



NEED A FILE, SHARE A FILE:

BEFORE YOU DOWNLOAD THAT FILE...

think about...

COPYRIGHT LAWS

Legally, only the copyright holder has the right to or grant permission to:

1. ☐ make copies of the work (this means digital copies too)
2. ☐ create derivative work, or collect money from derivative work
3. ☐ distribute copies of the work (this means digital copies too)
4. ☐ perform the work in public
5. ☐ display the work in public ("public" includes the web)

UCLA ENCOURAGES THE FREE FLOW OF IDEAS, BUT...

The University does not condone illegal activity. **UCLA Policy 964** states:

"...The University encourages the free flow of ideas and the provision of resources in support of academic pursuits. However, the University does not condone the illegal or inappropriate use of material subject to copyright protections that happens to be available through online systems and services that the University makes available to its users. UCLA faculty, staff and students need to be mindful of the copyright protections afforded to online materials and that violations of these protections may result in significant penalties..."

Hume, Wyatt R. "UCLA Policy 964: Online Copyright Infringement Liability Limitation." 1 Aug. 2000. *UCLA Administrative Information Systems* 10 Jan. 2004. <http://www.adminvc.ucla.edu/appm/public/app_0964_o.html>

ON-CAMPUS HOUSING POLICIES

If you live on campus, you probably signed a document that said:

"...The Student shall abide by all applicable laws (state and federal) and University policies... The Student Technology Center and the Office of Residential Life investigate all suspected violations... Discipline ranges from loss of computing privileges to expulsion from the University. Civil and criminal penalties may also result from violation of Federal and State law..."

"2002-2003 On-Campus Housing Contract Appendix B: In-Room Computing Acceptable Use Policy." 2001. *UCLA Student Technology Center*. 10 Jan. 2004. <<http://www.resnet.ucla.edu/policies2.html>>

UC COMMITMENT TO COPYRIGHT LAW

"...The University of California is committed to upholding U.S. copyright law. As an Internet Service Provider under the meaning of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA), the University does not monitor its networks for the purpose of discovering illegal activity. However, the University pursues a set of ongoing initiatives to ensure that copyright, particularly as it applies to digital assets, is respected within the University community..."

"UC Commitment to Copyright Law." 21 Feb. 2003. *UCOP Information Resources and Communications*. 8 July 2003. <<http://www.ucop.edu/irc/policy/copycommit.html>>.

IS FILESHARING ALWAYS ILLEGAL?

No, filesharing is not always illegal or "bad." In fact, the free exchange of ideas, research, data, etc. is essential to the scholarly process as it inspires and promotes innovation. There are plenty of legitimate uses of filesharing in the academic community and elsewhere – filesharing does *not* always equal illegal activity.

SO, WHAT NOT TO DO?

There's no need to be paranoid about filesharing but.... it's probably better to err on the safe side. For now, avoid downloading or sharing copyrighted materials (music, software, movies, games, images, etc.) without permission from the copyright holder.

OTHER ADVICE?

Be aware of the issues regarding your online activity. Get acquainted with campus policies. Boring, yes – but they can affect you. Keep yourself informed about filesharing in the news. If, in the end, the courts decide that filesharing copyrighted work for free is ok, you'll definitely hear about it in the news.

