

Homework #3: Intellectual Property

Issued: Thursday, October 13

Due: Tuesday, November 1

Purpose

This assignment asks you to understand property, intellectual property (IP), and the ways IP can be protected. It also asks you to think about how software should be protected.

These homework problems extensions of those our textbook. Read the textbook problem, and then read the clarification and/or elaboration here.

Don't forget to explain how one or more ethical theories support your opinion.

Chapter 4

Edition 7: question 14, page 214.

Does IP protection increase innovation? Provide an argument supporting your answer.

Edition 7: question 15, page 214.

Describe your IP.

Edition 7: question online, page Wikipedia.

This question was removed from the Seventh Edition, but see:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digg#AACs_encryption_key_controversy

Discuss the morality of posting the 32-character encryption key for HD-DVDs on Digg.com; the morality of terminating the poster's account; and the morality of reposting the encryption key.

Edition 7: question 19, page 215.

Analyze *MGM v. Grokster*. Can you extrapolate such reasoning to other technologies?

Edition 7: question 20, page 215.

Consider the legality of proprietary and open-source software distribution.

Edition 7: question 21, page 215.

Compare software and music.