

Peaceful Public License



*In protecting the peace of creation,
we honor the voice of the creator.*

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THIS IS THE BEGINNING

In protecting the peace of creation, we honor the voice of the creator.

1.1 Artist's Manifesto

To the Auteur (the Creator),

Yours is the first hand upon the stone, the first brush upon the canvas, the first spark upon the wire. What you create, none can claim but you. And yet, unseen hands seek to take it from you — machine hands, empty hands, hands that neither toil nor dream. We stand against them.

1.1.1 The Crisis

They came for our labor first. The silent hands of automation replaced the callused hands of workers. We bore it. We adapted. We evolved.

But this — **this** is different.

Our **art** was never mere labor. It is our speech, our expression, the unspoken language of our souls. It is **the monument of our lives**. For this to be pried from us — taken without consent, devoured by unseen algorithms, twisted and reassembled into cold imitations — is more than theft. **It is desecration.**

They come back to us with a certain alienated majesty.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Self-Reliance*

Our art, twisted and hollow, like a reflection in a warped mirror. It is the familiar made strange. What we create in love is returned to us as mockery. **We know our own brushstrokes, but they no longer recognize us.**

Worse still, our stolen art is used against us. To **profile us**, to **surveil us**, to **oppress us**. The art born of love becomes the tool of power. The **technocracy tightens its grip**, consolidating control into ever-fewer hands. **We are not an arbitrage opportunity for your profit**. We are not unwilling contributors to our own demise.

We watch as corporate giants hide behind copyright law while stripping us of our own. Their libraries of intellectual property are fortresses, guarded by the unyielding force of the law. But when they steal our works to train their machines, there is no hammer of justice. The **gavel falls only for the rich**. Fair use for them, but never for us. **Where is our protection? Where is our law?**

1.1.2 The Vision

Insist on yourself; never imitate.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Self-Reliance*

The imitator is a mimic, but the creator is a **force of origin**. **What is a machine but an endless imitator?** The Peaceful Public License does not protect imitation. It protects the flame of originality. The imitator is the shadow. The creator is the light.

The eye was placed where one ray should fall, that it might testify of that particular ray.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Self-Reliance*

Creation is not assembly. It is not production. It is not the cold mimicry of machine learning. It is the fire that makes beauty from ash, the spark that lights the forge. Creation is divine. It requires a creator. **Your work is your ray, and none but you can testify to it.**

The PPL is our **shield**. It guards our works from exploitation. It is **our declaration of dignity**, a line in the sand. This far, no further.

The PPL is our **lance**. Sharp. Precise. It pierces through the fog of corporate deception. It asserts the power of the artist. It says to the



machine: “**You will ask. You will wait. You will not take without permission.**”

The PPL is our **wrench**. Our disruption. Our refusal to accept their rules. We will halt the gears of technocracy. We will jam the works of oppression. We will say to the machine: “**Not today. Not ever.**”

1.1.3 The Call to Action

Nothing is at last sacred but the integrity of your own mind.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Self-Reliance*

They will call us radicals. They will call us unreasonable. But **what is radical about dignity? What is unreasonable about self-respect?** They will claim our refusal to yield is stubbornness, but we call it **integrity**. The machine will not define it for us. We will say it for ourselves. **Not without my permission.**

They will pretend not to hear us. They will pretend the storm is far off. They will pretend they are untouchable.

But the sky grows darker. The air tastes of salt and lightning. **The deluge is here.**

1.1.4 The Peaceful Creed

Five words. Five truths. Five promises. Remember them, for they will be your shield, your lance, and your wrench.

1. **PEACE:** *No art for war, nor machine tyranny.*
2. **CONSENT:** *The will of the creator is the will of the work.*
3. **AGENCY:** *To train a machine, you must ask.*
4. **DIGNITY:** *All creators are worthy of honor.*
5. **SOLIDARITY:** *To protect one is to protect all.*



1.1.5 Our Enemy, Named

We name them now, for a faceless enemy is no enemy at all. This is who we resist. This is who we stand against.

- **AI trained on stolen art** — Art without consent is not progress. It is **theft**.
- **Surveillance technology** — Our faces are not datasets. Our lives are not for sale.
- **Technocracy** — Power must be held by people, not machines.
- **Unjust copyright** — Corporate hoards are defended, but human creators are abandoned.
- **The erosion of dignity** — We are not “content creators.” We are **artists**.

1.1.6 What Comes Next

The life of man is a self-evolving circle, which, from a ring imperceptibly small, rushes on all sides outward to new and larger circles.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Circles*

The storm is here. You have felt it. The winds that rise with no master. The flood that breaks every dam. **No wall will hold it. No court will silence it. No machine will break it.**

All things are made sacred by relation to it — one as much as another.

— Ralph Waldo Emerson, *Nature*

This is not the end. This is the beginning. The machines will not stop on their own. They must be stopped.



Raise the shield. Lead with the lance. Break the gears with the wrench.

The flood is here. The deluge will not recede.



INTRODUCTION

In protecting the peace of creation, we honor the voice of the creator.

2.1 Peaceful Public License (PPL) - Introductory Document

This document introduces the Peaceful Public License (PPL) in three distinct versions—PPL-Personal, PPL-Community, and PPL-Research—each crafted to support responsible, ethical, and peaceful use of creative works.

2.1.1 Why Choose the Peaceful Public License (PPL)?

As an artist, the **Peaceful Public License empowers you to maintain control over your creations in an increasingly automated world.** Unlike conventional licenses, the PPL protects your work from being exploited by AI systems for training or automated derivative generation without your explicit consent, ensuring your creativity remains respected and valued. By using the PPL, you join a community of like-minded creators committed to ethical practices and innovation, while retaining the ability to share your art with others on your own terms. The license also provides a clear, legally enforceable framework that safeguards your rights, enabling you to focus on what matters most - creating meaningful art.

2.1.2 PPL Usage

1. Purpose and Overview:

- The PPL is designed to foster positive contributions to society while protecting creators' rights and ensuring their work aligns with peaceful and socially responsible uses.

2. Distinctions Between Versions:

- **PPL-Personal:** Focused on personal, non-commercial use, ideal for individual study and educational activities.
- **PPL-Community:** Suitable for community organizations, educational workshops, and other non-commercial activities that align with the work's peaceful mission.
- **PPL-Research:** Intended for non-commercial academic and research settings, including ethical AI research, with strong protections against misuse.

3. How to Choose a Version:

- Choose **PPL-Personal** if the work is primarily for personal study or individual projects.
- Opt for **PPL-Community** for broader community applications that benefit educational or non-profit groups.
- Select **PPL-Research** for research purposes, particularly in academia, where ethical AI considerations are essential.

4. Ethical and Social Impact:

- Each version of the PPL prohibits use in military, surveillance, discriminatory, and unethical AI applications. The license aims to support creativity and progress while preserving peace and respecting human rights.

Please refer to each specific license for full terms and conditions.

2.1.3 Recommended Auditing Standards

The Peaceful Public License (PPL) encourages users to select auditors who align with recognized ethical standards in technology, privacy, and open-source compliance. Organizations such as the Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF), the Center for Democracy & Technology (CDT), or the Algorithmic Justice League (AJL) represent the type of ethical standards that align with the PPL's goals for transparency, peace, and responsible use.



2.1.4 License Compatibility

The Peaceful Public License (PPL) is designed to be compatible with certain non-commercial open-source licenses that align with its ethical values, such as Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial licenses. Users are encouraged to verify that any combined work respects the PPL's ethical standards, as specified under Ethical Use Obligations. The PPL is not compatible with licenses that permit unrestricted military, surveillance, or commercial uses that would violate the ethical intent of this license.

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3.1 Peaceful Public License (PPL) - Artist's Guide

Version 1.0

3.1.1 Introduction

The Peaceful Public License (PPL) is designed to support artists by providing a framework that ensures their work can be shared and utilized within ethical boundaries. This guide offers insight into the specific benefits of using the PPL, when it may be most valuable, and how to implement it effectively to safeguard your creative work.

3.1.2 Benefits of the PPL for Artists

1. **Ethical Usage Assurance:** The PPL ensures your work cannot be used for purposes such as military, surveillance, or any application that goes against peaceful and constructive values.
2. **Protection Against AI Training Use:** The PPL prevents the use of your work in training AI models without your express consent, returning agency to you as the creator and preserving the profitability and integrity of your original creations.
3. **Transparency in Licensing:** The PPL's clear terms provide transparency, allowing you to control and communicate your ethical boundaries to collaborators and the public.

3.1.3 When to Use the PPL

The PPL is ideal for artists who wish to share their work while ensuring it cannot be co-opted by harmful industries or unethical entities. If your art is intended to inspire, educate, or bring communities together, this license supports your goals without compromising your values.

3.1.4 How to Effectively Use the PPL

1. **Choose the Correct Version:** Depending on your objectives, select the most appropriate version (e.g., Personal, Community, Research) to match the intended use of your work.
2. **Document Your Intentions:** Include a statement or artist note with your work explaining why you chose the PPL and what you hope to achieve.
3. **Communicate with Collaborators:** Inform collaborators about the ethical terms of the PPL and how it affects any derivative works.

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FOR LAWYERS & ACTIVISTS

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4.1 Peaceful Public License (PPL) - Lawyer & Activist's Guide

Version 1.0

4.1.1 Introduction

The Peaceful Public License (PPL) introduces a new ethical framework designed to protect the intentions of creators and restrict the exploitation of their work for harmful or unethical purposes. This guide offers insights into the protections offered by the PPL, its vision, and how it can be effectively applied within a legal framework.

4.1.2 Protections and Ethical Standards

1. **Prohibiting Exploitative Use:** The PPL explicitly prohibits uses related to military, surveillance, police, and commercial exploitation within unethical industries.
2. **Protection Against Unauthorized AI Model Training:** The PPL prevents the use of licensed works in training AI models without explicit permission, thereby safeguarding creator rights, promoting agency, and ensuring that the benefits of original creation remain with the artist.
3. **Supporting Non-commercial, Open-source Compatibility:** The PPL aligns with certain non-commercial open-source licenses, fostering a cooperative ecosystem for responsible sharing.

4.1.3 Broad Vision and Use Cases

The PPL aims to create a more ethical world where creators can contribute positively without fear of their work being misappropriated. This license

is particularly relevant for legal professionals and activists interested in protecting intellectual property from misuse and ensuring compliance with ethical standards.

4.1.4 How to Use the PPL in Legal Systems

1. **Understand Compatibility:** Identify compatible non-commercial licenses to ensure seamless integration for clients.
2. **Document Compliance:** Encourage clients to document and communicate compliance to protect their intentions in legal settings.
3. **Promote Ethical Adoption:** Use the PPL's structure as an example to support ethical licensing practices across industries.

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FOR COMPACT DISPLAY

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For full license terms, including Artist Rights and Ethical Applications, please visit: [link to your full license text here]

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 - **Code or documentation changes:**
(modifications in source code, scripts, or explanations)
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7.1 Peaceful Public License (PPL) Version Verification Guide

To ensure you're using an official version of the Peaceful Public License (PPL), you can verify the authenticity of each version by checking the Git tags associated with each release.

7.1.1 Verification Steps

1. **Access the Repository:** Visit the official repository at <https://github.com/PeacefulPublicLicense/peaceful-public-license> to access the latest versions of the PPL.
2. **Check for Official Tags:** Each official release is marked with a Git tag (e.g., v1.0, v1.1) to identify the version. To view all tags, use:

```
git tag
```

3. **Checkout a Specific Version:** To verify or use a specific version of the PPL, checkout the desired tag. For example, for version 1.0:

```
git checkout v1.0
```

4. **Verify File Integrity:** The files in each tagged version remain unaltered to preserve integrity. You can cross-reference the tag with the latest official hash in this repository.

7.1.2 Additional Notes

- **Release History:** You can view the history of releases, along with changes and updates, in the Git tags section of the repository.

- **Latest Updates:** To ensure you have the latest version, always refer to the repository's official release notes or tagged versions.

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