

# Tackling the torrent: Online piracy of educational books

## 1 P2P sites

- For a detailed explanation search [www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) for 'peer-to-peer'.
- Books (pdfs or similar) are not physically on the site so virtually impossible to stop.
- Sites that index a lot of torrent files: [www.thepiratebay.org](http://www.thepiratebay.org) or [www.isohunt.com](http://www.isohunt.com)
- Be careful of 'false positives' – look for words 'sponsored links' often virtually illegible, e.g. see: [www.filetube.com](http://www.filetube.com), [www.freshwap.com](http://www.freshwap.com), [www.torrentpump.com](http://www.torrentpump.com)

## 2 Document-sharing websites

- [www.scribd.com](http://www.scribd.com), [www.issuu.com](http://www.issuu.com), [www.docstoc.com](http://www.docstoc.com)
- Main difference to P2P is that they actually host the files. Therefore they can be removed.
- These are all legal, law-abiding and very useful websites. They will react very quickly to takedown requests as long as they have appropriate information.

## 3 File hosting sites

- Some of the biggest: [www.rapidshare.com](http://www.rapidshare.com), [www.4shared.com](http://www.4shared.com), [www.esnips.com](http://www.esnips.com), [www.mediafire.com](http://www.mediafire.com), [www.ifile.it](http://www.ifile.it)
- These are, again, legal websites. They will (mostly) react quickly to takedown requests title as long as they have appropriate information. However, they do not tend to engage in correspondence.
- Searching file hosting sites: [www.filestube.com](http://www.filestube.com), [www.rapidsharesearching.com](http://www.rapidsharesearching.com). **But** see point about 'false positives' above.
- [www.englishtips.org](http://www.englishtips.org): an example of a highly-organised site indexing links to files on rapidshare, etc.

## What else?

- Don't panic.
- Join [www.englishtips.org](http://www.englishtips.org) and get their newsletter. Maybe set up another email address for the purpose.
- Set up a 'google alert' on your book title and/or your name: [www.google.com/alerts](http://www.google.com/alerts)
- Check if your publisher is a member of the Publisher's Association [www.publishers.org.uk](http://www.publishers.org.uk) and also see the PA's [www.copyrightinfringementportal.com](http://www.copyrightinfringementportal.com) for sites which respond well/badly to takedown requests.
- Read Attributor's report at: [www.attributor.com/blog/book-piracy-costs-study/](http://www.attributor.com/blog/book-piracy-costs-study/) and a response here: [www.go-to-hellman.blogspot.com/2010/01/deconstructing-attributor-book-piracy.html](http://www.go-to-hellman.blogspot.com/2010/01/deconstructing-attributor-book-piracy.html)
- The hellman blog above will lead you to various interesting sites discussing book piracy and lots more.

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