Library Services

Everyone can use the library free of charge.

The Oulu City Library operates in the main library and the libraries of different neighbourhoods.
The mobile library visits areas where there is no library.
You can read magazines or books in the library or borrow them to take home.
You can also use a computer and the Internet.

The library serves children, young people and adults.

Libraries have all kinds of material:
- non-fiction books
- novels, poem books and picture books
- cartoons
- newspapers and magazines
- music CDs
- sheet music
- DVD movies
- language courses
- CD-ROM software
- audio books.

The libraries have material in Finnish, Swedish, English and many other languages.
The library may also have books in your language.

How to use the library

You can read, find information or use a computer in the library.
You can also listen to music in the music department.

The library is a peaceful place for reading and studying. Do not disturb other library users.

Ask the library personnel for help. They will help you in using the library. They will also help you in finding material or information.

Borrowing

You can borrow books and other materials from the library.

You need a library card in order to borrow material from the library. Anyone who lives in Finland can get a library card. You can get a card from the library personnel when you show them your passport or identity card.

If you are under 18 years old, you will need permission from a parent or guardian.

You cannot borrow material without a library card. Remember to bring the card with you when you visit the library.

You can borrow material from the librarian or by using the lending machine.

The library card is personal. Others are not allowed to use your library card. You are responsible for the material borrowed with your card. If you lose your card or move to a new address, remember to notify the library.
Loan period

The loan period for books is usually four weeks. The loan period for music, DVD movies and CD-ROM software may be shorter.

You will get a receipt for the material you borrow. The receipt shows the material you borrowed and the date when the material must be returned. If you return the borrowed material later than the date shown on the receipt, you must pay a fee to the library.

You can borrow material for longer if you telephone the library or renew your loans online. If you want to renew your loans online, you will need a password. You can get a password at the library.

If the material has been reserved by someone else, you will not be able to renew your loan.

Returning materials

You can return material to any City of Oulu library. You do not need your library card when returning materials.

Reserving materials

If a book or other material has been borrowed by someone else, you can reserve it in the library or online. The library will send you a notice when the material is available. A reservation charge is collected for reserving materials.

Events at the library

The library organises exhibitions and events for its customers. If you want more information on the events, ask at the library or read the library website: www.ouka.fi/kirjasto.