

Find links to copyright-friendly Web sites for getting photos and music on Page 2 of this document.

Copyright: Fair Use Practices for Students

Federal copyright laws protect the creative work of artists, musicians, writers, and photographers. "Fair Use" is a provision of U.S. copyright law that permits students and teachers to use portions of copyrighted materials for educational purposes. Consider the fair use guidelines below when creating your projects. Answering the four questions can help you determine how to use copyrighted material properly.

Criteria for Fair Use

1. **What is the purpose and character of your use?** Nonprofit, educational, and personal uses are most likely to fall under the fair use category. Also at issue here is whether the copied material is being used to help create something new or simply being copied verbatim.
2. **What is the nature of the copyrighted work?** Generally speaking, you have more leeway to copy factual works and published works than imaginative and unpublished works.
3. **How much of the work are you using?** Fair use includes portion limitations. Less is always better. You may use music, video, and texts, but guidelines for these materials vary. A general guideline for a student multimedia project is that you can use 10 percent of a work, but not more than:
 - 3 minutes of video
 - 30 seconds of a song
 - 5 photos from an artist's collectionThe videos and music you are copying from must be legally acquired.
4. **What effect does the use have on the potential market for the work?** You may never distribute or sell your projects to mass audiences, and you may keep only two copies of the project. Be aware that federal law also maintains time limitations. You may keep your project for two years and must not harm the author or copyright holder's profits.

Always cite all your sources; the copyright holder of any material used in your class project must be given proper credit. And be aware that these guidelines apply to material on Web (text, images, multimedia objects) which is protected under copyright law.

Penalties

Students are subject to litigation if they do not follow these guidelines.

- Be careful. Copyright infringement is considered intellectual theft!
- Be sure to follow the 10% rule and document your sources carefully.
- You may be fined up to \$100,000 for not following the Fair Use guidelines, even if you are unaware of these laws.

Seek Permission to Use

Remember, you can ask for, and in many cases, receive permission to use a whole song or extensive images if you make such a request to the copyright holder and keep proof of permission.

Sources

- University of Texas: <http://www.utsystem.edu/>
- U.S. Copyright Office: www.copyright.gov/title17/

Free Photo Sites

FreePhoto: <http://www.freefoto.com/index.jsp>

You must credit FreePhoto.com to use the photos from their site in your projects.

Copyright-Free Photo Archive: <http://gimp-savvy.com/PHOTO-ARCHIVE/>

This site is a collection of links to Web sites with copyright-free images for your use. You must cite each image according to the rules of each site, so make sure to check for instructions.

MorgueFile.com: <http://www.morguefile.com/>

The terms of service for using the photos on this site are available on the site. If you wish to use any of the photos, please read the terms of service.

FreeStockPhotos.com: <http://freestockphotos.com/>

All photos are free to use for non-commercial purposes. You must cite the Web site for each photo you use.

FreePhotos.com: <http://www.amgmedia.com/freephotos/>

All photos are free to use for non-commercial purposes. You must cite Ernest von Rosen, www.amgmedia.com for each photo you use.

FreeClipArt.com: <http://www.freeclipartpictures.com/>

All clip art is free for academic use, but you must cite freeclipart.com if you use any images.

1000Pictures.com: <http://www.1000pictures.com/>

All art is free for academic use.

Public Domain Photos: <http://pdphoto.org/>

All photos are free for public use.

CreatingOnlineGallery: http://www.creatingonline.com/stock_photos/

Photos are free for personal use; however, they may not be used in a logo or copyrighted. You should cite the Web site author for all content you choose to use.

AceClipArt.com: <http://www.ace-clipart.com/>

All clip art is free for academic use, but you must cite aceclipart.com if you choose to use a picture.

FreePhotosByJayArraich: <http://www.arraich.com/freephotos.htm>

All photos are free for educational use. Cite Jay Arraich as the creator.

FreeByte.com: http://www.freebyte.com/clipart_images_photos_icons/

A collection of links to other free art sites is available here. Read the individual user agreements statements for each site you use.

GeekPhilosopher.com: <http://geekphilosopher.com/MainPage/photos.htm>

Photos are free for use. Cite geekphilosopher.com as the creator.

FontPlay.com: <http://www.fontplay.com/freephotos/>

Photos are free for any use.

CreativeCommons.org: <http://creativecommons.org/>

Contributors to this site determine how they want their material used. Read guidelines.

Free Music Sites

CreativeCommons.org: <http://creativecommons.org/audio/>

Contributors to this site determine how they want their material used. Read guidelines.

FreePlayMusic.com: <http://www.freeplaymusic.com/>

The music on the site may be used for educational purposes, provided you cite the author of the piece you are using.

GoingWare.com: <http://www.goingware.com/tips/legal-downloads.html#Websites>

This site is a portal to various Web sites that allow you to download music created by bands and musicians. If you choose to use a piece of music from a band's site, you should abide by that band's terms of use policy.

Tryad.org: <http://www.tryad.org>

This band releases their music through their Web site. All of their works are covered by the Creative Commons License.

Opsound.org: <http://opsound.org/>

See Tryad.org.

PublicDomainMusic.com: <http://www.pdinfo.com/>

This site is a collection of royalty free music for non-profit use.

InternetArchive.org: <http://www.archive.org/details/netlabels>

This online internet library contains a collection of audio for scholarly use. If you choose to use a selection from this site you should cite the author of the piece.