

What about... copyright in recorded media?

Topic Summary

By recording a lecture, content within is digitized into a different format and redistributed, which is generally not permitted under fair use regardless of educational purpose. Copyright law in these instances is not always straightforward, but it is generally agreed that citing sources is not typically enough.

There is a strong case to be proactive when it comes to using (or not using) third-party materials. It could have an effect on the possible future uses of your recording.

Resource Summary

Topic: Avoiding copyright infringement

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Target audience: Practitioners

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Comment:

Things to Consider

- Be aware of digital copyright law for your country as well as the country to which your work will be released, and any updates to the laws.
- If it was found via an online image search, it is likely copyrighted. It is not necessary for a work to have an explicit copyright notice for it to be copyrighted. Look instead for permissions granted (provided the granter has the rights to do so).
- It is worth investigating the [Creative Commons](#) licensing scheme- a growing amount of material available on the internet uses this scheme to legally share, remix and reuse creative works. Most licenses are based around a simple set of definitions about how a piece may be used, reused, and redistributed.

Practical Suggestions

Avoid using: Commercial music, photos, images, videos, writings and other works (including charts, diagrams, maps, calendars, posters, brochures, images from websites, DVD clips, newspapers, magazines, journal excerpts, etc.); Including photocopies, photos, screengrabs or scans made of the above; Company brands and logos; Any of the previous which feature in the background of another work (e.g. in a photo).

You can use: Works for which you have the copyright holder's permission; Photos, artwork, writing, etc. created yourself; Music both composed and performed yourself; Public domain text and music, if performed by yourself (not from a commercial CD or audiobook); Anything where copyright has expired or is in the public domain (for appropriate countries), or licensed appropriately under Creative Commons; Links to the original source (e.g. visiting a website instead of taking screengrabs)

Condensed from: [Tips on Publishing your Story](#) (BBC) which lists more comprehensively things to avoid and those which are acceptable.

Resources

[The Wikimedia Commons](#) has a relatively comprehensive guideline to international copyrights.

[The Creative Commons Podcasting Legal Guide](#) provides general information about some of the more common legal questions that get asked in relation to podcasting.

ELTAC document: Websites offering free, stock, or public domain images and music

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