LICENSING WITH CREATIVE COMMONS



What are Creative Commons (CC) Licenses?

The CC licenses are copyright licenses that provides a simple, standardized way to give the public permission to share and use your creative work - on conditions of your choice. Where traditional "All Rights Reserved" copyright can limit the reach of a work, CC licenses let you easily reserve particular rights while still allowing the public to benefit. Most importantly, a CC License clearly conveys to those interested in using a work how they're permitted to use it and what steps they need to take, without requesting permission in advance.



How do they work?

CC licenses are legal tools that creators and other rights holders can use to grant certain usage rights to the public, while reserving other rights. Like traditional licenses, they are designed to offer authors and creators legal standing from which to defend their intellectual property and take action against those who use it improperly. Instead of an agreement between the author and another specific party like in traditional licenses, CC licenses are written as an agreement between the author and the general public, making usability and shareability the default – rather than restricting use.

The CC licenses are carefully crafted to meet copyright standards in the US, and internationally, through three critical layers:



Legal Code: Each license begins as a traditional legal tool, in the kind of language and text formats that lawyers know and love.

Human Readable: Available in a format that an average person can read and understand the key terms and conditions,

Machine Readable: And including a summary of the key freedoms and obligations written into a format that software systems, search engines, and other technology can understand.

How do I use a CC License?

You do not need to apply for, or request permission to use, a Creative Commons license on your work. The process is simple – review the basic types of CC Licenses, choose which permissions you'd like to keep and which you'd like to allow, then affix the license on your work. The easiest way is to use creativecommons.org/ choose/, which will autogenerate the text and logo you're looking for based on a few simple questions.

creativecommonsusa.org info@creativecommonsusa.org

TYPES OF CC LICENSES





CC-0: This 'No Rights Reserved' license enables scientists, educators, artists and other creators and owners of copyright- or database-protected content to waive those interests in their works and thereby place them as completely as possible in the public domain, so that others may freely build upon, enhance and reuse the works for any purposes without restriction under copyright or database law.



CC-Attribution (BY): This license lets others distribute, remix, tweak, and build upon your work, even commercially, as long as they credit you for the original creation. This is the most accommodating of licenses offered. Recommended for maximum dissemination and use of licensed materials.



CC-Attribution-ShareAlike (BY-SA): This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit you and license their creations under identical terms. All new works based on yours will carry the same license, so any derivatives will also allow commercial use.



CC-Attribution-NoDerivatives (BY-ND): This license allows for redistribution, commercial and non-commercial, as long as it is passed along unchanged and in whole, with credit to you.



CC-Attribution-NonCommercial (BY-NC):This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, and although their new works must also acknowledge you and be non-commercial, they don't have to license their derivative works on the same terms.

CC-Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (BY-NC-SA): This license lets others remix, tweak, and build upon your work non-commercially, as long as they credit you and license their new creations under identical terms.

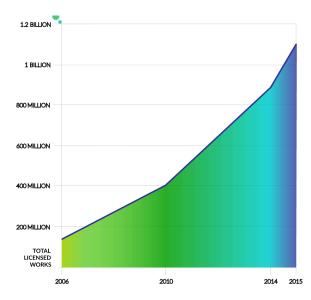
CC-Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (BY-NC-ND): This license is the most restrictive of our six main licenses, only allowing others to download your works and share them with others as long as they credit you, but they can't change them in any way or use them commercially.

Trending toward Openness:

With the advent of the Internet, we've entered an era of untold potential for development, growth and productivity – but one that is increasingly hindered by restrictive copyright laws and incompatible technologies. Creative Commons helps you legally share your knowledge and creativity to build a more equitable, accessible, and innovative world.

Through a Creative Commons license, your work will join a rapidly-expanding community of:

- · more than 1.1 billion openly-licensed works,
- from authors writing in 34 different languages,
- that have been viewed online 136 billion times.





This work is the product of Creative Commons USA, a project of the Program on Information Justice and Intellectual Property at the American University Washington College of Law. To the extent possible under law, the person who associated CC0 with this work has waived all copyright and related or neighboring rights to this work.