

What is Digital Restrictions Management?

Digital Restrictions Management is technology that controls what you can do with the digital media and devices you own. When a program doesn't let you share a song, read an ebook on another device, or play a game without an internet connection, you are being restricted by DRM. These artificial restrictions on how you can use your music, movies, literature, software, or any other type of digital information create a dangerous situation for freedom, privacy and censorship.

Join the fight against DRM

www.defectivebydesign.org/join

Stop digital book burnings

DRM is designed to take all of the incredible possibilities enabled by digital technologies and place them under the control of a few who will micromanage and track everything we do with our media. This creates the potential for massive digital book burnings and large scale surveillance of media viewing habits. These digital book burnings can target any media (literature, music, video, anything) or group of people on a scale we have never come close to in all of human history, and it's already started. In 2009, Amazon remotely deleted copies of 1984 sold through the Kindle store. This would not be possible with printed books.

If we want to avoid a future in which all information is controlled by just a few companies and our devices serve as an apparatus to monitor our interaction with media, we must fight for the alternative.

Reject surveillance & control

DRM gives media and technology companies ultimate control over every aspect of what people can do with their media: where they can use it, on what devices, using what apps, for how long, and any other conditions the retailer wants. Digital media has many advantages over traditional media, but DRM attempts to make permission required for every possible use of digital goods.

This concentrates power over the distribution of media into the hands of a few companies. For example, DRM gives ebook retailers the power to remotely delete all copies of a book, to monitor what books people are interested in and, with some software, to even track what notes readers leave in their books.

A campaign by the
Free Software Foundation - www.fsf.org

