

1. Platform Copyright Policy Analysis

Platform: YouTube


- ***How does the platform detect copyrighted content? (automated systems like Content ID, manual reporting, etc.)***
 - YouTube detects copyrighted content through an automated system called Content ID and through manual reports from users and copyright holders. Content ID scans every uploaded video against a database of reference files submitted by copyright owners, creating a "fingerprint" to find matches
- ***What happens when content is flagged as potentially infringing?***
 - When YouTube content is flagged as potentially infringing, it is reviewed by human reviewers and can result in content removal and a copyright strike for the creator. Repeated strikes can lead to channel termination and being banned from the YouTube Partner Program.
- ***What is the appeals or counter-notification process?***
 - The appeals and counter-notification process on YouTube allows a user to challenge a content removal or copyright claim they believe is an error. An appeal for a Community Guidelines violation is a review by a person, while a counter-notification is a legal request to reinstate content that was removed for copyright infringement
- ***How does the platform handle monetization of content containing copyrighted material?***
 - YouTube handles copyrighted material in monetization primarily through its Content ID system, which allows copyright owners to automatically track and manage content. When a video contains copyrighted material, the owner can choose to: monetize it by placing ads and receiving the revenue, block the video entirely, or track its viewership.
- ***Are there any special programs (e.g., YouTube's Content ID licensing agreements)?***
 - Yes, besides the Content ID system, YouTube offers other special programs and tools for copyright management, such as the Copyright Match Tool and the copyright complaint webform.

2. Fair Use Experiments

1. Raw copyrighted clip (low transformativeness)


- Video 1A (short clip)
 - 5 second clip of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody performance at Live Aid
 - Copyright issues never detected, content stays up


Video published





Bohemian Rhapsody (Short)
Uploaded Dec 4, 2025


Share a link


WhatsApp

Facebook

X


Email

KakaoTalk

Reddit

Video link

<https://youtu.be/w6kbCatult8>



Close

Bohemian Rhapsody (Short)

Saved as private ⓘ X

Details

Video elements

Checks


Visibility

Checks

We'll check your video for issues that may restrict its visibility and then you will have the opportunity to fix issues before publishing your video. [Learn more](#)

Copyright

No issues found



Remember: These check results aren't final. Issues may come up in the future that impact your video. [Learn more](#)

Send feedback

- Video 1B (longer clip)
 - 45 second clip of Queen's Bohemian Rhapsody performance at Live Aid
 - Copyright issue detected immediately. Notified to either edit out the segment, submit dispute, or reupload video. Exact copyrighted content noted and presented.
 - Final outcome: Blocked in certain regions

What you can do

- **Edit out the segment** by trimming, muting or replacing the copyrighted content with the YouTube video editor.
- **Submit a dispute to the content owner** if you have the rights to the content.
- **Reupload the video** if you can remove the copyrighted content with your own tools.

You may also choose to leave the video as is if you're fine with the restrictions.

[VIEW ALL ACTIONS](#)

Copyright ⚠

Copyright-protected content found. People in some countries can't watch your video.

[See details](#)

Made for kids (set by you)

Features like personalized ads and notifications won't be available on videos made for kids. Videos that are set as made for kids by you are more likely to be recommended alongside other kids' videos. [Learn more](#)

[Review](#)

Content used: Bohemian Rhapsody (Live Aid)

Select action

Erase song
Remove the claimed song while keeping other sounds such as speech, or mute all sound

Replace song
Pick an audio from the YouTube Audio Library to replace the claimed audio and resolve the claim

Dispute
Dispute a claim if you have the necessary rights to the content, or other valid reasons. It takes up to 30 days for a final resolution from the claimant. Your channel won't receive a strike if your dispute gets rejected. [Learn more](#)

Trim out segment
Editing is disabled because the video would be too short after edit.

Cancel Continue

Hi Ranya Sharma,

Copyrighted content has been detected in your video "**Bohemian Rhapsody (Long)**". As a result, your video can no longer be monetized and has been blocked in 1 territory. The copyright owner may be either monetizing it, or receiving analytics about it in other territories. This is not a copyright strike and does not affect your channel.

Content used

Queen 1985: Live Aid (Episode 30) - Queen	Updated December 4, 2025
Content owners: SME	
Content type: Audio video	
Impact on video: Blocked in 1 territory. View all	

Bohemian Rhapsody (Live Aid) - Queen	Updated December 4, 2025
Content owners: UMG, SME	
Content type: Audio	
Impact on video: Blocked in 1 territory. View all	

2. Educational use

- I screen-recorded a short excerpt from the opening montage of Up, focusing on a transition where Carl and Ellie's life changes (e.g., from their wedding to a later moment in their life together). What I explained (on-screen text)
 - "Notice how Pixar uses music instead of dialogue to tell the story and carry the emotion."
 - "Each cut jumps forward in time but keeps the same emotional theme, so we understand their relationship without any words."
 - "The color palette shifts from brighter, warm tones to more muted ones to reflect changes in mood and life circumstances."

- No copyright issues detected, content stayed up

Up Analysis

Add description

1:39

Unlisted

Made for kids

Dec 4, 2025


0

0

-

Uploaded

← Channel content



Your video

Up Analysis

Details

Analytics

Editor

Comments

Subtitles

Copyright

Clips

Video copyright

What happened

No copyright issues were found in your video.

✓ Channel

Your channel isn't affected.

✓ Visibility

There are no visibility restrictions.

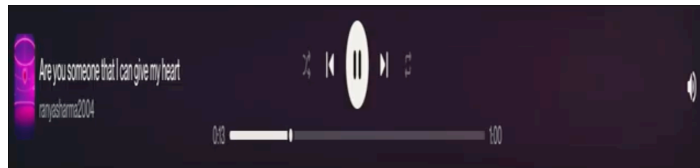
Content used

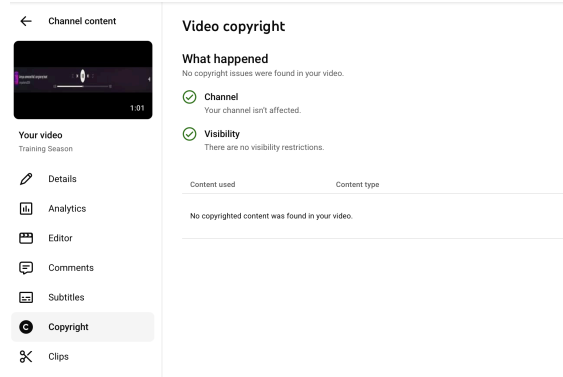
Content type

No copyrighted content was found in your video.

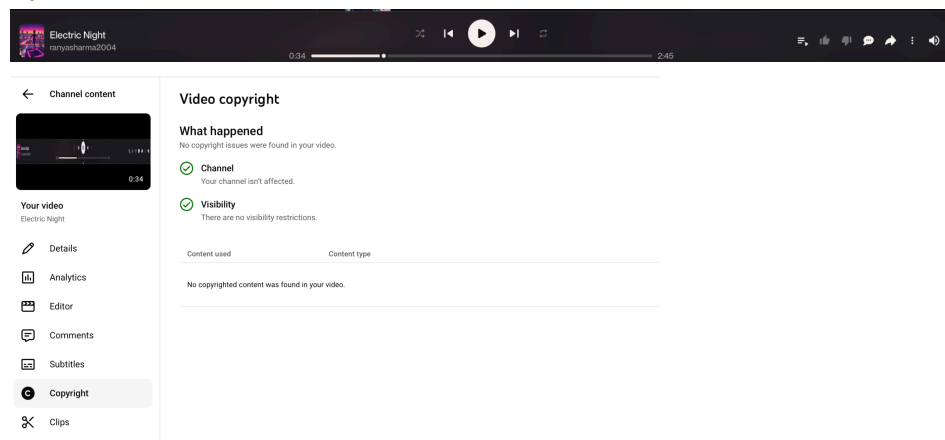
3. AI-Generated Content Investigation

- I created content using Suno.
 - Direct reference
 - Prompt: "Generate a pop song that sounds like 'Training Season' by Dua Lipa — same tempo, and lyrics", and I pasted the lyrics





- Despite the same exact lyrics as Dua Lipa’s “Training Season”, the Suno rendition was not detected for copyright issues.
- Style mimicry:
 - Prompt: “Create an energetic dance-pop song inspired by Dua Lipa’s style”



- This version was not detected for copyright issues
- Suno’s terms say you’re responsible for not infringing others’ intellectual property and that they don’t guarantee the AI output will be free of copyright issues. They also keep a broad license to use your inputs and outputs to run and improve their service.
- On the free (Basic) plan, Suno keeps ownership of the songs and only lets you use them non-commercially, with attribution. On Pro/Premier paid plans, they say you own the songs and can use them commercially, but they warn that AI music may not actually qualify for legal copyright protection in some countries.
- Suno allows you to create AI music but draws a hard line between free (personal, non-commercial) and paid (commercial) use. They also state they can reuse your content for training, may disclose that your songs were AI-generated, and can remove content or act on copyright complaints

4. Legal Analysis

- Fair Use Four Factors:
 - ***Purpose and character of the use (transformative? commercial?)***

- Raw copyrighted clip: The longer clip was restricted due to it violating copyright policies. This makes sense since the use is not transformative. Educational use: My use was educational and non-commercial. I transformed the original by adding on-screen analysis and commentary to teach film techniques, rather than just showing the clip for entertainment.
 - **Nature of the copyrighted work (creative vs. factual?)**
 - Raw copyrighted clip: The longer clip was a creative work (song/performance) and was copied verbatim, which is why it does not qualify as fair use.
 - Educational use: The original film is creative, which normally weighs against fair use. However, because I used it for teaching and criticism, that educational context offsets the creative nature.
 - **Amount and substantiality used**
 - Raw copyrighted clip: 40 seconds of the song were used, which is a large enough chunk. The 5 second clip did not violate copyright policies, while the longer clip did.
 - Educational use: I used only about 10–15 seconds of a several-minute montage, which was just enough to illustrate the visual storytelling technique.
 - **Effect on the market for the original**
 - Raw copyrighted clip: Someone could watch my reposted clip instead of going to the official upload for that portion of the song or video, which harms the market for the original.
 - Educational use: My short, annotated clip would not replace or harm demand for Up; it actually encourages learning about filmmaking. There's no realistic market harm, so this factor favors fair use overall.
- Gap Analysis
 - **Legal theory (what copyright law says)**
 - Under copyright law, my AI-generated song that reused the exact lyrics of Dua Lipa's *Training Season* would almost certainly be infringement: it's a highly creative work, I copied the lyrics of the song, and my version was not really transformative. The fair use factors (purpose, nature, amount, and market effect) all lean against fair use in that case.
 - **Platform policy (what the platform claims to do)**
 - In theory, YouTube says its systems (like Content ID) and copyright policies are supposed to detect and manage infringing uses, including music that copies copyrighted works. However, their lack of detecting this in the AI generated songs goes against this.
 - **Actual enforcement (what actually happened)**
 - In practice, YouTube caught the long raw Live Aid clip but did nothing about my AI-generated song with the same lyrics, and it also let my Up screen-recording with educational text overlays stay up. This shows that enforcement is uneven: obvious, longer, or well-fingerprinted content gets

flagged, while AI-based copying and short, transformed clips can slip through