Glimpt

# What is in the export files

Glimpt keeps your lists, your watches and your settings in your own browser and nowhere else. Export, in Commonplace › Share, makes a copy you can keep, move to another device, or take to another reading app. There are two kinds of file. This explains both, field by field, and then the links: the two kinds another app or person can send Glimpt, a colourway and a stack URL, and the one Glimpt sends Ting ting to play a podcast episode, which can say where to start.

## Which one to use

| FILE | USE IT FOR | OPENS IN |
|---|---|---|
| **For Glimpt** `glimpt-backup-date.json` | Backups, and moving everything to Glimpt on another phone or computer: the lists, the watches, the settings with your favourite podcasts, the colour scheme. Import puts it all back. | Glimpt (Import), any text editor |
| **CSV for others** `glimpt-list.csv` | Taking your lists to Goodreads, StoryGraph and other reading apps, or into a spreadsheet. | Goodreads, StoryGraph, Numbers, Excel, Google Sheets |

Both are plain text in open formats: JSON is defined by RFC 8259, CSV by RFC 4180. Neither needs Glimpt to be read, and neither passes through any server: the file is made on your device and saved there.

## The For Glimpt file

One object: a marker, where and when it was made, the books, and the settings as Glimpt stores them. Each book is the identity of the book and nothing heavy: the reviews and summaries Glimpt has saved stay behind, and are fetched again when you open the book on another device.

```
{
  "glimpt": 1,
  "from": "glimpt.net",
  "at": "2026-10-14T09:41:00.000Z",
  "books": [
    {
      "id": "w:OL20893680W",
      "b":  ["OL20893680W", "Piranesi", "Susanna Clarke", 2020, 10521270, 272, 433, 63],
      "t":  1790938847302,
      "s":  "own"
    }
  ],
  "ls": {
    "br.settings":   "
{\"ownClerk\":true,\"popUps\":true,\"podcastApp\":\"tingting\",\"podFavourites\":
[{\"name\":\"A Meal of Thorns\",\"id\":null}]}",
    "br.watches":    "{\"w:OL20893680W\":{\"price\":129,\"formats\":[\"paperback\"]}}",
    "br.theme":      "{\"preset\":\"lagoon\",\"seeds\":{\"paper\":\"#ebe6db\",
…},\"followDark\":true}",
    "br.theme.mine": "{\"paper\":\"#fbf7f2\",\"ink\":\"#161b2e\", …}",
    "br.theme.edits": "{\"lagoon\":{\"accent\":\"#0f9aa5\", …}}",
    "br.stacks":     "[{\"id\":\"s1x9k2ab\",\"name\":\"Read these
next\",\"at\":1790938847302,\"books\":[[\"OL20893680W\",\"Piranesi\",\"Susanna
Clarke\",2020,10521270]],\"out\":[]}]"
  }
}
```


### Top level

| FIELD | MEANING |
|---|---|
| `glimpt` | The format version, `1`. It is how Import tells this file from a plain list file. |
| `from` | The address of the Glimpt that made it. |
| `at` | When the file was made, in ISO 8601, UTC. |
| `books` | The books on your lists, most recently added first, each as below. |
| `ls` | The settings, keyed as Glimpt keeps them in the browser; each value is itself a JSON text, kept exactly as stored. Any key may be missing when you never changed that setting. |

### The keys in `ls`

| KEY | HOLDS |
|---|---|
| `br.settings` | Connexions (`ownClerk`, whether Glimpt's own clerk sums up the reviews, and `popUps`, whether the clerk and the tipster speak up on their own or wait in their corners to be tapped), the podcast app episodes open in, your favourite podcasts (`podFavourites`, each a name and Apple's show id), the shops switched on, the review sites (`sources`: `added`, the sites you added yourself, each with its address and language; `removed`, the built-in sites you removed with a long press; `skipped`, the sites you unticked, which stay listed but are not searched; `langsOff`, the languages switched off, by code: `de`, `fr`, `it`, `es` and `zh` until you switch one on), and the printed bookmarks' look (`bookmarks`: background, paper, seed, wording). |
| `br.watches` | The price and format watches, by book id: the picture the watch last saw, so news is news. |
| `br.theme` | The colour scheme you picked (`preset`: `paper`, `lagoon`, `stark` or `mine`) and its eight colours (`seeds`), and `followDark`: whether Glimpt turns Stark when the device is set to dark (Colours › Stark in dark mode; missing or `true` means it does). The scheme kept here is the one shown in light mode. |
| `br.theme.mine` | The eight colours of Mine, your own scheme, by role, if you changed it or took one in from another app (see “Colourways from other apps”). |
| `br.theme.edits` | Your changes to the other schemes (Paper & ink, Lagoon, Stark), one set of seeds for each scheme you changed. Missing when you changed none. |
| `br.stacks` | The stacks of recommendations you have been sent, newest first: each arrived as a stack URL (see “Stack URLs” below), from a QR code or a link. Each has an `id`, the `name` its sender gave it, `at` (when it arrived, in milliseconds), its `books` (each a list of five: Open Library work id, title, author, year, cover id, the first five values of a book below), and `out`, the positions of the books you said were not for you. Import adds the stacks you do not have and leaves yours as they are. Missing when you have been sent none. |

### Each book

| FIELD | MEANING |
|---|---|
| `id` | How Glimpt recognises the book. `w:` followed by an Open Library work id when the book came from Open Library; otherwise `t:` followed by the title and author in lower case without accents or punctuation, joined by `\|`. |
| `b` | The book itself, as a list of eight values in this fixed order (see below). |
| `t` | When you added it: milliseconds since 1 January 1970, UTC. Moving a book between lists keeps this date. |
| `s` | The list: `"own"` or `"want"`. A book without it is on Want. |

### The eight values in `b`

| # | VALUE | EXAMPLE | EMPTY WHEN UNKNOWN |
|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | Open Library work id. Add it to `https://openlibrary.org/works/` to see the book there. | `"OL20893680W"` | `""` |
| 1 | Title | `"Piranesi"` | `""` |
| 2 | First author | `"Susanna Clarke"` | `""` |
| 3 | Year first published | `2020` | `0` |
| 4 | Open Library cover id. The cover is at `https://covers.openlibrary.org/b/id/` *id* `–M.jpg`. | `10521270` | `0` |
| 5 | Number of pages | `272` | `0` |
| 6 | Average reader rating out of 5, times 100 | `433` is 4.33 | `0` |
| 7 | How many ratings that average is from | `63` | `0` |

The values are a list rather than named fields to keep the file small: about fifty bytes a book, so a hundred books is a five-kilobyte file, and the settings add a kilobyte or two.

### Importing

Import merges. Books are matched by `id`: one already in your list is updated, not doubled, so importing the same file twice changes nothing, and nothing is ever removed by an import. Watches are merged by book, the file's watch winning. The settings and the scheme in the file replace the ones on the device, since a backup is meant to put things back as they were. When you leave the Share pane, Glimpt reloads once, so every part of it reads what has just come in.

### The older list file

Before October 2026, Export made a list-only file, `glimpt-list.json`, with a `bookRadar` marker (`2`; `1` was the same without the two lists) instead of `glimpt`, and the same `exported` and `books` fields. Import still reads it: its books are added, and nothing else changes.

## Colourways from other apps

Another web app can send Glimpt a colourway as a link. Nothing is kept until you say so: Glimpt opens wearing the colours and asks which of your colourways to replace with them, Paper & ink, Lagoon, Stark or Mine.

```
https://glimpt.net/#colourway=the colourway, as JSON, encoded with encodeURIComponent

{
  "glimpt": "colourway", "v": 1,
  "name": "Harbour at dusk", "from": "Palette Lab",
  "colours": { "paper": "#f4efe6", "ink": "#1c2230", "accent": "#0f6f74",
               "panel": "#ebe3d6", "edge": "#d9cdb9", "title": "#7a1f2b",
               "working": "#b85c1e", "highlight": "#c79a1a" }
}
```

| FIELD | MEANING |
|---|---|
| `glimpt`, `v` | Always `"colourway"` and `1`. Anything else is turned away. |
| `colours` | Glimpt's eight colours, by role, as hex. Paper, ink and accent are required; Glimpt draws the others from those when they are left out. A key that is not one of the eight is turned away, so a misspelt one shows. |
| `name`, `from` | The colourway's name and the app that sent it, shown when you are asked. Plain text, at most 60 characters each. |

The colourway rides after the `#`, which a browser never sends to a server: it goes from the sending app to Glimpt on your device and nowhere else. The whole link may be at most 4,000 characters. Replacing Mine stores the eight colours in `br.theme.mine`, and replacing another scheme in `br.theme.edits`, so the next For Glimpt file carries them; each scheme's Reset puts it back as Glimpt drew it. A colourway that is already that scheme asks nothing.

**Stark** is Glimpt’s dark mode: pure black paper, a soft white ink and one red, shown whenever the device is set to dark unless Colours › Stark in dark mode is switched off. It is also **flat**: Glimpt draws no lighter or darker shades from its colours, so every text is the ink, every accent the accent, and the pale fills are the paper. A colourway that replaces Stark is worn the same way, flat, and in the dark.

### Open Colours out of Space

On any scheme, the button Open Colours out of Space in Glimpt's colour settings opens Colours out of Space, in a window of its own, the same way in reverse: `https://colours-out-of-space.statichost.page/#glimpt=` followed by that scheme as a colourway, with one more field, `return`, the Glimpt address it came from. The app starts from your colours and sends the new ones back to that address as `#colourway=`, but only to a Glimpt address (glimpt.net, www.glimpt.net, the old book-radar.statichost.page, or a copy on the device itself); anything else goes to glimpt.net. The full format for apps is in Glimpt's `docs/send-a-colourway.md`.

## Stack URLs

A stack is a handful of books handed to someone else, up to fifteen, with a name. Commonplace › Share › Send a stack makes one from your lists and shows it as a QR code. The stack travels as a single link, its **stack URL**, with the name and the books in it. There is no file and no server: the URL is the stack. Anyone can write one, by hand or from another app, and Glimpt reads it the same way.

```
https://glimpt.net/#stack=1~Read+these+next~Piranesi~Susanna+Clarke~cfto0.1k4.69i9i~The+Scar~China+Mi%C3%A9ville~.1jm.4iqz~Kallocain~Karin+Boye~.1hw
```

address and version · the stack's name · title · author · meta

Everything after `#stack=` is a run of parts joined by `~`. The first two are the version and the name; after them, every book is three parts in a row: its title, its author and its meta.

| PART | MEANING | EXAMPLE |
|---|---|---|
| Version | Always `1`. Anything else is not read as a stack. | `1` |
| Name | What the stack is called, shown on the front page and over its books. Required. Cut at 100 characters. | `Read+these+next` |
| Title | The book's title. Required: a book without one is skipped. | `Piranesi` |
| Author | The first author. May be empty. | `Susanna+Clarke` |
| Meta | Three numbers that pin the book down exactly, separated by dots. Each may be empty, and so may the whole part. | `cfto0.1k4.69i9i` |

### The meta

Three whole numbers, each written in base 36 (the digits `0`–`9` then `a`–`z`, as JavaScript's `n.toString(36)` writes them), to keep the code small. Dots at the end are left off.

| # | NUMBER | IN THE EXAMPLE | BASE 36 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | The Open Library work number: the digits in a work id like `OL20893680W` | `20893680` | `cfto0` |
| 2 | The year the book first came out | `2020` | `1k4` |
| 3 | The Open Library cover id, as in `covers.openlibrary.org/b/id/`*id*`–M.jpg` | `10521270` | `69i9i` |

With a work number, Glimpt opens exactly that book. Without one, it looks the book up by its title and author when it is opened, as if you had typed them: `.1jm.4iqz` is a year and a cover with no work, `.1hw` a year alone, and an empty meta works too.

### Writing the text

- Encode each title, author and name with `encodeURIComponent`, then write a space as `+`. So a real `+` in a title must stay `%2B`, and a `~` must be `%7E`, or the parts come apart.

- Letters such as é, å and ö may be left as they are or encoded; Glimpt reads both. Encoded is safer in a chat or an email.
- At most fifteen books; any after the fifteenth are left out. A stack with no name, or with no book that has a title, is not a stack.
- The address may be `https://glimpt.net/`, `https://www.glimpt.net/` or the old `https://book-radar.statichost.page/`. They are the same Glimpt.

### Making one in code

```
const pack = s => encodeURIComponent(s.trim())
  .replace(/~/g, '%7E').replace(/%20/g, '+');
const b36 = n => (n > 0 ? n.toString(36) : '');
const meta = b => [b.work, b.year, b.cover].map(b36)
  .join('.').replace(/\.+$/, '');

const books = [
  { title: 'Piranesi', author: 'Susanna Clarke',
    work: 20893680, year: 2020, cover: 10521270 },
  { title: 'Kallocain', author: 'Karin Boye', year: 1940 }
];
const parts = ['1', pack('Read these next')];
for (const b of books) parts.push(pack(b.title), pack(b.author || ''), meta(b));
const url = 'https://glimpt.net/#stack=' + parts.join('~');
```

That is the example at the top of this section, without The Scar.

### Handing it over

Any QR code generator turns a stack URL into a code that Scan, in Glimpt, reads; a phone's own camera opens it too. The link itself works as well, opened, tapped in a chat, or shared to Glimpt from another app's Share button. Glimpt keeps the stack in `br.stacks` (see above), puts it on the front page under Stacks, and the same stack arriving twice is kept once. Fifteen books with their meta come to about 800 characters, well within what a QR code holds.

> Like a colourway, the stack rides after the `#`, which a browser never sends to a server. It goes from the sender's device to the reader's and nowhere else, and it works with no connection at all: a stack scanned in airplane mode arrives whole.

## Episodes in Ting ting

Ting ting is Glimpt's own podcast player, at `https://ting-ting.net/`. When you tap an episode in Glimpt's podcast panel, Glimpt opens it in Ting ting with a link that carries everything needed to play it, so nothing is looked up. Any other app, or a person, can write the same link, and since November 2026 it can say where in the episode to start.

```
https://ting-ting.net/?audio=the audio file&title=episode&show=show&t=12:34
```

| PARAMETER | MEANING |
|---|---|
| `audio` | The episode's audio file. Required in this form. |
| `title`, `show` | The episode's and the show's names, as shown in the player. |
| `art` | The show's artwork, as an image address. |
| `date` | When the episode came out, as `YYYY-MM-DD`. |
| `link` | The episode's own page, offered when the audio will not play. |
| `id`, `show-id` | Apple Podcasts' ids for the episode and the show. With `id`, the place you stopped is kept even if the show moves its audio file. With both and no `audio`, Ting ting finds the episode in Apple's index itself (its newest 200 episodes). |
| `dur` | The length in seconds. Optional: the audio's own length wins once it loads. |
| `t` | Where to start, written any of the ways people write times: `754` (seconds), `12m34s`, `1h2m3s`, `12:34` or `1:02:33`. It wins over the place you last stopped, and over an episode marked as heard. A time past the end is ignored. |

Encode each value with `encodeURIComponent`, as any web address needs. A link to an Apple Podcasts episode, shared to the installed Ting ting, plays too, and takes `t` the same way. Nothing in the link goes anywhere but Ting ting on your device, and the places you stop are kept there; Glimpt's For Glimpt file does not carry them, Ting ting has its own export.

## The CSV file

One row per book, with a header row. The column names are the ones Goodreads uses for its own export, which is what Goodreads, StoryGraph and most other reading apps expect to import. Apps ignore the columns they do not know, so the last two are Glimpt's own and harmless elsewhere.

```
Title,Author,ISBN,ISBN13,Year Published,Date Added,Bookshelves,Exclusive Shelf,Glimpt List,Open Library Work
Piranesi,Susanna Clarke,,,2020,2026/09/30,owned,,Own,https://openlibrary.org/works/OL20893680W
Kallocain,Karin Boye,,,1940,2026/10/01,to-read,to-read,Want,
```

| COLUMN | MEANING |
|---|---|
| Title | The title. |
| Author | The first author. |
| ISBN, ISBN13 | Left empty. Glimpt's list keeps the book, not an edition, so it has no one ISBN to give. Reading apps match on the title and author instead. |
| Year Published | The year the book first came out. |
| Date Added | When you added it to your list, as `YYYY/MM/DD`. |
| Bookshelves | `to-read` for Want, `owned` for Own. Apps that read this column put the book on a shelf, or give it a tag, of that name. |
| Exclusive Shelf | `to-read` for Want. Empty for Own, because owning a book does not mean you have read it; some apps file a book with no reading status as read, so check those after importing. |
| Glimpt List | `Want` or `Own`, as in Glimpt. |
| Open Library Work | A link to the book on Open Library, when Glimpt knows it. |

### Opening it in a spreadsheet

The file is UTF-8 with a byte-order mark at the start, which is how spreadsheet programs know to show å, ä, ö and é correctly. Values containing a comma, a quote mark or a line break are wrapped in double quotes, with any quote mark inside doubled, as RFC 4180 describes.

The CSV is for taking your lists elsewhere. To bring everything back into Glimpt, use the For Glimpt file.

Glimpt · Wu Wave Interaktiv · This document describes the For Glimpt file, version 1, the CSV, colourway links, version 1, stack URLs, version 1, and Ting ting's episode links, November 2026. Licensed under CC BY-NC-SA 4.0.