Memberships & Lending

To Join the Library
Becoming a Library member is easy and FREE!

You can join online at www.cairns.qld.gov.au/library (please refer to terms and conditions) or in person at any one of our eight branches. Our team will need to see a valid form of identification which includes your name and current residential address.

If you are under 18, a parent or guardian who is a member or eligible to become a member of the Library needs to show their proof of identification. Children’s cards are available for members 12 years and under.

Lending and Returning Items
You must present your library card or digital library card on your smartphone each time you borrow. Self-checkout machines are available for your convenience. You may borrow up to thirty (30) items at a time (except for Hot Speed Reads, DVD/CDs) for three (3) weeks. You may borrow Hot Speed Reads, DVD/CDs for a ten (10) day period. Once an item is overdue your membership privileges are suspended and you will be unable to renew items or use other library services such as the internet. You will be expected to return all items and pay any outstanding charges for lost or damaged items before borrowing privileges for your family are reinstated.

All items may be returned to any branch of Cairns Libraries. After hours chutes are provided at each library, and at the DFO Shopping Centre Westcourt.

Renewing Items
You can renew items twice, provided items aren’t reserved and you have no outstanding items or fees. Items may be renewed either in person, over the phone, or via our website at member login. For phone or website renewals, please have your library card barcode number handy. To renew online you will also need your PIN.

Reserving Items
You may reserve up to fifteen (15) items at a time. We will contact you via SMS or email when the item is ready for your collection. You have seven (7) days from the date on the SMS or email to collect the item. If the item is uncollected at this time, it will be returned to the library collection or moved on to the next person in the reservation queue.

Library Elf
You can manage your reservations and loans by joining Library Elf – a third party personal email reminder service. Library Elf will help you keep track of what’s due, overdue and ready for pick-up. You can also enable an auto-renew function (see Library Guide – How to Join Library Elf). If you change your email details, library pin or receive a new card you will need to update your ‘elf’ account.

Need further information?
Contact your local Cairns Libraries branch, or Contact Us on www.cairns.qld.gov.au/library