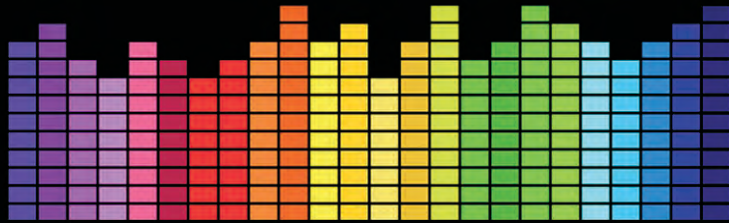




**TD  
TC**

**TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT  
AND TRANSFER CENTRE**



**© COPYRIGHTS**

## COPYRIGHTS

### What is copyright?

It is an intellectual property right that protects literary and artistic works.

### Works protected by copyright

- Literary works such as textbooks, computer programmes, broadcasting scripts, plays, stories or poetic works, novels, databases;
- Artistic works like drawings, paintings, fashion design, wood design, sculpture, photographs;
- Musical works;
- Choreographic works;
- Audio visual works, etc.

Copyright protection extends to expressions. Procedures, concepts, ideas, methods or other things of a similar nature are not protected by copyright.

### Criteria for copyright protection

- The work must be an original creation;
- It must be fixed in a medium of expression.

### Rights offered by copyrights

Copyright provides exclusive rights to the author. Two main types of rights are recognised;

- **Moral rights** grant the author the right to claim authorship of a work as well as the right to prohibit the use of the work in a way that could affect his / her reputation.
- **Economic rights** allow the copyright owner to derive monetary returns from the use of his / her work by others. Economic rights include the right to authorise or prohibit a reproduction, translation, public performance of the work, distribution, broadcasting and communication of the copyrighted work.

### Duration of copyright

The economic rights subsist for the life of the author and a minimum of fifty (50) years after the death of the author. Moral rights however exist in perpetuity.



### Using copyrighted works

As a general rule, you need permission from the right holder to use a work protected with copyright. It may be possible to use works that are not in the public domain without permission of the right owner or the need to remunerate him/ her if such uses are covered by limitations and exceptions in national legislation. Examples of limitations and exceptions include the use of the work for educational activities, quotation of works and creation of accessible format for disabled persons.

### What are works in the public domain?

These are works for which the term of copyright protection has elapsed. Such works can be used without the need to obtain permission or remunerate the right owner.

### Licensing of works

The right holder can authorise others to use or exploit his/ her work based on agreed terms in a licensing agreement.



### What are related rights?

These are a separate set or copyright type rights given to persons or bodies who help to make works available to the public. Beneficiaries of related rights are usually performers, producers of phonograms and broadcasting organisations.

### Can works on the internet be used freely?

Generally, works published online or on social media platforms are protected by copyright or related rights. Thus permission must be sought from the right owner before using the work. However works in the public domain published on the internet can be used freely.

### How can I enforce my copyright?

The copyright owner is responsible for enforcing his / her right. Where a copyrighted work is used without the permission of the author, the copyright is said to be infringed. Such cases of infringement can be brought before the courts.

### ORID and the copyright registration process

The Office of Research, Innovation and Development (ORID) will facilitate the registration process for copyrightable works developed at the University.

Authors / creators are required to disclose their works/creations and satisfy any other requirement for registration. Where the work is commercialised, the net royalties from commercialisation will be distributed in accordance with provisions in the University's Intellectual Property Policy.

*The text on this flier is adapted from information on the World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) website.*

For additional Information, please contact us at the

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