



Talking Books

Using the Digital Talking Book Player: Standard

The NLS Cartridge

The NLS cartridge is a small storage device which holds a world of possibilities in the form of digital talking books.

After requesting a talking book from your local Talking Book Library, the NLS cartridge is shipped to your home address. **Give it a try.**

Tip: If you're unsure about which player you're using, there is an easy way to tell the Advanced and Standard players apart. Find the round speaker on the front of your player. If there are five keys below the speaker, labeled Info, Previous, Menu, Next, and Mark, you have the Advanced player. The Standard player does not have these five buttons.

1. To open the NLS cartridge, find the two tabs on top of the shipping container.
2. Place a finger under the end of each tab and lift firmly. You will hear the tabs unsnap. Holding

back both tabs with one hand, lift the container top with the other hand to find the cartridge.

3. One side of the cartridge has a print and braille label in an area that dips down a bit to protect the embossed braille. This is the top side of the cartridge. The label on the cartridge identifies your local Talking Book Library.
4. The cartridge is the size of an audiocassette but with an angle at one end. When that end of the cartridge is pressed down on a flat surface in front of the player, the other end of the cartridge tilts up and slides smoothly into the player.
5. The angled end has a round finger hole. This handy opening helps you push the cartridge into or pull the cartridge out of the machine. It also helps you remember which end goes in the player.
6. With your finger in the hole on one end, push the cartridge so that the other end goes into the opening on the player.

Tip: The cartridge is designed so it can be inserted only one way into your player.

7. When you insert your cartridge into your player, it starts playing the book right away if the player is turned on. Start and stop playback with the Play/Stop button.

Tip: If you'd like to learn all about your player and the various buttons, be sure to check out another workshop in this series.

8. When you've finished your book and you're ready to return it to your local Talking Book Library, place your finger through the finger hole in the cartridge and gently pull it away from the player.
9. Retrieve the shipping container your cartridge came in, and place it on the table with the label side down.
10. Slide the cartridge snugly down into the container, fitting it into the plastic guides designed to hold it in place. Then close the lid and snap each of the two tabs back into place.

Tip: It's a tight fit, so you might need to press firmly to make sure the tabs snap into their openings. Once you hear those snaps, you know the tabs are securely in place.

11. It's easy to mail it back to your local Talking Book Library. Some libraries use a paper label with the library's address printed on the other side. The label is notched or has a small hole on one end to let patrons know which side has the library's address. Other libraries use a pre-printed label that is attached to the plastic container.

No matter which method your local library uses, just drop your cartridge, in its trusty container, in the mail and look forward to getting your next book. It's mailed free of charge by Free Matter for the Blind.

Now you can easily use an NLS cartridge to listen to your favorite books. Try another workshop to learn more.