



What is in the export files

Glimpt keeps your list of books in your own browser and nowhere else. Export 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.

Which one to use

FILE	USE IT FOR	OPENS IN
JSON <code>glimpt-list.json</code>	Backups, and moving your list to Glimpt on another phone or computer. Import reads it back exactly.	Glimpt (Import), any text editor
CSV <code>glimpt-list.csv</code>	Taking your list 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 contains anything about you beyond the books you chose to keep.

The JSON file

One object, with a version number, the moment it was exported, and the books. 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.

```
{
  "bookRadar": 2,
  "exported": "2026-10-02T09:41:00.000Z",
  "books": [
    {
      "id": "w:OL20893680W",
      "b": ["OL20893680W", "Piranesi", "Susanna Clarke", 2020, 10521270, 272, 433, 63],
      "t": 1790938847302,
      "s": "own"
    }
  ]
}
```

Top level

FIELD	MEANING
bookRadar	The format version. <code>2</code> today; <code>1</code> was the same without the two lists. The name dates from before Glimpt was called Glimpt and is kept so older files still import.
exported	When the file was made, in ISO 8601, UTC.
books	The books, most recently added first.

Each book

FIELD	MEANING
id	How Glimpt recognises the book. <code>w:</code> followed by an Open Library work id when the book came from Open Library; otherwise <code>t:</code> followed by the title and author in lower case without accents or punctuation, joined by <code> </code> .
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: <code>"own"</code> or <code>"want"</code> . 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 <code>https://openlibrary.org/works/</code> to see the book there.	<code>"OL20893680W"</code>	<code>""</code>
1	Title	<code>"Piranesi"</code>	<code>""</code>
2	First author	<code>"Susanna Clarke"</code>	<code>""</code>
3	Year first published	<code>2020</code>	<code>0</code>
4	Open Library cover id. The cover is at <code>https://covers.openlibrary.org/b/id/id-M.jpg</code> .	<code>10521270</code>	<code>0</code>
5	Number of pages	<code>272</code>	<code>0</code>
6	Average reader rating out of 5, times 100	<code>433</code> is 4.33	<code>0</code>
7	How many ratings that average is from	<code>63</code>	<code>0</code>

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.

Importing

Import merges, by `id`. A book already in your list is updated, not doubled, so importing the same file twice changes nothing. Books in your list that are not in the file are left alone; nothing is ever deleted by an import. Files from version 1 import with every book on Want.

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 <code>YYYY/MM/DD</code> .
Bookshelves	<code>to-read</code> for Want, <code>owned</code> for Own. Apps that read this column put the book on a shelf, or give it a tag, of that name.
Exclusive Shelf	<code>to-read</code> 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	<code>Want</code> or <code>Own</code> , 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 list elsewhere. To bring a list back into Glimpt, use the JSON file.