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## ABSTRACT

On the Internet, one can not only buy books but also obtain information about publishers and vendors, book reviews, authors, and other book-related information. Even electronic texts are available for downloading or browsing online. The paper discusses World Wide Web sites for many book-related information needs, whether a person is searching for nonfiction and reference, various fiction genres, a bookseller specializing in rare books, or the newest book about the Internet itself. The paper describes InfoTrac and FirstSearch, and many of the other services available on the Internet for researching, browsing, purchasing, and downloading books. It also discusses the fact that the diverse book-related activity on the Internet contradicts the oft-heard notion that printed books might be on the verge of extinction. Also included is a topically subdivided list of 36 Web addresses: General Sites (6); Academic Book Sites (9); Book Reviews (7); Rare and OP (out-of-print) Books (3); Book Stores (2); Texts Online (5); Online Magazines and Books (3); and Book Arts (1). (Author/SWC)

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### Book It!

### Abstract

On the Internet, you can not only buy books but also obtain information about publishers, and vendors, book reviews, authors, and any other book-related information. Even complete electronic texts are available for downloading or browsing online. This session will demonstrate Web sites where the book is still alive and well, whether you are searching for books on entomology, a genre related site for mystery fans, a bookseller specializing in rare books, or the newest books about the Internet.

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By working closely with the technology center and the library on your local campus, many things are possible. Commercial indexes will not solve all of your problems, but they can significantly reduce them. It is important to remember however, that the best way to learn the net, and its potential, is to just jump in and test the water. You won't sink and you just might swim.

FirstSearch. Ohio: OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., 1995

Infotrac User Guide. California: Information Access Company, Nd.

Although predications abound concerning the end of the printed word, it certainly has not arrived. In fact, bookstores are doing more business than ever with new and larger stores that carry not only books, but software, tapes, CD's and other media. And ironically, if a book is not available at one of these megastores, it can probably be ordered from an online bookstore on the

World Wide Web. The Web has an abundance of book related sites, which fall into several categories such as discussion groups and reviews of current titles; book stores or sites that search for books; publishers pages with new titles and other services; sites devoted to a genre; and sites with the complete text. Of course there are other book related sites that do not fit into these categories exactly, and some sites contain so much information that they could only be classified as general or comprehensive sites.

One of these general sites is *Bookwire* which lists itself the first place to look for book information and the most comprehensive book site on the Web. The Navigator page is an index to all of the resources at this site which include, but is not limited to, book reviews, links to publishers, and the *Publisher's Weekly* list of best-sellers. Don't leave this site without looking at Bookwire's Best Bets for interesting and unusual book sites. Another comprehensive site is *IBS* or the *Internet Book Shop*. This site claims to be the largest bookshop online in the world. Along with many book titles and links to publishers, it includes excerpts from books, author profiles, and the ability to search *Whitaker's British Books in Print*. Especially helpful are the links to British publishers, if you are searching for a United Kingdom publication. Other comprehensive or general sites include one of the oldest and best book-related sites on the Web, the *Internet Book Information Homepage*. Other Web sites to explore are the *Internet Road Map to Books*, *Bookzone*, *the ReadersNdex*, and *the Bibliophile Homepage*. Although each of these sites is unique, they all have a variety of book-related information. *Bookzone* has over one thousand links to other book-related sites and *ReadersNdex* is a more literary site.

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For those interested in out-of-print or rare books, the Antiquarian Booksellers Association maintains a site with links to over 140 book stores that deal in rare or out-of-print books. The list of book dealers is searchable geographically or by specialty. Often only the address and telephone numbers are listed for individual book stores, but in some instances, the catalogs are available online, and arrangements can be made by e-mail to purchase specific titles. The *Virtual Bookshop* also specializes in rare, first editions, antiquarian, collectible and fine books. When it is difficult to locate a particular title, *Glyn's Books* will do an international book search for out-of-print titles, or e-mail your request to *ARC Booksearch* for a free search.

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can be found at *Tech Classics Archive*. Another site that has to be mentioned, if only for its name, is *Project Bartleby* at Columbia University. Named after Melville's scrivener, it includes the full searchable text of reference titles. Two other sites are notable, the Library of Congress for its large number of links to electronic texts and the *Electronic Texts at the University of Virginia*.

If the above mentioned classics are not what you want to read, the Internet has a variety of genre related book sites for mystery, romance, fantasy, and science fiction readers. Mystery lovers can find a wealth of information at the *Mysterious Homepage*, or the *Tangled Web*, or



even the *ClueLass Home Page*. Anything related to crime or mystery fiction is linked to these home pages. Information on authors, chatting with fans or authors, new book titles, list of book stores, mystery magazines online, mystery games --all of this is available if you follow the smoking gun or the spider web icons. The genre of science fiction is well represented on the Internet. Visit *Speculative Fiction* for all kinds of information about science fiction, horror, and fantasy. *Science Fiction Resources* is another site with many useful links. For lovers of romance the *Romance Author's Page* will satisfy even the most jaded of romance readers with information about writers and publishers. Many authors also have an Internet site devoted to them and their work, so look up your favorite author on the Internet.

It has been predicted that in the future as more texts become available online and fewer books are printed, that the book will again become a valued object and an art form. Book arts exhibits are growing in number as are academic and professional programs devoted to the books arts such as binding, typography, paper-making, and printing. The *Book Arts* site at Syracuse University is the place to start investigating the wealth of information on this subject. The *University of Idaho Book Arts* also has links to artist's books and other book arts resources.

Almost any type of information relating to books is available on the Internet. In addition to the resources mentioned previously, many discussion groups and listservs are devoted to book related topics. If you can't find what you need, or are looking for a particular title, you can always check out library catalogs from all over the United States and abroad at *Hytelnet*. To start you on your search for book-related information on the Internet, the following selected book sites are listed with their current addresses. Links to all of the sites mentioned can be found at the following address: <http://www//mtsu.edu/~vvesper>.

# Book Sites on the Web

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## General Sites

- BookWire**            <http://www.bookwire.com>
- Internet Book Shop** <http://www.bookshop.co.uk>
- Internet Road Map** <http://www.bookinfo.com/welcome/roadmap>
- Bookzone**            <http://tx.com:80/bookzone>
- ReadersNdex**        <http://www.readersndex.com>
- Internet Book Information Homepage**    <http://sunsite.unc.edu/ibic/IBIC-homepage.html>

## Academic Book Sites

- Academia**            <http://www.baker-taylor.com/Academia/MO1/Home.html>
- AAUP Online**        <http://aaup.princeton.edu>
- ACQWEB**            <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/law/acqs/acqs.html>
- BookWeb**            <http://www.ambook.org/bookweb>
- WWW Virtual Library: Publishers**        <http://comlab.ox.ac.uk/archive/publisher.html>
- Penguin Books USA** <http://www.penguin.com/usa>
- Library of Congress Electronic Texts and Publishing Resources**
- <http://www.loc.gov/global/etext/etext.html#authors>
- Pub Web**            <http://www.pubweb.com/pubweb/home.html>
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<b>Reviews of Computer books</b>	<a href="http://www.bookwire.com">http://www.bookwire.com</a>
<b>Quarterly Black Review of Books</b>	<a href="http://www.bookwire.com">http://www.bookwire.com</a>
<b>History Reviews Online</b>	<a href="http://www.uc.edu/www/history/reviews.htmlx">http://www.uc.edu/www/history/reviews.htmlx</a>
<b>Chapter One</b>	<a href="http://www.psi.net/chapterone">http://www.psi.net/chapterone</a>
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**Texts Online**

<b>Online Book Page</b>	<a href="http://www.cs.cum.edu/Web/books.html">http://www.cs.cum.edu/Web/books.html</a>
<b>Tech Classics Archive</b>	<a href="http://the-tech.mit.edu:80/classics/">http://the-tech.mit.edu:80/classics/</a>
<b>Electronic Texts at the University of Virginia</b>	<a href="http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/uvaonline.html">http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/uvaonline.html</a>
<b>Project Gutenberg</b>	<a href="http://jg.cso.uiuc.edu/pg/lists/list.html">http://jg.cso.uiuc.edu/pg/lists/list.html</a>
<b>Project Bartelby</b>	<a href="http://www.cc.columbia.edu/acis/bartleby">http://www.cc.columbia.edu/acis/bartleby</a>

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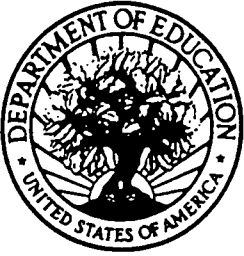
**Salon**                    <http://www.salon1999.com>

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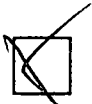


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