About

Advertise

Developers

Partners

Platforms

Jobs

Help

Legal

Navigating Copyright on Twitch

As a Twitch streamer and avid gamer you’re probably used to listening to your music while chatting with your friends and interacting with your fans. Unfortunately, now that you’re an entertainer on Twitch, you have to be careful when listening to music. Playing copyright music while streaming could result in a lawsuit from record companies and/or even a ban from Twitch altogether. As Twitch is generally the primary source of income for streamers, this is equivalent to losing your career. Luckily there are a few solutions to this problem. You will need to choose one of these solutions in order to avoid the risk of getting banned from Twitch.

# Purchase the Rights

One of the more immediate solutions could be purchasing the rights to the music you want to listen to. Usually as an end user purchasing the song on the iTunes store covers this problem. However, now that you’re an entertainer the rights must be purchased for a wider audience similar to that of when a venue plays the music.

If you’re thinking purchasing the rights may get expensive, it does. Music rights can be very expensive and purchasing them probably isn’t going to work for most streamers. Luckily there is another option for music out there; copyright free music.

# Copyright Free Music

Listening to copyright free music on YouTube or other source is a great way to get around the copyright issue entirely. There are several sources out there like SoundCloud or YouTube. Selecting these sources would even allow you to engage further with your fans as they can send in song requests.

If you choose to go down this path you may find that much of the copyright free music out there is mostly EDM or dubstep and if you’re not a fan of that style of music, you’ll likely have a hard time finding enjoyable content. There is however one final option for you.

# No Music

In the event that neither of the above suggested options fit your situation, the final solution would be to simply not have music on while you stream. Most games played have a decent soundtrack that accompany them so simply turn up the in-game music and have a good time.

If listening to music is something you feel is a must have or if you don’t care for the in game music, you will have to revisit the other solutions to choose which works best.

# Conclusion

As a streamer on Twitch you must choose from the above three solutions. Failure to successfully mitigate potential copyright risks could result in a ban from Twitch and/or legal disputes with record companies. If you have any further questions or would like more assistance, please feel free to reach out to Twitch support.