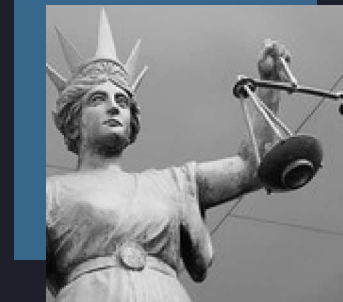


COPYRIGHT LAW: 101 - what & why?



"Scales of Justice Brisbane Supreme Court" by Sheba. Also 48,000 photos incl private is licensed under [CC BY-SA 2.0](#).

Before we start, how much do you already know about copyright law?

Not much...



I'm an expert!

What is Copyright?

Copyright has come a long way since its inception in 1710. The first copyright law was created to protect the livelihood of authors as books were being copied and printed. Today, copyright protects many types original works as soon as a creator fixes their idea into a tangible expression. Copyright can vary from country, but for the most part **copyright is automatically attached to a work once it is created**. These rights grant a creator(s) full ownership to copy, distribute, perform, and adapt their work as they see fit unless they give permission others.

"2.1 Copyright Basics" by [Creative Commons](#). [CC BY 4.0](#).

What is copyright? U.S. Copyright office. (n.d.). Retrieved February 15, 2023, from <https://www.copyright.gov/what-is-copyright/>



Purpose of Copyright Law

In legal traditions, the two main rationales for copyright are:

- 1. Utilitarian:** The purpose of copyright is to give incentive for works to be created, which will add value and better society in addition to economic gains.
- 2. Author's Rights:** The purpose to copyright is to ensure the connection a creator has to their work is not severed, as well as to protect the integrity of the work.

Which purpose do you agree with more?

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"Big question mark" by [benjaminreay](#) is licensed under [CC BY-NC 2.0](#).

Can you copyright this?

- | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Novels | • Essays | • Recordings |
| • Musicals | • Computer software | • Music |
| • Plays | • Pantomimes | • Buildings |
| • Choreography | • Maps | • Choreography |
| • Cartoons | • Photographs | • Derivative works |
| • Paintings | • Movies | • Databases |
| • Jewelry | | |

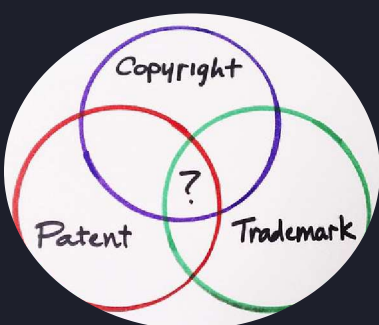
YES!

Can you copyright this?

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| • Government works | • Ideas not yet created |
| • Facts | • Recipes |
| • Common knowledge | • Formulas |
| • Dreams | |
| • Names | |

NO!

Learn more at copyright.gov



Other Types of Intellectual Property

- **Trademark Law:** Allows businesses and companies to protect markers like logos, brand names, symbols, etc., so that they can establish their reputation and to clear up any confusion with the public.
- **Patent Law:** Gives creators a limited protection over a new and useful invention, such as new computer tech. Patents give exclusive rights to creators to make, use, and sell inventions.
- **You can have a trademark and copyright exist for one creation simultaneously.**

"Copyright, Patent, or Trademark?" by [BusinessSarah](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#).

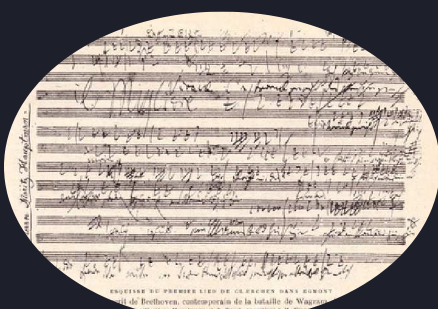
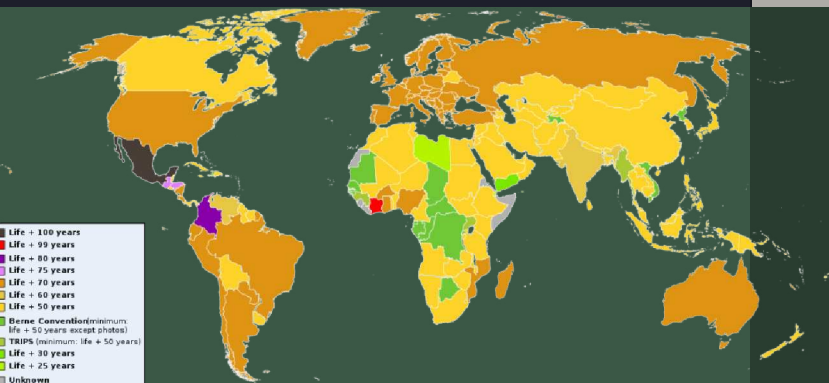
"What's the Difference?" by [TheTrademarkGroup](#). [CC BY 3.0](#).

How Long Does Copyright Last?

Worldwide map of copyright term length, as of June 2019. Author:, Balfour Smith, Canuckguy, Badseed, Martsniez – Original image by Balfour Smith at Duke University. [CC BY-SA 3.0](#).

- Copyright is not meant to last forever.
- Once a copyright expires (e.g. author's life plus 70 years in the U.S.) a work goes into a space called the **public domain**.
- These works are free to use and do not need creator permission any longer.
- A creator can also dedicate their work to the public domain before copyright expires!

"2.3 The Public Domain" by [Creative Commons](#). [CC BY 4.0](#).



Public Domain

"Schizzo di Beethoven del primo lied di Claerchen nell'Egmont" by [Progetto AMMP](#) is marked with [Public Domain Mark 1.0](#).

- Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (1865)
- A Christmas Carol (1843)
- Frankenstein (1818)
- The Wonderful Wizard of Oz (1900)
- Journey to the Center of the Earth (1864)
- The Hunchback of Notre-Dame (1831)

Famous Works in the Public Domain



Creative Commons CC0 button, available for download at <https://creativecommons.org/about/downloads/>

- Each country has their own variations of exceptions to copyright so that there are not complete monopolies to works.
- In the U.S., fair use allows for limited uses of copyrighted material:

• Criticism	• Scholarship
• Commentary	• Research
• News reporting	• Teaching

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Fair Use

After reading this infographic, how much do you know about copyright law?

Not much...



I'm an expert!

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