Berlin-based Txtr starts shipping its low-cost eReader, the Beagle-- a bare-bones 5-inch device that transfers eBooks from Android smartphone via Bluetooth.



First announced at the 2012 Frankfurt Book Fair, the Beagle announced as an eReader costing all of €9.90 through subsidies from mobile carriers. Such plans are still not in place yet, even if if the company promises it will "announce details of the packages offered soon."

Txtr COO Thomas Leliveld also adds the company is in contract phase with at least one leading EU operator, and is close to closing contracts with 5 more.

However customers impatient for a Beagle can get one now-- costing €59, it runs on x2 AAA batteries and comes complete with 5-inch 800x600 e-ink display and 2GB of internal storage. Lacking in wifi, it depends on an Android 4.0 smartphone for book addition.

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