

audio

music, sounds + speeches

content creators

Do you want people to redistribute your songs, as long as they give you credit?

Do you want fans to share your recordings, so long as they don't make money off of them?

Provided they don't remix or change them?

Do you want to help create and have access to a pool of royalty-free music?

Creative Commons offers a free and flexible range of protections and freedoms for authors and artists. If you publish your music online, Creative Commons provides an interface to help you let the world know how they can remix your audio. Creative Commons can also help you find music to share and transform.

looking for content? find a range of licensed music and sounds at <http://creativecommons.org/getcontent>

Want to maximise distribution of your music while keeping control of other uses? Want to encourage other colleagues to build new music from yours, provided they don't resell them? Want to invite a wide range of re-uses, provided you get credit as the original creator?

Mix and match from an intuitive menu that helps you express the terms you want your work shared under. Creative Commons has licences to suit all sorts of situations.

select a licence that is suited to your needs at <http://creativecommons.org/license>

musicians + copyright

Copyright protects all creative works including artistic works (such as paintings, drawings and maps, photographs), written material (such as journal articles, novels, and reports), musical works and films. So your music is automatically protected the moment they are created or recorded.

But songs are made up of multiple copyrights — in the sound recording, the composition, and sometimes even the lyrics. To release a song under a Creative Commons license you should have control of all these rights or have authorisation from those who do.

In Australia registration of copyright is not required. So novels, poems, prose and newspaper articles are automatically protected

basic types of licences



attribution

others must give you credit as the original creator



non-commercial

others may not use your work for commercial purposes



no derivative works

others may not alter, transform, or build upon your work



share alike

others may alter, transform, or build upon your work, but they are encouraged to distribute the resulting work only under another Share Alike licence

audio

music, sounds + speeches

www.creativecommons.org/audio

education

text

video

images

audio

info.pack v1.1

by copyright the moment they are written. However, it is a good idea to include a copyright notice on material as it notifies people that the work is protected and identifies the copyright owner. for example © John Citizen 2005

The Australasian Performing Rights Association (APRA) is a collecting society representing music copyright owners that licences the communication to the public and the public performance of musical works on members' behalf. Members assign those rights to APRA in order to legally collect royalties on members' behalf, which means that such music cannot be licenced under a Creative Commons licence unless they have exercised their rights of opt-out. If in doubt, APRA members should consult with APRA or a copyright professional.

for more information on APRA, see <http://www.apra.com.au>

tagging mp3s

Creative Commons machine-readable format for licences can be embedded in file formats around the internet, most significantly for musicians is the mp3.

for more information on mp3 embedding, see <http://creativecommons.org/technology/embedding>

more information for musicians

Looking for more information on copyright? The Australian Copyright Council has produced a series of copyright fact sheets which are free to access online.

For copyright information which is specific to musicians, see Information Sheet G12 – *Music and Copyright*.

for more information on the Australian Copyright Council, see <http://www.copyright.org.au>

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audio

case studies

ACRA

Australia Creative Resources Archive (and its online presence ACRO – Australian Creative Resources Online) is an Australian Research Council (ARC) funded archive of video, music and other creative raw materials. The archive was built to help stimulate the production of new broadband content. The archived materials are licensed for use under Creative Commons licences.

for more information on ACRO, see <http://www.uq.edu.au/acro>

Rodger McGuinn

Rodger McGuinn is a leader of legendary band The Byrds and a longtime champion of folk and traditional music. Every month since 1995, McGuinn has recorded a traditional song and posted it to his website: the Folk Den. When McGuinn decided to offer these tunes under a Creative Commons licence, he told us that the licences simply “help formalize what I always thought the Internet was all about: sharing, but not abuse”.

for more information on the Folk Den, see <http://www.ibiblio.org/jimmy/mcguinn/index.html>

Opsound Project

Opsound is a pool of hundreds of sounds and songs contributed by artists around the globe. All the tracks in Opsound's open sound pool can be sampled, mashed-up, or tinkered with, provided the resulting tracks are licenced back to the world on the same free terms.

for more information on Opsound, see <http://www.opsound.org>

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