Copyright and Intellectual Property
Copyright Basics

Welcome to the University of Michigan’s Guide to Copyright.

Copyright law is complicated, and for good or for ill, increasingly important in scholarship and academia. The following guide seeks to provide answers to frequently asked questions, help authors learn effectively to use and enforce their rights, and to demystify copyright law as much as possible.

Table of Contents for this Guide
- Using Copyright – Answers questions about how to use copyrighted materials.
- Copyright Components – Offers an overview about copyright by responding to basic copyright questions.
- CTOOLS – Addresses the questions about using copyrighted material in CTOOLS.
- Fair Use and Other Exceptions – Explains the exceptions to copyright rules which might grant use to copyrighted materials.
- Requesting Permission – Defines what permissions are and how you can get them if necessary.
- Resource Links – Offers additional links and information pertaining to copyright.

Copyright Questions?
Looking for help with copyright questions?
Please contact us.

Melissa Levine
Kristina Eden

Contact info:
MLibrary Copyright Office
734-764-9602
Send Email -- copyright@umich.edu

Links:
Copyright Office Website
Other Copyright LibGuides

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Copyright Information and Resources

Most visitors to our site want to know one of two things - but if the big buttons below don’t represent your questions, you may want to try the “Learn More” button, or explore the menus on the left side of the page.

New Sessions Open for Fall 2012!
Register for one of our in-person workshops!

- Can I Use That?: Copyright in Everyday Life
- Know Your Rights: Copyright Essentials for Authors & Creators
- Copyright in the Classroom (and Online)

PDF Handouts available:
- 5(ish) W’s of Copyright
- Can I Use That? Fair Use in Everyday Life (update coming soon!)
- Copyright Essentials for Authors and Creators

Learn more about copyright

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10 Big Myths About Copyright Explained
By: Brad Templeton

And Then There’s Copyright
By: Sharon A. Fordham Multimedia Laboratory

Copyright Basics
U.S. Copyright Office

Copyright Law and Graduate Research: New Media, New Rights, and Your New Dissertation
By: Kenneth D. Crews

Copyright Matters: An Introduction
By: Jeanne Boyle

Copyright Term and the Public Domain in the United States
By: Peter B. Hirsh

Know Your Copyrights: What You CAN Do (B&W)
Association of Research Libraries

Know Your Copyrights: What You CAN Do (Color)
Association of Research Libraries

Tales from the Public Domain: Bound by Law?
Duke Center for the Study of the Public Domain

When U.S. Works Pass into the Public Domain
By: Laura Gasaway

Copyright FAQs
Stanford University Libraries

Frequently Asked Questions about Copyright
U.S. Copyright Office

Frequently Asked Questions About Copyright Issues Affecting the U.S. Government
CENDI

General Information About Copyrights
Oppenhiel Patent Law Firm LLC, 1993-present

Using Copyrighted Works in Your Teaching: Questions Faculty and Teaching Assistants Need to Ask Themselves Frequently
Association of Research Libraries

Copyright Registration

Author/Publisher Agreements

Licensing

Libraries

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FAQs

Writing and Citation Formatting

Citation Guides

Citation Guides

See the separate guide:

Copyright and Intellectual Property
Copyright

This Guide is for you....

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º Scan a textbook so you can study it on a portable device
º Include a chart, graph or text excerpt in your student paper, thesis or dissertation
º Add a quote or cartoon to your PowerPoint slide
º Screen a movie at your club’s next meeting
º Rip movie scenes from a DVD, mix and mash them up, and repost your new video to YouTube
º Burn a CD from your Itunes account and give it to your friend OR

If you have wrestled with other forms of Copyright Confusion!

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To comply with copyright law and with standards for ethical conduct, you need to do one of three things:

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- Use materials that are free of copyright restrictions because they are in the public domain, or they are published with an open license for use OR
- Obtain permission for your use from the copyright holder.

How do you know what approach to take in your particular situation? That’s what this Guide is designed to help with. Here you will find some brief explanations of key copyright concepts as well as resources for learning more.

Ultimately, each Aggie makes his or her own decision as to whether, or how, to use copyrighted works in a legal and ethical way. The information and resources are offered here to provide helpful and reliable information you can use to make that decision.

Please click on the tabs above to learn more.

Quick Copyright Answers

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