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REPORT

Copyrights-

A copyright protects an author's right to profit from works they create. Similar to a patent, the owner is granted a limited monopoly, but a copyright last for the entire life of author plus 70 years. A copyright protects original works of authorship including songs, books, movies, articles and much more. The key is that the work must exist on a physical or digital medium, such as paper, film or a digital file. A copyright gives you the exclusive right to use a work in a variety of ways: you can reproduce it, sell or distribute copies, display it, perform it, or create other works based on your copyrighted work. Copyrights are automatic upon creation of the original work, but registration is recommended so that the copyright claim is part of the public record.

What Can be Copyrighted?

Copyrights cover "original works of authorship." This includes:

- Literary works
- Musical works, including any accompanying words
- Dramatic works, including any accompanying music
- Pantomimes and choreographic works
- Pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works
- Motion pictures and other audiovisual works
- Sound recordings; and
- Architectural works

Advantages of Obtaining Copyright

A copyright is granted the moment you create an original work in a tangible or fixed form. It's automatic. But unregistered works may be difficult to prove in the case that someone else uses or steals your work. And you can only file a copyright infringement lawsuit if your copyright is registered. That's why we recommend registering your work with the U.S. Copyright Office to make your copyright claim public record.

Patent:

A patent is the granting of a property right by a sovereign authority to an inventor. This grant provides the inventor exclusive rights to the patented process, design, or invention for a designated period in exchange for a comprehensive disclosure of the invention. They are a form of incorporeal right. A patent grants property rights to the creator(s) of a new, unique and useful invention, discovery or process.

What Are Examples of Patents?

Examples of historic patented inventions include common products that we use daily, including the telephone, dishwasher, and lightbulb. Ones without expired protection include Boeing's Water Harvesting system, Disney's method for reproducing human actions with robots, and Google's medical response drone

How Much Is a Patent?

Patent costs vary according to the type of patent applied for and are based on several other factors, such as the type of applicant, provisional or nonprovisional status, and associated fees—search fees, examination fees, post-allowance fees, and more. If using the services of an attorney, you can expect costs to range from approximately \$5,000 to more than \$45,000.

How Long Does a Patent Last?

Utility and plant patents last for 20 years from the date of filing, while design patents last for 15 years if filed after May 13, 2015, or 14 years if filed before May 13, 2015

Different Types of Patents

There are three types of patents: utility, design, and plant.

Utility patent: Granted for new, nonobvious, and useful inventions for processes, machines, manufactures, composition of matter, or if the invention makes an improvement on a previous invention.

Design patent: Granted for new and original ornamental designs of a manufactured product. The appearance of the object receives protection instead of its functionality.

Plant patent: A patent for the invention or discovery of an asexually reproducible plant that is distinct and new.

The Difference Between a Patent and a Copyright

While a patent, with the exclusion of a design patent, protects inventions of new processes, copyright protects published and unpublished original works, including works in literature, music, art, architecture, software, and choreography. Like a patent holder, the copyright owner has exclusive rights, including the right to reproduce, make derivatives, distribute copies, display the work in public, or perform the work publicly.

In some cases, an applicant can obtain both a copyright and a patent. Overlap, for instance, can occur between a design patent and copyright in circumstances where the ornamental design qualifies both for a patent and as a work of art subject to copyright protection.

