**Driving While Texting**

DWT may stand for: **Driving While Texting**, Is the act of composing, sending, or reading text messages, email, or making other similar use of the internet on a mobile device, while operating a motor vehicle, such as an automobile, truck or train. Dry weight.

What is a watermark? How can I add a watermark to my photos?

Adding a visible watermark is a common way of identifying images and protecting them from unauthorized use online. Learn how to create an effective watermark and apply it to your digital photos or art work.

A watermark is a visible embedded overlay on a digital photo consisting of text, a logo, or a copyright notice. The purpose of a watermark is to identify the work and discourage its unauthorized use. Though a visible watermark can't prevent unauthorized use, it makes it more difficult for those who may want to claim someone else's photo or art work as their own.

Today, digital watermarks are also added to photos, films and audio files to show a copyright by the owner of the object.

**PROTECT ONLINE PHOTOS**

If you're seeking to prevent others from ever being able to copy your online photo, then stop now, because you won't find the solution here. It just isn't possible. Anything which is displayed to someone can in principle be copied, since the image information has already been transmitted. What you can do, however, is to make copying more difficult, and to ensure your usage terms are clear — so that visitors know you are serious about image protection.

## COPYRIGHT YOUR PHOTOS

The first step is to ensure that your photos are copyrighted. Fortunately, in most countries this happens automatically when the photo is created, including in the US, UK, EU and Canada. No action is required on your part, and you will have all necessary legal rights to recover any lost fees from unauthorized use.

While the above is sufficient for the vast majority of online photos, in special cases you may even want to file your photo with the U.S. Copyright office (or similar government body). This will enable you to potentially also recover punitive damages and legal fees, but is probably only necessary for unusually high value work.

## MAKE PHOTO COPYING MORE DIFFICULT

Each of the methods below will make photo copying more difficult for novice internet visitors. With each example, just view the image's HTML source code if you want to learn how to implement any of these protection features.

Note: these methods require that you be able to change your website's HTML code; if that isn't the case (such as images hosted on Flickr, Picassa, etc.), then you'll want to skip to the next section.

## MAKE PHOTO OWNERSHIP & USAGE TERMS KNOWN

You can make your ownership and usage terms known by employing some combination of image watermarks, copyright metadata (IPTC) and a link to a usage license.

**Photo Watermarks**. These are a good way to make it clear that you are serious about copyright protection. They also make it more likely that you will receive credit even when an image has been copied without your permission.



As a creator, the great thing about the internet is that you can upload your work and share it with people around the world for very little cost. However, people can illegally download and copy your work without your permission. This is why it is very important to protect the words, images, music and films you put on the internet.

This information will be helpful if you use the internet in the following ways:

* showing your artworks on websites
* sharing your videos or films
* using other people’s words, images and information in your own work
* blogging or writing your thoughts, comments or ideas on websites
* communicating with friends on [social networking](http://www.artslaw.com.au/legal/raw-law/key-words-a-/) sites.

The main legal issues on the internet are copyright and piracy.

**Copyright**

Copyright is about important rights that only you have in your work.

Other people need your permission or [licence](http://www.artslaw.com.au/legal/raw-law/key-words-a-/) to do those things.

Copyright is important because it:

* protects your work against use by others without your permission
* allows you get money for your work.

Copyright laws protect electronic versions of your work as much as your ‘real’ or material work such as painting or photograph.

**Piracy**

With digital technology, it is very easy for people to copy or use other people’s work without permission. This happens a lot with music or film on the internet.

Everyday, people use the internet to copy and share other people’s work for free, and without permission. This is called piracy.

**Protecting your work**

There are ways to protect material you upload on the internet from being used without your permission:

To protect your **visual art**, you can:

* add a visible watermark to your images before uploading them
* disable right-click
* add invisible information to your images online
* tell users that a high quality version is available to buy
* upload low-resolution images only — no more than 72dpi
* put the © notice with your name next to your work.
* give people the possibility to contact you — for example, by showing your email address. It will be easier for someone to ask for your permission to use your work.

To protect your **music**, you can:

* hide information into your music — this is called digital watermarking
* upload low-quality recordings only — a compression rate less than 49 kilobits per second
* tell users that a high quality version is available to buy
* attach the © notice with your name next to your recordings
* give people the possibility to contact you — for example, by showing your email address. It will be easier for someone to ask for your permission to use your work.

To protect your **film**, you can:

* hide information to track your film — this is called digital fingerprinting
* upload low quality versions only — a compression rate less than 151 kilobits per second for video and 49 kilobits per second for the sound
* tell users that a high quality version is available to buy
* put the © notice with your name into your film
* give people the possibility to contact you — for example, by showing your email address. It will be easier for someone to ask for your permission to use your work.
* The internet is a very public place for showing your work. Millions of people use the internet, and have access to anything that you put there.
* Showing your work on the internet can increase the risk of someone copying your work without your permission.
* Australian copyright law protects most things on the internet, including your work.
* It is illegal to download or share copies of images, songs, movies, or TV shows without the copyright owner’s written permission.
* Put the copyright notice, your name, and the year to anything you upload, for example: © Name Surname 2010.
* Only put low-quality versions of images, sound recordings or video on the internet.
* You can protect your work by:

**Summary**

* providing your contact details and how to buy your work – email is usually best
* adding a visible watermark to your images before uploading
* disabling right clicking to make it harder to copy an image

**Legal Tips**

* Work out what uses of your work you will allow before putting any material online: for example:
  + can people buy it online?
  + can people download it?
  + is it available for private use only, or can it be used in public?
* Make sure that people know you are the copyright owner of your work and what they can do with your work.
* Use a search engine to see if other people are using your material.
* If your copyright is infringed get legal advice and take action. Learn more about how to take action on the following pages.