



COPYRIGHT

Copyright is an automatic right, it arises automatically the moment you create a literary, dramatic, musical, or artistic work and the scope can range from information booklets, advertising copy, computer programs to sound recordings and films.

In other words, anything that you have used your creativity to create if the work has been rendered in a tangible form. You can't protect an idea, but you can protect the physical expression of that idea.

When you create a copyright work you can:

- Decide whether others use your original work
- Control who uses the original work and how much it can be adapted, published performed or broadcast
- Allow others to use your copyright work through a royalty or licence agreement

How long does copyright last?

- Normally, for the life of the author plus 70 years

What does copyright cover?

COPYRIGHT

What does it protect?
 Novels, newspaper articles, technical reports, manuals, databases
 Engineering, technical or architectural plans
PAINTINGS, SCULPTURES, PHOTOGRAPHS, DIAGRAMS, MAPS Original musical works, songs, plays, dramatic works
 Promotional literature, advertising
 Films, videos, cable or radio broadcasts
COMPUTER SOFTWARE, DVDS, VIDEOS

What does it NOT protect?
BASICALLY, IDEAS, CONCEPTS OR INVENTIONS

How long does it last?
 70 – 25 years



How can I profit from my copyright?

If you own the copyright to an original piece of work (of music, poetry, advertising copy, software etc) it can be a significant source of income because you can control how it is used commercially and command a fee. By asserting your copyright (being able to prove that you are the creator) you can prevent copies of your original work being produced, rented, or loaned without your express permission.

If you use a copyright work without permission, you infringe the rights of the originator and you will be liable to legal challenge.

Can I register my copyright?

No, there is no official UK registration

Points to Remember:

Always remember to sign and date your work. Many use the copyright symbol © plus their name and date to communicate their copyright ownership. You can also add "all rights reserved".

ACID members have access to the IP Data Bank, which allows them to upload their designs for third party evidence of the date of creation.

If you are a copyright holder, you have "moral rights", which affect how your work is attributed to you. For example, a photographer is entitled to have their name used with the publication of a photograph (unless they have assigned the rights).

Always ask a copyright owner's permission to use their work.

Have you signed the ACID IP Charter?

Join a growing number of people who are about IP ethics, respect, and compliance.
<https://www.acid.uk.com/become-a-charter-signatory/>

