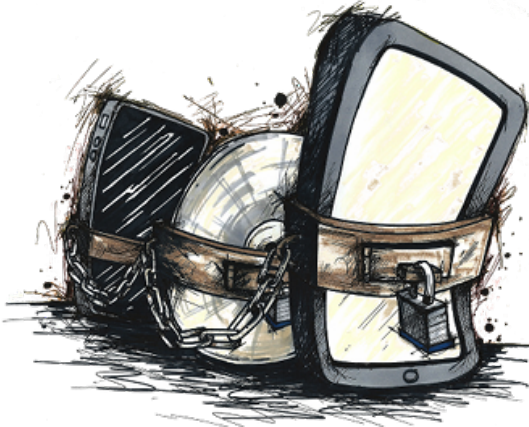


# Digital Restrictions Management: **control** and **surveillance**

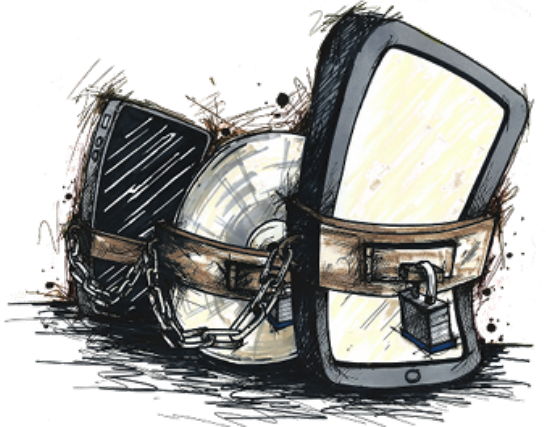
DRM is proprietary software that artificially restricts what you can do with media. It's what stops you from sharing a song, saving a streaming video, or playing a single-player game offline. It limits your freedom to use and share the media fully, making the media defective by design.



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Most DRM technologies **surveil** what you do on your computer, sometimes even sending data back to their owner's servers.

Even worse, DRM enables **digital book burnings** - remote deletions of media from our devices on a mass scale.

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If we want to avoid a future in which our devices monitor and control our interaction with digital media, we must fight to retain control of our media and software. Get involved at [defectivebydesign.org](http://defectivebydesign.org).

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"If consumers even know there's a DRM, what it is, and how it works, we've already failed."

—Peter Lee,  
Disney Executive

- In 2009, Amazon remotely deleted thousands of copies of George Orwell's *1984*, a book about a dystopian future where rulers control all media. Ironical.
- A US law called the DMCA makes it illegal to remove DRM from media using widely available online tools, making a huge portion of normal people technically criminals. Now companies are working to spread these laws around the world.
- Netflix, Microsoft and other DRM champions are pressuring standards bodies to inject DRM into the very fabric of the Internet to make control easier.
- DRM in Amazon's Kindle ebook reader tells the company every page users read, whenever it gets online.

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Defective by Design is a campaign and community united to resist DRM and put the power over media where it belongs: with the users and artists. Visit our Web site to learn more about DRM, browse our huge library of DRM-free books, movies, and more, and get involved with actions and events.



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