

FINES AND CHARGES



MARION PUBLIC LIBRARY

Retrieval of library materials is important to the security of the Marion Public Library's collection and to insuring that library materials are available to all interested library users.

AS OF MAY 1, 2022 THE MARION PUBLIC LIBRARY IS FINE-FREE FOR OVERDUE BOOKS AND MATERIALS.

We are free of fines and we do not impose late charges on our materials. The Marion Public Library Board of Trustees and staff want to ensure that everyone has access to the library's resources in as barrier-free way as possible. The library still has a set time limit for materials to be borrowed and we expect items to be returned on time.

Fines are set by the lending library. If an item is borrowed from a library that still imposes fines, you will be assessed that late fine. The Marion Public Library is not charging late fines on items we own or that are borrowed from other OWWL Libraries and checked out at our library.

Replacement costs attributed to lost or damaged items will not be waived with late fees. Borrowers who damage materials will be charged for the repair or replacement cost of the item. Any items borrowed from the library are to be returned in good condition. Damage to library materials will be billed to the borrower. Amounts assessed for lost or damaged items will remain on the borrower's account until paid. Replacement items are not accepted in lieu of

Payment. However, we want everyone to be able to use the library's services, so please speak with us if lost charges present a problem and we will attempt to find an equitable solution.

All borrowed materials will still have due dates, but will automatically be renewed at the time of that due date. Most items can be renewed twice. Once an item has reached its maximum "checkouts" (the initial checkout plus the two renewals) and has not been returned to the library, it will be considered "lost" and the price of that item will be charged to the patron's account.

For example, an Adult Fiction book is checked out for three weeks. If it is not returned after the three weeks is up, it will be automatically renewed for another three weeks. If it is not returned after that second three-week loan period, it will automatically be renewed

one last time for another three weeks. If the book has not been returned to the library after the total of nine weeks, it will be considered lost and the patron will be billed for the cost of the book.

- Most books have a three-week loan period with two renewals for a total of nine weeks.
- Most DVDs have a one-week loan period with two renewals for a total of three weeks.

Out of courtesy for all patrons, the library encourages patrons to promptly return materials.

If you have more than five or more overdue items on your account, your borrowing privileges will be suspended. Patrons will be sent overdue reminders asking them to return the items via email at 1, 2, and 4 weeks. If items are overdue by eight weeks, patrons will be charged for the replacement cost of the item. At that point, patrons will be sent a replacement cost bill.

The Library does not issue refunds for lost or damaged items that have been paid for by patrons and then later returned. Once paid for, these items are considered the property of the patron.

Fine-Free Policy adopted May 1, 2022