Schedule of Overdue Fines, Maximum Charges, Fee Thresholds, and Grace Periods

These loan policies and overdue charges apply only to Milwaukee Public Library (MPL)-owned items. Fines and policies for items owned by suburban libraries may differ. Please contact the owning library for details.

I. Loan Periods
   A. ALL BOOKS - hardcover, paperback, children's, adult, young adult - 3 WEEKS
   B. MAGAZINES - 1 WEEK
   C. ALL DVDs and VHS MEDIA – 1 WEEK
   D. ADULT MUSIC CDs – 3 WEEKS
   E. ALL CHILDREN'S CDs - 3 WEEKS
   F. AUDIO BOOK CDs – 3 WEEKS
   G. HOTSPOTS – 3 WEEKS

II. Overdue Charges for Each Day Past the Due Date
   A. ALL BOOKS - hardcover, paperback, *children's, adult, young adult - $0.15/day
   B. MAGAZINES - $0.15/day
   C. ALL DVDs and VHS MEDIA - $0.15/day
   D. ALL CDs - $0.15/day
   E. CHILDREN'S BOOKS CHECKED OUT ON A MILWAUKEE CHILD’S CARD – no overdue charges
   F. HOTSPOTS – $1.00/day

III. Renewals
   A. NON-HOLDABLE ITEMS - no renewals
   B. ALL OTHER ITEMS – may be renewed twice, provided no other cardholder has already requested the item.

IV. Grace Periods
ALL MPL-OWNED ITEMS – 3 days grace

A. After the grace period, fines are retroactively assessed for all days past due. (For example, an item that accrues $0.15/day fines, returned 4 days after the due date would be assessed $0.60.)

B. Sundays and holidays count as grace days provided the item is returned before the next regular business day.

V. If Library Items Are Not Returned

A. The cardholder is billed for the replacement cost of an item approximately 28 days after the item was due.

B. Cardholders who return undamaged billed items, within one year of the billing date, will have the bill reduced to the $5 per item maximum overdue fine.

C. If the cardholder finds an item after paying for it, the cost of the item, minus a $5 service charge, will be refunded within 90 days of the date paid, provided the item has not been damaged.

D. Accounts with fines and/or billed items totaling more than $99.99 will be sent to the Milwaukee Public Library’s contracted collection agency, Unique Management. An additional $10 fee will be added to the account to offset the cost. This fee must be paid, in addition to all other charges, in order to clear the account.