

YouTube: Rights to Use Videos

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What is Copyright?

When a person creates an original work that is a fixed physical medium, they own the copyright to that work. This means that the copyright owner has the exclusive right to use this work, and as such they are the only ones who can say whether another person can use their work. Works that can be subjected to a copyright include sound recordings, audiovisual works, software, and written works.

Why is it important?

You cannot use another person's copyright-protected work without infringing on another person's copyright, which can cause legal trouble for your use of their work. It is possible to use a copyright-protected work without infringing the owner's copyright. You must get explicit permission from the copyright owner to use their work and negotiate the terms of your use of their work.

Important clarifications.

1. Giving credit to the copyright owner does not mean you can use their content, you must have their permission
2. Claiming "non-profit" does not allow you to use their content.
3. If someone else violates a person's copyright, that does not allow you to violate that person's copyright.
4. You cannot use the works purchased on CD's, DVD's, or iTunes.
5. The statement "no copyright infringement was intended" does not excuse a copyright infringement.