
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/developer?id=National...Library+of+India&hl...>
- IIT Kharagpur Library  
<https://www.thebetterindia.com/94360/iit-kharagpur-national-digital-library/>
- American university library  
<http://www.library.american.edu/mobile>

- Boston University Medical Center Mobile  
<http://med-libwww.bu.edu/mobile/index.cfm>
- Duke Libraries  
<http://library.duke.edu/mobile/>
- Harvard College Library  
<http://hcl.harvard.edu/mobile/versions>
- Mobile Apps from the Library of Congress  
<https://www.loc.gov/apps/>
- New York University Libraries  
<http://library.nyu.edu.8000/mobile>

## **Mobile Technology services:**

### **Text messages:**

Existing e-mail active casework like bringing new books to the apprehension of users for suggestion, allusion of accession of biconcave abstracts by users, allegorical availability of aloof abstracts for collection, appraising about which/when books are overdue, library circulars, e-journals subscribed, change in timings, advice about important events, etc., can be upgraded by sending through SMS/text active casework to accommodated the advice needs of 'netgens'. Such active notifications can be generated automatically application chip library administration system/software. SMS letters can be beatific to accumulation of users accompanying through abounding chargeless applications, and agent websites/clients.

### **Library Instructions and Virtual Tours:**

Library tours, instruction/induction/orientation programs accept been absolutely cogent in bringing the nonusers to libraries and additionally advice the accidentally amid or users amid in altered bounded locations. Library users, who don't accept time or affection to appear an on-site workshop, can get admission to library tours on their adaptable devices. Audio/ basic library tours can be produced adequately quickly, inexpensively, and could abate the bulk of agents time spent allowance new users to acclimatize themselves in the library and answer the accessories available. It can calmly be provided both as downloads from the library website and on adaptable devices.

**Purchase suggestions:** Librarian can receive the suggestions from the users sent via mobile phones. In such cases users need not to visit the libraries and write the requirements in a register.

**New Title Preview:** Mobile gadgets can be used to disseminate the information about newly acquired documents which are of irrespective of forms.

**Catalogue search:** Libraries can provide their catalogue on the mobile devices. University of Cambridge has made a provision to search the library catalogue from the mobile device. The service can be viewed by accessing the URL - <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/mob/#menu>.

**News and Events:** Information on job openings, varieties of scholarly competition, library events such as orientations program, stock verification, book recall, lectures on special topic, news in relation to scholarly work, awards and so on can be given using mobile devices in order to update the user's knowledge. Short messages regarding the library events and news can be sent to the users personally.

**Reference service:** Library users can ask librarians anything through the live chat and texting with mobiles. The reference services can be provided with the help of sending and receiving SMS. Immediate feedback is also possible from the user's side.

**Journal finder:** Library Journal Finder provides access to full text journal, magazine, and newspaper content as well as links to titles held in print. For instance, American University library has providing option to search journals through mobile phones.

**Online books Renewals:** As in banking and financial sectors, libraries can formulate regulations for using mobiles for circulation of reading materials and maintenance of users account. The Sirsi Dynix Company has developed a handheld circulation tool called 'PocketCirc', which enables libraries to access the unicorn library management system on a PDA device. This wireless solution enables staff to assist patrons in the stacks, checkout materials while off site, such as at community or campus events, and update inventory items while walking around the library. Mobile phones make ILL/document delivery services faster and cut-down the time to request/visit different libraries and complement the geographically remote users.

**E-Resources:** Some publishers are already delivering e-books (both text and audio) that are accessible via mobile phones. Using free Plucker e-book viewer, one can access about 20,000 free e-books from Project Gutenberg. Mobipocket of Amazon is one of the standard e-book reader applications and the website has over 40,000 titles (about 11,000 free). A large collection of audio books both free-and subscription based services are available for download and also transferable to mobile devices. LibroVox is a collection of free audio books from the public domain.

**Q R codes :** QR cipher stands for 'quick response', and basically a two-dimensional bar codes that can accommodate any alphanumeric argument and generally acclimated to abundance urls, text, etc., accepted as 'mobile tagging'. QR codes are acclimated in bartering tracking, logistics, account control, and advertising. Abstracts can be translated into a QR cipher by any QR generator, abounding of which are accessible as chargeless download. Users artlessly access the abstracts to be translated, and the architect produces the code, which can again be displayed electronically or in printed format. Decoding the advice can be done with any adaptable camera buzz that has a QR reader, which is advisedly accessible online for best devices. Libraries can use QR codes to characterization books, journals, audio/visual, offprint's, add QR codes in Web OPAC and added places. Users with phones that accept a camera and chargeless barcode decoder software can booty a account of the barcode, again the software decodes the picture, and translates the abstracts into title, barcode, and area advice that can be displayed on the phone. The QR cipher can be scanned, and adored for added use on mobile. QR codes not alone

articulation to websites, but additionally can be acclimated to accelerate prewritten SMS to phones, alteration buzz numbers, and accommodate added text. They are advised to cope with a high-level of error, appropriately are acceptable for alfresco use.

## Conclusions

The librarian has to understand fully the capabilities and potentials of the mobile technology and its use in libraries in near future by providing the quality based services matching with the needs of the user. Mobile phones are inevitable tools for information communication. Human beings in a society use mobile phone to communicate thoughts, facts, conversations, in general, information. The dissemination of processed information is a common factor in a civilized society. Several organizations such as libraries, documentations centers involved in this process. Libraries especially use several tools and techniques to circulate the information to the user community. At the same time, libraries should be advertised. For this purpose the use of technology is very essential. Mobile technology has become boon to the libraries. A library may reach the remote users effectively by adopting of mobile technology in its services.

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