

Copyright Information Abreviated

What is Copyright?

“Copyright is a form of protection provided by the laws of the United States (title 17, U.S. Code) to the authors of “original works of authorship,” including literary, dramatic, musical, artistic, and certain other intellectual works. This protection is available to both published and unpublished works.”

Only people who have authored (created) the work listed above (or those who have permission or have bought the rights) can do the following:

- reproduce the work
- Create new projects based on old projects
- sell, rent or lend copies to the public
- perform the work publicly, in the case of literary, musical, dramatic, and choreographic works, pantomimes, and motion pictures and other audio visual works
- display the work publicly, in the case of literary, musical, dramatic, and choreographic works, pantomimes, and pictorial, graphic, or sculptural works, including the individual images of a motion picture or other audiovisual work

What Works Are Protected?

Copyright protects “original works of authorship” that are fixed in a tangible form of expression. Copyrightable works include the following categories:

- 1 literary works
- 2 musical works, including any accompanying words
- 3 dramatic works, including any accompanying music
- 4 pantomimes and choreographic works
- 5 pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works
- 6 motion pictures and other audiovisual works
- 7 sound recordings
- 8 architectural works

What Is Not Protected by Copyright?

Several categories of material are generally not eligible for federal copyright protection. These include among others:

- works that have not been fixed in a tangible form of expression (for example, dances or skits that haven’t been written down or recorded, impromptu rap lyrics or catch phrases that haven’t been written down or recorded. Once it’s in some form of record, it’s copyrighted.)
- titles, names, short phrases, and slogans; familiar symbols or designs; mere variations of typographic ornamentation, lettering, or coloring; mere listings of ingredients or contents
- ideas, procedures, methods, systems, processes, concepts, principles, discoveries, or devices
- works consisting entirely of information that is common property and containing no original authorship (for example: standard calendars, height and weight charts, tape measures and rulers, and lists or tables taken from public documents or other common sources. Also, classic stories like Greek myths and folk tales.)