

## WHAT WE NEED

**Getting the right kinds of donations is more important than getting lots of donations.**

Unfortunately, there are many restrictions on what we can send to prisons. We cannot accept damaged or hardcover books, or books on certain topics. For more details, see our website.

**Check out our website wishlist for what we currently need most.**

Your book drive could be very focused, for example on books about trades or books in a specific language, or it could be broad. But the best donations will be the ones that match what prisoners are asking for currently.

After you have collected your donations, we ask that you review them and remove items we cannot accept (per our website). You may be able to donate those items to another worthy cause.

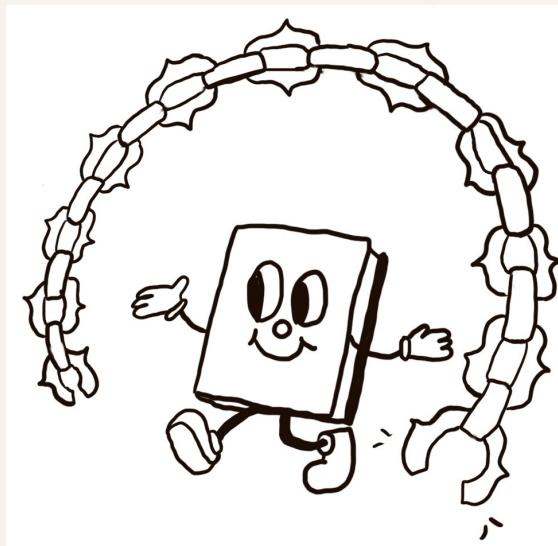
## CONTACT US

Before your book drive begins, contact us. We can provide you with advice and resources. We can also coordinate the best way to get the donations you collect from you, to us, to the prisoners who need them.

 [bookstoprisoners.bc@gmail.com](mailto:bookstoprisoners.bc@gmail.com)

 [bookstoprisoners.ca](http://bookstoprisoners.ca)

 **P.O. Box 78005  
1755 East Broadway  
Vancouver, BC V5N 5W1**



# HOW TO

# DO A

# BOOK

# DRIVE

# WHY?

**Everyone has the right to access books for learning and pleasure.**

We are dedicated to providing prisoners with reading materials. We send books to individual prisoners and to prison libraries. We need **your** help to gather donations that match prisoners' interests.

# HOW

**Book drives come in many different shapes and sizes!**

The basic steps:

- Get in touch with us
- Choose where & when
- Be specific about what you want
- Gather your helpers and supplies
- Spread the word
- Collect and review donations
- Deliver the books to us
- Make a difference for prisoners!

# SPREADING THE WORD

## KNOW YOUR COMMUNITY

Talk to people you know, and go where they go. Everywhere is unique.

## PLACES TO GO

Here are a few ideas of places to spread the word, but get creative!

- Community groups
- Bookstores
- Libraries
- Local publishers
- Schools
- Religious organizations

## RESOURCES

Contact us for templates and resources you can customize, or create your own:

- Posters
- Emails
- Pamphlets
- News stories (print, radio, etc)
- Social media posts

# WHERE

**A great drop-off location is:**

- Accessible by transit, foot, car
- Open at convenient times
- Welcoming and well-known
- Able to store multiple boxes

Some location ideas include libraries, bookstores, community centres, or schools.

## At your drop-off spot, you'll need:

- Multiple boxes for storing donations
- A clear sign for where to put items
- Information for donors (a poster or pamphlet)
- Someone helpful to answer questions (could be by phone or email)

# WHAT

# WHEN

**Set a deadline.**

This will help donors remember to drop-off items in time, and give you a clear goal for your efforts.