

LIBRARIANS' DAY – 2017

125 Birthday Celebrations of Dr. S.R. Ranganathan

**Use of Mobile Apps in Providing Library
services: An overview**

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Introduction to Mobile Apps

- ▶ Mobile app is a software application of mobile which are designed to run on mobile tablets and smart phones. The term app can be replaced with software application. Apps which are not installed can be downloaded from the distributor called app store. The app distributors started appearing in the year 2008 by App store, Google play, windows phone store and Blackberry app world. Mobile apps were originally offered for general productivity and information retrieval including email, calendar, contacts, stock market and weather information.
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- ▶ Usage of mobile apps has become increasingly prevalent across mobile phone users. The study which was conducted in 2012 by [comScore](#) reported that during the previous quarter, more mobile subscribers used apps than browsed the web on their devices: 51.1% vs. 49.8% respectively. Researchers found that usage of mobile apps strongly correlates with user context and depends on user's location and time of the day. Mobile apps are playing an ever-increasing role within healthcare and when designed and integrated correctly can yield many benefits.
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. Distributor of the Mobile App

- ▶ **Google Play:** Google Play formerly known as the Android Market is an international online software store developed by Google for Android devices. It opened in October 2008. In July 2013, the number of apps downloaded via the Google Play Store exceeded 50 billion, of the over 1 million apps available. As of September 2016, according to [Statista](#) the number of apps available exceeded 2.4 million.
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- ▶ **App Store:** App Store for [iOS](#) was not the first app distribution service, but it ignited the mobile revolution and was opened in 2008, and as of January 2011, reported over 10 billion downloads. The original [AppStore](#) was first demonstrated to Steve Jobs in 1993 by Jesse Taylor at NeXTWorld Expo. As of June 6, 2011, there were 425,000 apps available, which had been downloaded by 200 million iOS users.

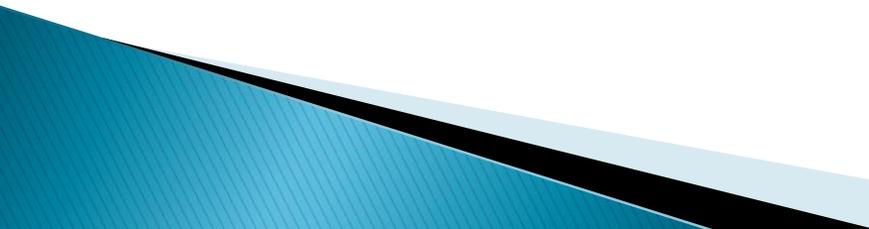
Other Popular Distributors

Distributor	Launched	Supporting OS
<u>Amazon Appstore</u>	2011	<u>Android</u>
<u>BlackBerry World</u>	2009	<u>BlackBerry OS</u>
<u>Ovi (Nokia)</u>	2009	<u>Nokia Phones</u>
<u>Windows Phone Store</u>	2010	<u>Windows Phone Platform</u>
<u>Samsung Apps</u>	2009	<u>Samsung Apps</u>

Library apps

- ▶ when organizations, companies, markets, started launching of Apps, libraries also started launching apps for providing library services. Among library apps few are personal apps which are useful for managing home library and e reading apps.
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E-reading apps

- ▶ **Kindle** : it is created by Amazon. Due to its connections with Amazon it has a huge selection of books to choose from in a multitude of categories.
 - ▶ **Free Books**: The Free Books app provides 23,469 classic titles for selection, and allows for highlighting, notes, dictionary support, and bookmarks, which make it an asset for any library.
 - ▶ **iBooks**: iBooks is an iTunes app that includes access to the iBookstore for a wide variety of reading materials.
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- ▶ **Audiobooks**: Not everybody can enjoy a book on the go, or has the time to sit and scan a page; luckily, the Audiobooks application offers free books that you can listen to for multitasking and hands free enjoyment of books.
- ▶ **Readu**: This application reads EPUB and TXT files and allows to download books from other places and sites, as well as translate text.

Home Library Apps

- ▶ **libib**: this app allows to organize the books, movies, music, etc. via tags. It has the annotation features which could allow us to make notes about borrowing items , and it has the limitless size up to 100,000 items. This app also includes tools for measuring how much we have read, as well as the options to review items in your library and to make those reviews public. It is free. Web, iOS, or Android

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- ▶ My Library: this is being very similar to iBookshelf. we can input information via barcode scanning or ISBN, and it allows us to catalog all kinds of media. It also has built-in features for tracking borrowing/loans, allows you to rate items, features streamlined backup options, and can handle up to about 8,000 items at a time.

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- ▶ **iCollect Books Pro**: Key features of this app includes barcode scanning or manual UPC/ISBN entry, automatic cover art and bibliographic information (via Google spidering), genre sorting, tracking loans and borrowing, wishlists, and preorder cataloging.

Library Apps

- ▶ **WorldCat Mobile**: MapQuest meets iBooks with this app that will let you search local libraries for a particular title and then map out the fastest route to the library with that book in stock.
- ▶ **DC Public Library** : This gratis app from IOP Publishing (Institute of Physics) allows downloading up to 20 recent – published scholarly papers each month. Easily search author name, journal name, or topic and find the data you need to make your report perfect.

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- ▶ **IOPscience Express**: This gratis app from IOP Publishing (Institute of Physics) allows us to download up to 20 recently-published scholarly papers each month. Easily search by author name, journal name, or topic and find the data you need to make our report perfect.
- ▶ **ACS Mobile**: The American Chemical Society was nice enough to create this free app so that any interested students can have up-to-the-minute updates on scholarly articles published across a range of industry journals.

Conclusion

- ▶ Due to the development of ICT, IT companies, Hyper Markets, Educational Institutions, Health Institutions, Private sectors and Governments Bodies are developing their own apps for providing information but now many libraries also began developing apps to the users such apps are shown in the article. Using Mobile apps library can provide better service and it can upgrade and make marketing library resources as a tool till it reaches to the user community.
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