

# Digital Library News

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## Amazon 5.12.4 Update is Causing Trouble on Some Kindle E-readers

A couple of weeks ago Amazon released a new firmware update that would introduce a slew of new features in the coming weeks. It looks like this file is causing problems for some people who have older Kindles. The library view and home screen have disappeared, the only way to fix this issue is to deregister it or do a complete factory reset, although this option will warrant downloading all of your e-books again from the cloud.

Amazon has not pulled the update file yet, and is still pushing it out to users. It remains to be seen if specific Kindle models are affected or if the firmware's new features that were turned on, are wreaking havoc.

*Source:* Details available at <https://goodereader.com/blog/kindle/amazon-5-12-4-update-is-causing-trouble-on-some-kindle-e-readers>

## Did the iPad Kill the E-reader?

The original iPad came out 10 years ago and it goes without saying that when this device started to catch on, many of the fringe e-reader players went out of business and people started to read on tablets. News, magazines, newspapers, comic books, and a myriad of digital content always looked nicer on a full colour screen, whereas e-books tend to look better on E INK. Did the Apple iPad kill the e-reader market?

If you want to know how far e-readers have fallen, look no further than a 2015 study from the Pew Research Center. About 5 years

ago, e-reader ownership was already dropping precipitously, as tablet and smartphone ownership skyrocketed. The study found that 19% of American adults owned dedicated e-readers, compared to 32% of American adults, just one year earlier. There has not been another consumer-facing e-reader study since then.

iPads, on the other hand, have had a largely consistent rise. An Ars Technica graph reveals that iPad sales started off slowly in 2010, grew steadily until 2013, suffered a big setback in 2014, and then went right back up. In other words, by 2015, iPad sales were growing, and e-reader ownership was shrinking.

*Source:* Details available at <https://goodereader.com/blog/tablet-slates/did-the-ipad-kill-the-e-reader>

## Samsung is Launching One of the Best Chromebooks with a Stylus

There is no shortage of digital note-taking devices in the market. There are numerous entrants to the E INK space that have Wacom-enabled screens and notable products include the Sony Digital Paper, Remarkable, and the Onyx Boox MAX 3. Samsung dominates the smartphone space with the S-Pen and their popular Galaxy Note series appeals towards business professionals, they also have a line of tablets with the same technology. Chromebooks, they have never been aimed at prosumers, instead they are often cheap and accessible to students or people looking for deals, but this has all changed.

Samsung is launching the most expensive, highest spec Chromebook in the world. It features a 13.3 inch AMOLED touchscreen display with a resolution of 3840×2160 and will play 4K content. Underneath the hood is a 10th Gen Intel Core i5-10210U quad-core mobile processor, 8 GB of RAM, 265 GB SSD. It is also a thin, light, and versatile device that measures 0.4 inches thick, weighs 2.3 pounds.

The screen and keyboard are locked together with a hinge but it also features a neat 360 flip-and-fold design and backlit keyboard. One of the most exciting elements about this device, is that it has a screen that is compatible with the newest S-Pen and has a dock inside of the Chromebook to house it. This means that you can take notes and draw on the screen, which is useful if people do not want to go for a smartphone or E INK E-Note.

*Source:* Details available at <https://goodereader.com/blog/tablet-slates/samsung-is-launching-one-of-the-best-chromebooks-with-a-stylus>

## RBMedia Has Purchased GraphicAudio

RBMedia has announced that they have purchased GraphicAudio, a leading producer of dramatized audio content featuring a full cast of actors, sound effects, and cinematic music. The demand for spoken audio is growing rapidly, fuelled by innovation in areas such as audio originals, podcasts, and dramatizations.

GraphicAudio is home to the largest catalogue of full-cast dramatizations in the industry, with over 1300 titles across 150 series, focused chiefly on action/adventure, comics, science fiction/fantasy, and westerns. The company has produced titles in partnership with brands such as Marvel, DC Comics, Dynamite, Vault Comics, and authors such as Brandon Sanderson, Peter V. Brett, Michael J. Sullivan, R. A. Salvatore, William W. Johnstone, and Brent Weeks.

“GraphicAudio’s unique ability to deliver high-quality, fully immersive audio experiences and original scripted works is unparalleled,”

said Tom MacIsaac, Chief Executive Officer for RBmedia. He also added, “Since RBmedia is the largest producer of audiobooks in the world, the combination of the two organizations will enable us to expand the application of this innovative audio storytelling approach and bring it to many partners and consumers globally.”

GraphicAudio joins the ever-expanding group of RBmedia spoken audio brands including Audiobooks.com, Recorded Books, Tantor Media, HighBridge, W. F. Howes, Wavesound, Christian Audio, Gildan Media and Kalorama Audio. They are owned by KKR, the same company that purchased Overdrive late last year.

*Source:* Details available at <https://goodereader.com/blog/audiobooks/rbmedia-has-purchased-graphicaudio>

## E INK Is Now Selling Advanced Color E-Paper Developer Kits

E INK developed their Advanced Color E-Paper a couple of years ago, but it was only late last year that the technology was refined enough that other companies started to use it for digital signage. Good e-Reader was in Tokyo for the world premiere. In order to spur further adoption, E INK is now selling ACEP development kits for \$799 that have a 13.3 inch display, logic board, and documentation so that people can get started and create their own products.

Word of the development kits has reached a fever pitch and within a few hours, all of them have been sold out and the E INK shop site is crashing like crazy. This will obviously be fixed sometime in the next few days and new stock should be arriving shortly.

One of the drawbacks of ACEP is just how expensive it is, \$799 for just the kit and likely for a few units with all of the software, the price will triple. This is because E INK does not license their technology to others or made has made the licensing fee uneconomical.

*Source:* Details available at <https://goodereader.com/blog/e-paper/e-ink-is-now-selling-advanced-color-e-paper-developer-kits>

## India Manufacturing Inc. Charts Digital Priorities

An EY study titled ‘Will the Next Transformation in Manufacturing be Led by Digital?’. Two-thirds of the manufacturing firms in India ranked big data and predictive analytics as the top investment priority in technology in the next 1–2 years. This was followed by sensors and Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and cloud/integrated platforms along with robotic process automation.

“Concepts such as Industry 4.0 and Smart Factory, which interconnect the shop-floor ecosystem through emerging technologies, are now a reality. Digitization continues to transform manufacturing processes around the world leveraging technologies such as IIoT, artificial intelligence, advanced robotics, etc,” said Ashish Nanda, EY India Supply Chain Leader. The key factors driving digital manufacturing in India include predictive maintenance, connected supply chain, reduced energy consumption, production optimization, lower price of sensors and high-computing needs, and connected customers. However, it is still early days. “Going by the success stories though, it is perhaps essential for manufacturing organizations in India to first understand and then embark on this digital transformational journey to remain competitive and attain world-class status,” he said. The study is based on interactions with about 50 leaders of large manufacturing organizations.

*Source:* Details available at [https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-manufacturing-inc-charts-digital-priorities/articleshow/74560151.cms?utm\\_source=contentofinterest&utm\\_medium=text&utm\\_campaign=cppst](https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-manufacturing-inc-charts-digital-priorities/articleshow/74560151.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst)

## Digital Technology and the Rise of New Informal Learning Methods

In this digital age, consulting a YouTube tutorial or an online dictionary, improving English skills using a dedicated application while taking public transportation, and so on are some common modes of learning. To develop their skills, professionals are increasingly turning to these informal digital learning methods. This is illustrated by two studies conducted by the HRM Digital Lab at Institut Mines-Télécom Business School, on a representative sample of 1000 French employees.

According to the study carried out by Kantar TNS in 2016, just over one in two employees had used informal digital learning to develop their professional skills. A second study carried out by OpinionWay in 2018 showed that this figure now applies to 60% of the workforce.

There is nothing new about employees learning independently on a daily basis, whether through observing their colleagues or manager, reading trade publications, talking to their peers, among others. This set of learning behaviours was first studied and formalized starting in the 1950s, building on work by Knowles, who is considered to be the father of andragogy.

*Source:* Details available at <https://theconversation.com/digital-technology-and-the-rise-of-new-informal-learning-methods-126813>

