

Sony PRS-n50 file structure guide

Description

- The intention here is to compile information that is common to the Sony PRS-n50 range; I use a Sony PRS-650.
- If you would like to contribute to this guide, to help make it more generic, then please send a private message to boxcorner, via MobileRead forums. All contributions would be much appreciated and of course will be fully credited.
- This document is maintained by: boxcorner @ MobileRead forums.
- Version: 20110227G

Contents

- Notes
- Key
- Top-level structure
- General structure
- Detailed structure
- Frequently Asked Questions

Notes

1. The purpose of the sections below, entitled Top-level structure, General structure and Detailed structure, is to represent the generic file structure of the Sony PRS-n50 range of readers.
2. If you use Windows and/or Mac the some specific folders and files on your reader may be named differently, as my OS is Linux Ubuntu. However, I also have Windows XP Pro in a dual-boot partition.
3. I use Calibre to transfer e-books to my reader (<http://www.calibre-ebook.com>).
4. I have not yet installed or used Sony's Reader Library Software, as Sony does not support Linux.
5. Naming conventions in this document:
 - All e-books that I download to my PC, are stored on a hard disk in a folder called e-books.
 - This folder contains a number of sub-folders, each named by author (eg *author#1*, *author#2*, *author#3*, etc).
 - Each author folder contains lower level sub-folders, named by book title (eg *author#1_title*, *author#2_title*, *author#3_title*, and so on).
 - So, if I download a file called *author#1_title.epub*, I store in its corresponding sub-folder called *author#1_title*.
 - Hence, a similar convention is used in this document. For example:
READER/database/media/books/author#1/author#1_title.epub
6. In this document, the READER's sub-folder [1.5] *thumbnail* contains lower level sub-folders which match the structure of the image files in top-level folder [3] *images*. The bottom level sub-folder has the same name as the image whose thumbnail is contained in that sub-folder. The thumbnail itself is always called *main_thumbnail.jpg*.
7. An e-book called /database/media/book/author#1/author#1_title.epub will have a corresponding thumbnail in /database/thumbnail/database/media/books/author#1/author#1_title.epub/main_thumbnail.jpg and similarly for images, and other thumbnaillable files.
8. Some folders on the reader are empty.
9. There is at least one hidden folder.

Key

- [1] denotes folder #1 on the READER, [1.2] denotes sub-folder #2 of folder #1, and so on.
- Comments are denoted thus {comments}
- Links to MobileRead forum threads and posts are denoted like this:
{<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=117503>} → Post #11}

Top-level structure

Sony PRS-650 MS

Sony PRS-650 SD

Sony PRS-650: READER

[1] database {folder}
[2] Digital Editions {folder}
[3] images {folder}
[4] .Trash-1000 {hidden folder}
metadata.calibre {file}

General structure

Sony PRS-650 MS
Sony PRS-650 SD
Sony PRS-650: READER

- [1] database
 - [1.1] cache {dictionary history word log stored on a per-book basis}
 - [1.2] markup {book notes}
 - [1.3] media {e-books, audio files, book note XML & text memo XML}
 - [1.4] sync
 - [1.5] thumbnail {book cover thumbnails & handwritten notes thumbnails}
- standby_pic_mediaPath.xml
- [2] Digital Editions
 - [2.1] Annotations
- [3] images {standby sleep mode screen-saver & other images}
- [4] .Trash-1000 {hidden folder}

metadata.calibre

Detailed structure

Sony PRS-650 MS
Sony PRS-650 SD
Sony PRS-650: READER

- [1] database
 - [1.1] cache
 - cacheExt.xml {dictionary history word log stored on a per-book basis}
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=117503> → Post #11}
 - cacheExtSchema_1.5.xsb
 - [1.2] markup
 - [1.2.1] database
 - [1.2.1.1] media
 - [1.2.1.1.1] books
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=120302>}
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=109939> → Post #2}
 - {HOME → Books → open a book → OPTIONS → Notes → Create/Edit}
 - [1.2.1.1.1] author#1
 - [1.2.1.1.1.1] author#1_title.epub
 - 1291719813057.273.jpg {book note (text+note)}
 - 1291719813057.273.svg {book note (note only)}
 - [1.2.1.1.1.2] author#2
 - [1.2.1.1.1.2.1] author#2_title.pdf
 - 1295783222617.801.jpg {book note (text+note)}
 - 1295783222617.801.svg {book note (note only)}
 - [1.2.1.1.1.3] author#3
 - [1.2.1.1.1.3.1] author#3_title.epub
 - 1295700566158.066.jpg {book note (text+note)}
 - 1295700566158.066.svg {book note (note only)}
 - [1.2.1.1.2] author#2
 - [1.2.1.1.3] author#3
 - [1.3] media
 - [1.3.1] books
 - [1.3.1.1] author
 - {this folder is created automatically by Calibre's option "Send to device"}
 - title - author_n.format
 - {title = e-book title, author = author's name & n = number allocated automatically by Calibre}
 - [1.3.1.2] Meredith Whitford
 - Shakespeare's Will – Meredith Whitford_180.epub
 - [1.3.1.3] Sony Corporation
 - User Guide – Sony Corporation_18.pdf
 - {<http://onlinepdfbook.com/gadget/sony/sony-reader-prs-650-touch-edition-user-guide/> }

- [1.3.2] music
 - SleepyTime.mp3
 - WaltzForEddie.mp3
 - audio_file#3.mp3
 - [1.3.3] notepads
 - 1291679895571.733.note {book note XML}
 - {HOME → Books → open a book → OPTIONS → Notes}
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?p=1236133#post1236133> → Post #4}
 - 1295745307125.185.note {text memo XML}
 - {HOME → Applications → Text Memo}
- [1.4] sync
 - deleted.xml
- [1.5] thumbnail
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?p=1352066#post1352066> → Post #3}
 - [1.5.1] database
 - [1.5.1.1] media
 - [1.5.1.1.1] books
 - [1.5.1.1.1.1] author
 - {this folder name is created automatically when the USB cable is disconnected}
 - [1.5.1.1.1.1.1] author - title_n.format
 - {this folder name matches its corresponding e-book; see [1.3.1.1]}
 - main_thumbnail.jpg
 - {for a book cover thumbnail to be displayed correctly, this file name MUST be main_thumbnail.jpg NOT cover.jpg}
 - [1.5.1.1.1.2] Meredith Whitford
 - [1.5.1.1.1.2.1] Shakespeare's Will – Meredith Whitford_180.epub
 - main_thumbnail.jpg
 - [1.5.1.1.1.3] Sony Corporation
 - [1.5.1.1.1.3.1] User Guide – Sony Corporation_18.pdf
 - main_thumbnail.jpg
 - [1.5.1.1.2] notepads
 - [1.5.1.1.2.1] 1291679895571.733.note
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {handwritten note thumbnail}
 - {HOME → Applications → Handwriting}
 - [1.5.1.1.2.2] 1295700152131.555.note
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {handwritten note thumbnail}
 - {HOME → Applications → Handwriting}
 - [1.5.2] images
 - [1.5.2.1] Eifel tower.jpg
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {image thumbnail}
 - [1.5.2.2] Palm tree.jpg
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {image thumbnail}
 - [1.5.2.3] Snowy road.jpg
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {image thumbnail}
 - [1.5.2.4] screensaver.jpg
 - main_thumbnail.jpg {thumbnail of image}
- standby_pic_mediaPath.xml

- [2] Digital Editions
- [2.1] Annotations
 - {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=120302>}
 - [2.1.1] database
 - [2.1.1.1] media
 - [2.1.1.1.1] books
 - [2.1.1.1.1.1] author#1
 - author#1_title.epub.annot
 - [2.1.1.1.1.2] author#2
 - author#2_title.epub.annot
 - [2.1.1.1.1.3] author#3
 - author#3_title.epub.annot
- [3] images
- Eifel tower.jpg {image file}
- Palm tree.jpg {image file}
- Snowy road.jpg {image file}
- screensaver.jpg {standby sleep mode image file}
- {<http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=99690&highlight=650+wallpaper>}

[4] .Trash-1000 {hidden folder}
metadata.calibre

.....
Frequently Asked Questions

Q1 - Where are backed up annotations stored?

A1 - I don't use the Sony Reader Library Software, because it only supports Windows and Mac. However, as I understand it, annotations can be backed up using Reader Library. So, that begs the question where are the annotations stored, when backed up from the reader to your PC's hard disk? (See the following discussion <http://www.mobileread.com/forums/showthread.php?t=120302>)

Q2 - Why does the book thumbnail displayed on the reader not match the book cover image displayed in Calibre?

A2 - Calibre sometimes creates a file called cover.jpg instead of main_thumbnail.jpg so the first page of the book is displayed instead of an image of the book cover. If you want the thumbnail to be an image of book cover, then change the file name from cover.jpg to main_thumbnail.jpg (See [\[1.5.1.1.1.1\]](#))

.....