



Frequently Asked Questions

What is a Library of Things?

A Library of Things (LOT) is a collection of useful and unique items that can be borrowed with your library card. The LOT was created, in line with our mission and vision, to provide access to a broad range of resources that enrich lives and build community.

What kinds of items will be in the LOT?

HTFL's LOT collects items in four distinct areas: Games, Home & Family, Leisure, and Technology. A complete list of Things will be available on our website and on a LOT flyer. There will also be also a spinner near the reference desk to view pictures of the items.

When will HTFL's LOT be available?

Our LOT will be launched on Thursday, March 19. Starting that day, you can book items for current or future use. Some items will also be available for "Show & Tell" at the reference desk.

Who can borrow Things, and for how long?

LOT items will be available for free to library users 18 and up for a one-week borrowing period. Things may not be renewed. If requested when booking, the due date for an item may be extended to two weeks.

How do I borrow and return Things?

Things are only bookable through the reference desk. You can call, stop by, or email to book a Thing (610-446-3082 x503 or reference@haverfordlibrary.org). You can view Things in the online catalog but their status will say "See Librarian". This means they cannot be requested as a hold. Things cannot be borrowed via delivery to other libraries. Things cannot be returned to other libraries or placed in an HTFL book drop.

You will pick up and return Things at the reference desk. You will sign a borrowing agreement for each item that details general expectations as well as the individual item cost, contents, and overdue and cleaning fees. Items must be complete and clean upon return, ready for the next user with minimal effort from Library staff.

How many Things can I check out?

You can check out two Things at a time on any adult library card. You may create bookings for the future, but may only have two checked out. You may not schedule back-to-back bookings on a Thing and must leave 10 days between bookings in fairness to other users.

Will the library staff teach me how to use a Thing, or provide technical support?

No, the Things are provided as a convenience and each one includes the instruction manual, if needed. Additional information and video tutorials can be searched on the internet.

Does the LOT take donations?

The LOT does not currently take donations. However, suggestions for purchase are welcome!

Do other libraries have a Library of Things?

Yes, many local libraries have a LOT collection. For Delaware County, links can be found at delcolibraries.org/library-of-things. Each library has their own procedures for borrowing.

What items are in the Library of Things at HTFL?

Games (blue tag)

- Bocce
- Cornhole
- Croquet
- Giant Connect Four
- Giant Jenga
- Giant Yahtzee
- Horseshoes

Home & Family (orange tag)

- Basic Tool Set
- Brother Label Maker
- Collapsible Traffic Cones (4)
- Stay Sharp Kit: Cats
- Stay Sharp Kit: History of Cars
- Stay Sharp Kit: Game Night
- Stay Sharp Kit: Keep It Moving

Leisure (lime green tag)

- Camping Bench
- Camping Chair
- Dishware Sets for Parties
 - Bowls (18)
 - Dessert Plates (18)
 - Dinner Plates (18)
 - Serving Platters (4)
- Folding Plastic Bench
- Magnet Fishing Set
- Metal Detector

Technology (yellow tag)

- Chromebook
- Graphing Calculator
- Portable DVD Player