

# Copyright

- Copyright is a form of legal protection that gives you ownership rights to your original works. The moment you create a work of creative expression that falls within the scope of US copyright laws, it is automatically protected by law.
- Copyright protects your original works, published or unpublished, in the event that they're stolen or plagiarized

# Copyright provides the creator with exclusive rights to:

- Reproduce the work
- Distribute or sell the work
- Display or perform the work publicly
- Create derivative works based on the original work

Copyright also allows the copyright holder to authorize or restrict others in exercising these rights.

- To gain further protection of your works, you can [register your copyright](#) with the Copyright Office or add a copyright notice to your original works to help deter copyright infringement, the unauthorized reproduction, distribution, or display of copyrighted material.

# Copyright Examples

- Architectural works
- Sound recordings
- Audiovisual works, including motion pictures
- Artworks
- Dramatic works, including any accompanying music
- Musical works, including any accompanying words
- Literary works
- Choreographic works

# Copyright protection comes with exceptions

- Copyright protection comes with exceptions. Under [section 107 of the Copyright Act](#), copyrighted works can be used or borrowed without the creator's permission for “fair use” purposes, such as education or commentary.

# Examples of content not protected by copyright include

- Ideas, methods, systems, concepts, or discoveries
- Works that don't have a tangible form (i.e. not captured in or using a physical medium)
- Titles, names, slogans
- Familiar symbols or designs
- Variations of typefaces or lettering
- Ingredient lists

# Copyright Notice

- A copyright notice informs users that your work is copyrighted, thereby **reducing the chances of copyright infringement**.
- In the event that infringement does occur, having a copyright notice helps solidify your case in court as the infringer should've been aware that your content was copyrighted.
- The copyright symbol (©) or the word “**copyright**”
- **Year(s)** of publication: A year or a range of years if your content gets updated.
- Name of the **copyright owner**: This can be an individual, multiple individuals, an organization, or a business.

# Statement of rights to clarify the rights

- You can also add a statement of rights to clarify the rights you hold over your work, such as:
- **All rights reserved:** You own all rights to your work.
- **Some rights reserved:** You allow the use of your materials under certain circumstances.
- **No rights reserved:** You release your work into the public domain.
- This standard copyright format is often used for copyright footers on websites.