

Managing Digital Rights in Libraries: Emerging Technologies, Challenges, and Legal Perspectives

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ABSTRACT

This chapter explores integrating and implementing Digital Rights Management (DRM) technologies in libraries, focusing on emerging technologies, legal frameworks, and professional responsibilities. It examines the latest advancements in DRM and their potential applications in libraries to protect digital content while enhancing user access. The chapter also discusses the role of library professionals in adopting, managing, and enforcing DRM systems, highlighting the balance between protecting intellectual property and upholding core library values such as access, equity, and preservation. Legal perspectives on DRM, particularly Indian copyright laws, are reviewed, considering their impact on library operations. Library challenges in managing DRM systems, such as user access, interoperability, and legal concerns, are explored. Finally, the chapter recommends improving DRM practices in libraries and identifies potential areas for future research to address ongoing issues and advancements in DRM technologies. This chapter comprehensively explains DRM's role in libraries and guides future practices and policy development in the digital era.

Keywords: Digital Rights Management (DRM), Intellectual property, Copyright compliance, User privacy, Digital preservation, Libraries

Introduction

In the digital age, intellectual property protection has become increasingly critical. Digital Rights Management (DRM) encompasses a range of technologies and protocols designed to safeguard the copyrights of digital content, such as e-books, e-journals, music, videos, software, and other multimedia resources. By employing encryption, licensing systems, and access control mechanisms, DRM empowers content creators, publishers, and distributors to regulate

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