

When can I use someone else's work without permission?



In Australia, there are three main ways to determine if you can use someone else's work without their explicit written permission.

1. The work is in the **Public Domain**
2. Your use of the work is permitted under one of the **Fair Dealing** exceptions in the Copyright Act.
3. The author has explicitly defined the rights of use through **Creative Commons Licensing**

**Even if you may use a work without permission, you still must cite your sources and/or credit the author*

About Public Domain & Copyright



'Public Domain' refers to material where copyright has expired or where the copyright owner has relinquished all their exclusive copyright rights in a particular work.

Note: 'Public Domain' ≠ **freely accessible**. Just because a work is freely accessible on the internet does not mean it is in the 'public domain'.

**Even if something is in the Public Domain, you still must cite your sources and/or credit the author*

About Fair Dealing & Copyright



The **Fair Dealing** provisions are purpose specific exceptions which allow individuals to copy limited amounts of text, images, sound and film for a limited number of specified purposes. Factors that may be taken into account in working out whether a use is "fair" include whether the person using the material is doing so for commercial purposes, and whether the copyright owner is out of pocket from the use. The mere fact that the person using the material is not making a profit does **not** make it fair.

**Even if you use a work in reliance on the Fair Dealing provisions, you still must cite your sources and/or credit the author*

About Creative Commons Licensing



Under this scheme, creators retain copyright in their work at the same time making their work available for others to copy and distribute in ways generally less restrictive than those allowed by copyright legislation.

There are six main [Creative Commons](#) licenses and all allow the user to:

Copy, distribute, display or perform the licensed work publicly; make digital public performances of it (e.g. webcasting); and convert the work into another format.

Beyond this, the various licences may require attribution, allow the creation of derivative works, or permit non-commercial use only.

Search Engines / Directories

Source	Description / Tips
CC Directory	Browse this directory to find creative commons websites by source type e.g. Videos, Images, Text, Audio and Other.
CC Search portal	Search by keyword to access independent organisations which publish Creative Commons licensed content.
Google Advanced Search	Select the Date, usage rights, numeric range, and more link to see the Usage rights options.
everystockphoto	Search by keyword to find photos from Flickr, Wikimedia Commons, MorgueFile, and more, with links to original locations. TIP – Use the Advanced Search option to search specific sites.
Behold	Visual search of Flickr photographs. Uses computer vision to recognize visual content, rather than relying on text tags. TIP - Limit to "free to use" or "free to modify."
Compfight	Enhanced search of Flickr content. TIP - Limit to Creative Commons.
http://librestock.com/	Meta search engine that scans and indexes the stock photos from 40+ different websites. All the photos indexed on LibreStock are licensed under the Creative Commons Zero (CC0) license . This means you can use these pictures freely for any legal purpose.

Open Access Images

Source	Description / Tips
CSIRO Science Image Images	Image library specialising in science and nature images. It is presented by CSIRO, Australia's major science research organisation. All images are free to download under a Creative Commons license
Superfamous Images	Collection of images released under a Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 license. You may use the images for any legal purpose, including commercial use as long as credit is provided.

Open Access Photographs & Historical Images

Source	Description / Tips
Library of Congress Prints & Photographs Online	Images from the Library of Congress, now in the public domain
State Library Victoria's Digital Image Pool	All images in this search pool are out of copyright or available to be used.
Wikimedia Commons	Millions of high-resolution images of art, architecture, design, people, historical events, diagrams, maps, and more
World Images	Primarily historical images organised into 18 categories, including Women, Science, Cities, Natural World, Science, and more.

Open Access Clip Art

Source	Description / Tips
Open Clip Art Library	All clipart released under the Creative Commons Zero 1.0 Public Domain License . You may copy, modify, distribute and use the photos for free, including commercial purposes.
Crystal Clear Icons	Icon collection in the Wikimedia Commons.
Tango Icons	Icon collection in the Wikimedia Commons.

Music

Source	Description / Tips
CASH Music	All music licensed under a CC BY license unless otherwise noted.
ccMixer	CC sound remix tool and archive. All the music on ccMixer can be remixed.
Incompetech	Royalty-free music by composer, Kevin MacLeod.
OpSound	Web site where musicians and sound artists upload their work under Creative Commons licenses.
Jamendo	More than 25,000 albums released under Creative Commons license. Includes rock, pop, jazz, hip-hop and dance tracks.
Audionautix	Website of Creative Commons music tracks composed for use in audio and visual productions.
Free-Loops.com	Provides free loops and audio clip downloads to the music production community.
Free Music Archive	Interactive library of high-quality, legal audio downloads. Compiled and managed by WFMU Radio.
Internet Archive Live Music Archive	All music in this Collection is from trade-friendly artists and is strictly for non-commercial use. The collection is maintained by the etree.org community.
Internet Archive's Netlabels Collection	This collection hosts complete, freely downloadable/streamable, often Creative Commons -licensed catalogs of 'virtual record labels'. These 'netlabels' are non-profit, community-built entities dedicated to providing high quality, non-commercial, freely distributable MP3/OGG-format music for online download in a multitude of genres.
Magnatune	Magnatune licenses music for use in applications such as films, television, web pages, CDs and DVDs.
Open Source Audio	A collection housed at the Internet Archive of user-contributed music. All music released under Creative Commons licenses.

Sound Effects

Source	Description / Tips
Freesound	A good source of sound effects and background noises, all available for reuse under CC. The Freesound Project is a huge collaborative database of audio snippets, samples, recordings, bleeps and more released under the Creative Commons Sampling Plus License
Partners in Rhyme: Sound Effects	Collection of free sound effects and web links to other online collections. Also includes royalty free tracks for purchase.
Sound bible	SoundBible.com offers free sound clips for download in either wav or mp3 format. Also includes royalty free sound effects and clips for purchase.

Film and Video Clips

Source	Description / Tips
Blip.tv	A video sharing website which includes a lot of CC licensed material. Be sure to check licensing conditions for the clip you'd like to re-use/re-mix.
EngageMedia	An Australian-based site which distributes videos about social justice and environmental issues in the Asia Pacific. All videos are CC licensed.
Jaman	This library contains over a million digital movies uploaded by Archive users which range from classic full-length films, to daily alternative news broadcasts, to cartoons and concerts. Many of these videos are available for free download
Our World 2.0	A site offered by the U.N. with professional quality videos and text under the Creative Commons license that allows you to share content.

Public Domain

Source	Description / Tips
Prelinger Archives from the Internet Archive	Collection of older materials that are entirely within the Public Domain, so you can take and adapt these films as you like.
Burning Well	Repository of free for any use images.
Public Domain Stock Photos	Repository of royalty free, public domain and stock photos. Browse by category.
Jay Mantri Images	All photos are released free of copyright under the Creative Commons CC0 license. You may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications.
Life of pix Images	All photos are released free of copyright under the Creative Commons CC0 license. You may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications.
Negative space Images	All the photos and raw files distributed under the CC0 creative commons license. You can copy, modify, distribute and perform them, even for commercial purposes, all without asking permission. Attribution is not required.
Pixabay Images	All images and videos on Pixabay are released free of copyrights under Creative Commons CC0. You may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications. Attribution is not required.
StockSnap.io Images	All photos released free of copyright under the Creative Commons CC0 license. You may download, modify, distribute, and use them royalty free for anything you like, even in commercial applications.
Unsplash Images_	All photos licensed under a Creative Commons Zero licence. You may copy, modify, distribute and use the photos for free, including commercial purposes. Attribution not required.

Other Sources of Copyright Friendly Material

Read each site's conditions for use carefully. As not all material may be licensed under the same conditions, make sure you know what the conditions are.

Source	Description / Tips
Bigpond Movies	Source of legal movies and TV downloads
Death to the Stockphoto Images	Source of free photos for all your creative needs including blog posts, social media use and mockups. Sign-in required.
Flickr Images	A photo distribution service with over 90 million CC licensed photos and videos. Strong source for contemporary travel, nature, people, and design photographs. TIP - The Advanced Search has an option which allows you to only search within Creative Commons licensed content. Also try browsing by particular CC license .
IMDb Video Movies	Source of legal movies and TV downloads
Free Images	Library of stock photography for corporate and public use. Browsible by category.
Free Stock Photos Images	Collection of more than 16,000 free images available in a variety of commercial and editorial licenses, including public domain, creative commons, and custom agreements. Browsible by category. Lots of clip art and clear photographs
Gratisography Images	Website of free high-resolution pictures for use in personal and commercial projects.
Internet Archive - Moving Images Movies	Library of more than one million digital movies uploaded by Archive users which range from classic full-length films, to daily alternative news broadcasts, to cartoons and concerts. Many of these videos are available for free download.
Microsoft images	Clip art and photography from Microsoft and partners.
morgueFile Images	Repository of post-production free high resolution digital stock photography materials for corporate or public use. Search image tags or browse by category. Affiliated with dreamstime stock photo.
New Old Stock Images	Source of vintage photographs free of known copyright restrictions
OpenCourseWare(OCW) education, course materials	A moderated photo community with over 3000 CC licensed photos in various categories. TIP - Browse by licence conditions .
Open Photo Images	Australian themed images hosted by the National Library of Australia. Some images are CC licensed or in the public domain.
PictureAustralia Images	An ABC-run multimedia site that includes lots of CC-licensed user-generated videos, music, art and text, as well as increasing amounts of re-useable material from the ABC's own archives.
Split Shire Images	Website of free stock photos & images for personal & commercial use.
stock.xchng Images	Stock photography site with content contributed by members. Owned by Getty Images & affiliated with iStockphoto