



- Want to let people share and use your photographs, but not allow companies to sell them?
- Looking for access to course materials from the world's top universities?
- Want to encourage readers to re-publish your blog posts, as long as they give you credit?
- Looking for songs that you can use and remix, royalty-free?

### **What Is Creative Commons?**

Creative Commons is a nonprofit organization that enables the sharing and use of creativity and knowledge through free legal tools.

Our free, easy-to-use copyright licenses provide a simple, standardized way to give the public permission to share and use your creative work — on conditions of your choice. CC licenses let you easily change your copyright terms from the default of “all rights reserved” to “some rights reserved.”

Creative Commons licenses are not an alternative to copyright. They work alongside copyright and enable you to modify your copyright terms to best suit your needs. We've collaborated with intellectual property experts around the world to ensure that our licenses work globally.

### **What Can Creative Commons Do For Me?**

If you want to give people the right to share, use, and even build upon a work you've created, you should consider publishing under a Creative Commons license. CC gives you flexibility (for example, you can choose to allow only noncommercial uses) and protects the people who use your work, so they don't have to worry about copyright infringement, as long as they abide by the conditions you have specified.

If you're looking for content that you can freely and legally use, there is a giant pool of CC-licensed creativity available to you. There are hundreds of millions of works — from songs and videos to scientific and academic material — available to the public for free and legal use under the terms of our copyright licenses, with more being contributed every day.

## Step 1: Choose Conditions

Publishing under a Creative Commons license is easy. First, choose the conditions that you want to apply to your work.



**Attribution.** All CC licenses require that others who use your work in any way must give you credit the way you request, but not in a way that suggests you endorse them or their use. If they want to use your work without giving you credit or for endorsement purposes, they must get your permission first.



**NonCommercial.** You let others copy, distribute, display, perform, and (unless you have chosen NoDerivatives) modify and use your work for any purpose other than commercially unless they get your permission first.



**ShareAlike.** You let others copy, distribute, display, perform, and modify your work, as long as they distribute any modified work on the same terms. If they want to distribute modified works under other terms, they must get your permission first.



**NoDerivatives.** You let others copy, distribute, display and perform only original copies of your work. If they want to modify your work, they must get your permission first.

## Step 2: Get a License

Based on your choices, you will get a license that clearly indicates how other people may use your creative work.



**Attribution**



**Attribution — ShareAlike**

Used by Wikipedia



**Attribution — NoDerivatives**



**Attribution — NonCommercial**



**Attribution — NonCommercial — ShareAlike**



**Attribution — NonCommercial — NoDerivatives**

