

---

# Copyrights in education

---

Tarmo Toikkanen

Design researcher of learning environments, teacher trainer, author

[tarmo.toikkanen@iki.fi](mailto:tarmo.toikkanen@iki.fi)

v1.3, 2023-08-14

[Original version online](#) (other languages: [fi](#), [sv](#))

Copyright © 2023 Tarmo Toikkanen. This work is licensed under a  
[Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 -license](#).



## table of contents

01

fundamentals

02

how copyrights are formed

03

generic permissions

04

permissions in education

05

open content

06

questions and answers

# 01 fundamentals

## chapter summary

How should copyrights be interpreted and how does the whole system work?

What are safe and reasonable assumptions in everyday work?

attitude to copyright

# How should you relate to copyright?

Copyright protects pretty much all media content. Public use, eg. in education, requires a permission.

You can do what you want with content you have made yourself. You need to be careful with content made by others. Remember that pupils' creations are also protected.

Various clauses in copyright law and various contracts affect permissions in education.

## The most important rule:

When your actions do not irritate content creators or hurt their income, what you do probably won't have bad consequences.

If you want to know in more detail what you can and cannot do in different situations, you'll need to peruse various permissions and contracts.

act like this

# 10+1 tips for teachers

By remembering these tips you will do fine.

1. Assume that all media you find is protected by copyright.
2. Deduce the justification for your intended use: Why would it be allowed?
3. You may always freely use open Creative Commons content.
4. Ask school leaders about usage contracts and instructions.
5. Working within a classroom is generally more flexible and acting fully publicly online.
6. Respect also the copyrights of pupils.
7. Your employer has rights to your content only by agreement.
8. As a private individual, you may freely copy content for your own use, but cannot utilize them in education.
9. You can freely present media in education, except video it needs special consideration.
10. Utilize explanatory diagrams in textbooks.
11. Don't annoy rights holders.

recording your surroundings

# What are you allowed to record from your environment?

Can a student video record a teaching session? Well, according to law they can, but so can the teacher. But only for private use. And most schools have stricter policies in place.

What you can and cannot video or audio record or photograph is spread around multiple laws. Here we collect everything in one place. And finally, do remember that common courtesy is often more limiting than the laws.

Watch the video



anything can be agreed on

# Agree on usage rights beforehand

You will avoid many arguments, when you agree on ways of use and usage rights beforehand.

When one person is creating content, they have all the exclusive rights. They just need to decide and agree on rights they want to give others.

When a group of students or teachers is creating something, they share the copyrights to the work. None of them can do anything publicly without permission from others.

Therefore it's best to agree at the beginning of a project, rather than the end, on how the results are to be used

Do expect your school leadership to provide clear instructions for this.

# 02 how copyrights are formed

## chapter summary

How are copyrights formed?

What are related rights?

What is protected and what is not?



## history of copyright

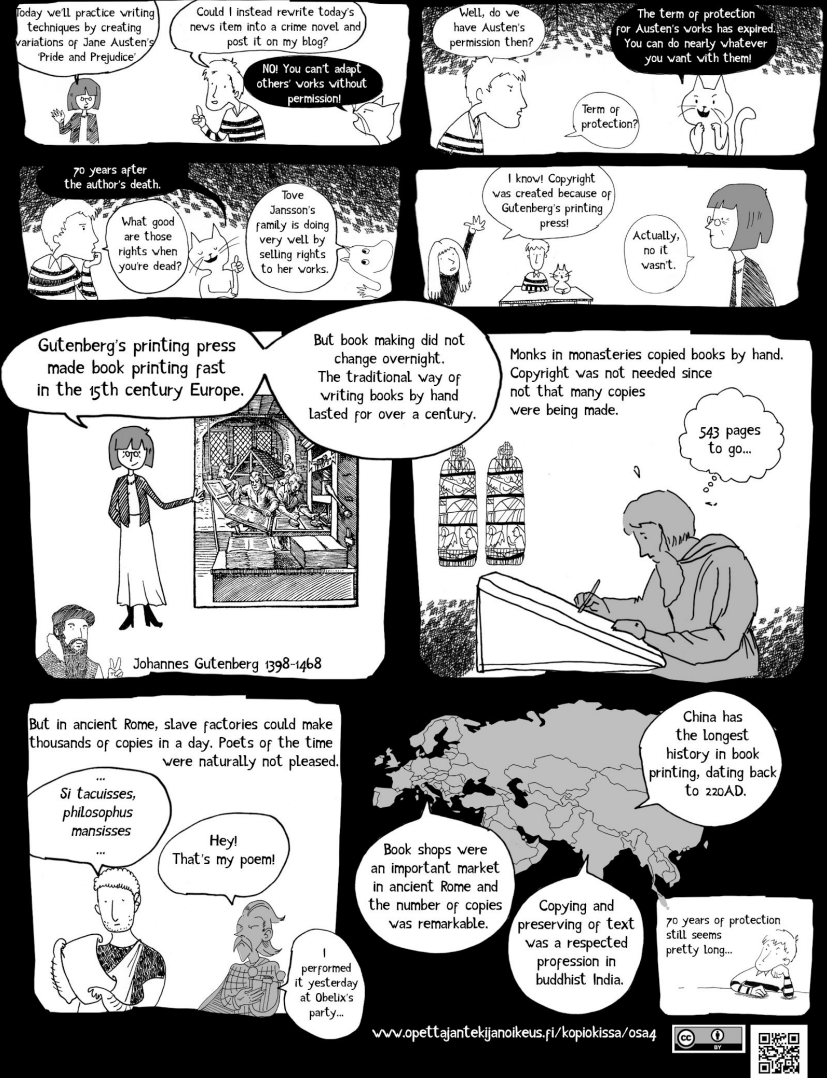
# Myth: Gutenberg's printing press

The copyright law in England in the 18th century focused on commercial rights and awarded monopolies to printing presses. The law in France focused on the moral rights of the author. These laws were meant to balance the rights of the creative authors and society.

Current copyright laws are built on these historical laws and include both commercial and moral rights.

For the last hundred years, copyright laws have been affected by the media industry's needs to protect their products. Society's freedom of expression and the rights of authors are no longer the only drivers of change.

## Copycat part 4: History of Copyright



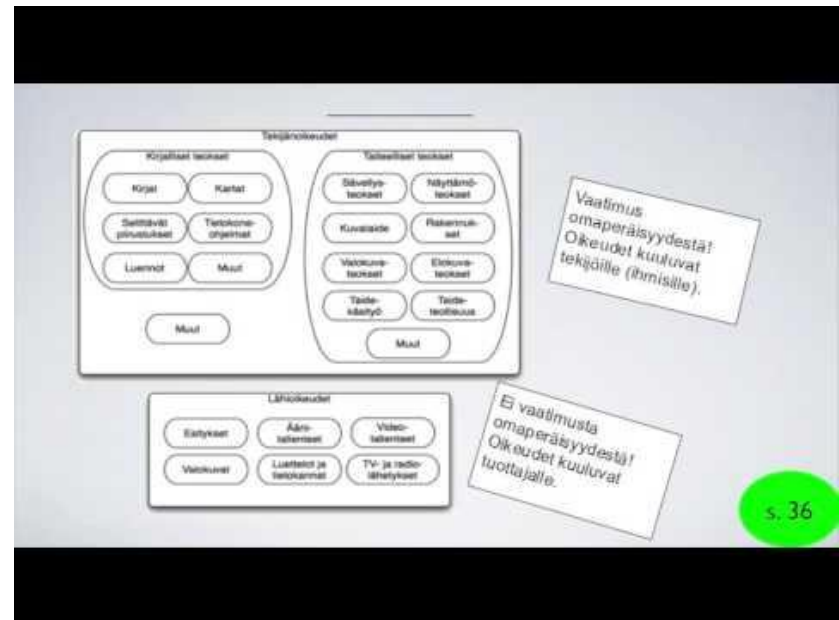
what is protected

# Related rights and copyrights

Copyright has originally protected anything creative and **original**, such as books or music, or sand castles or speeches. Later, “**related rights**” have been added to the law to protect 6 specific media formats important to the industry: photographs, audio and video recordings, performances of works, tv and radio signals, and catalogs and databases.

A certain outcome can be protected by copyright if it is original enough. In addition, the same outcome may be protected by related rights. A typical movie, for example, is both a creative work and a video recording.

Watch the video



formation of copyright protection

# How is copyright protection granted?

## Automatically.

Copyright forms automatically when some outcome (that should be protected by copyright) is created. The author gets certain exclusive rights which they cannot refuse.

An author can only be a human. Animals, plants, nature, gods or supernatural beings do not get copyright. Generally also laws and statements by the government are outside copyright.

[Monkey selfie](#)



Related rights are granted to the producer of an outcome. The producer can be a human or an organisation. These rights are granted automatically and they cannot be refused.

The the recipient of exclusive rights wants to share some rights to others, that needs to be stated. Just uploading content online does not give others usage rights. Creative Commons licenses are a standard way of granting usage rights openly.

formation

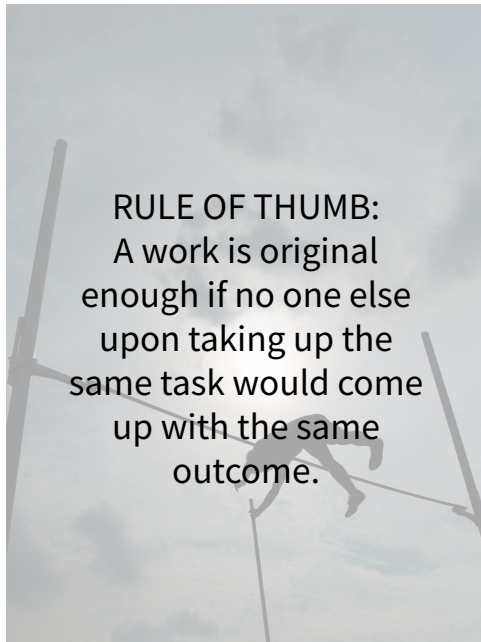
level of originality

# What is original enough?

Watch the video



Kuva: Sebastian Mary, CC BY-SA



This photograph is not original enough to be a work.

Is it theoretically possible that someone, somewhere, some time, could independently create the same or similar outcome? If that is possible, then the outcome in question is not original enough.

Surpassing the level of originality varies by media format:

- You only need a few paragraphs of free form text to get a unique combination of words.
- A photograph is always protected by related rights as a regular photo. The bar to be an original artistic photograph is very high.
- Videos reach the level of originality practically immediately if someone is just directing what happens in the video.
- Music is considered to always reach the level of originality.
- Modern art may be problematic; in practice, the author's reputation as well as the venue and method of publication affect the status.
- Maps can't really be original, but in practice maps are always considered original works.

formation

# duration of copyright

outcome	criterion	term of protection	expired in 2023
anything	original enough, eg. a work	70 years from the author's death	-1952
audio recordings	-	50 years from recording or 70 years from publication	-1962 (the law was changed in 2013 to increase the term from 50 to 70 years, so the publisher's rights on Beatles' first recording will last at least until 2033; in USA terms of protection are extended whenever Mickey Mouse is about to lose its protection)
video recordings	-	50 years from recording or publication	-1972
photographs	-	50 years from manufacturing	-1972
databases and catalogs	involve a lot of work	15 years from publication	-2007
tv and radio signals	-	50 years since last broadcast	-1972
performances	of works	50 years from performance	-1972

formation

surpassing the level of originality

# Examples

level of originality not reached (usually)

level of originality reached (usually)

explanatory illustrations

musical scores, lyrics

recipes, craft instructions, work instructions

poems

exercises

prose, essays

screen shots

books

databases and catalogs

blogs

performances following instructions

improvised lecture or speech

paintings and art graphics

formation



outside of copyright

# Exercises and explanatory illustrations

Generally, the level of originality is not reached by exercises or explanatory illustrations that are depicting reality (charts, diagrams, structural illustrations). Copyright may protect decorative images or additional content related to exercises, but the exercises themselves are generally not creative prose.

Therefore, since exercises and explanatory illustrations are not protected, copying and reusing them is not limited by the law. This also explains why several textbook publishers can contain similar exercises and illustrations.

Teachers may copy exercises (though not their related materials) and explanatory illustrations using any method, for any purpose.

## Copycat part 2: explanatory illustrations



Authors: Tarmo Takkanen and Sanna Vilmsenah  
[www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi/kopiokissa](http://www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi/kopiokissa)



# Check your understanding

1. Is Sibelius' 7th symphony still protected by copyright?
2. If a 3 year old child takes a photo, is that photo protected? Who gets the exclusive rights and for how long?
3. Who gets exclusive rights to a Yle tv news programme, where a presenter is speaking?
4. When does the copyright protection of a printed book end?

1. 70 years have not yet passed from the composer's death (1957), which is the term of protection. The publication year (1927) of the symphony does not affect this.
2. Related rights for photographs are granted to the child. Those rights will be governed by the parents.
3. The exclusive rights are granted to the producer, Yle. The camera operator does not get exclusive rights. Additionally, the recording contains a news item, whose script often is a creative work. For Yle to utilise the video, they need permission from the news item author (copyright) and the presenter (performance related rights).
4. 70 years after the death of the author.



# 03 generic permissions

## chapter summary

How can one use works made by others in everyday life?

Special permissions for education are covered in chapter 04.

# Using someone else's outcomes

exclusive right	exceptions in the law
<b>Distribution</b> (as physical copies)	-
<b>Making available</b> (eg. online)	-
<b>Performing</b> (publicly)	-
Copying (partially or in whole, includes the right to <b>distribute, make available</b> and <b>perform</b> the copy)	image citation; freedom of panorama; citation
<b>Modification</b> (includes the right to <b>copy</b> )	private use; parody and satire

citation

# Clarifying your own presentation

You can take citations in appropriate size from published works according to accepted practice.

The right of citation is quite wide. It also covers content protected under related rights.

You can take a citation from any media format (text, video, movie, speech...) and attach it to any outcome (lecture, blog post, text book, work of art). The citation must be necessary in that it clarifies the message and issue being discussed.

In practice, taking a citation from a visual object (statue, painting, photo...) is difficult. A citation should be a small part of the original work, so a citation cannot be a photo of an entire statue.

**The image citation right** is a separate exception and is valid in only certain situations.

Watch the video



image citation

# Pictures for scientific presentations

A review or a scientific presentation may use images of published works of art that relate to the text.

This exception was originally made for art education, but its scope has widened over the years to include any images, not just images of works of art.

Like in the [citation right](#) “a review or a scientific performance” can be anything: lecture, article, blog post, etc.

The photograph being used must relate to the text, so essentially the illustration must be referenced in the text. It cannot just be a decoration.

What presentations are scientific? There is no clear definition, but the author’s academic status or degree are not criteria here, but the presentation itself. If the presentation covers the topic in a logical manner and claims are justified with references, we might consider the presentation to be scientific.

As a general rule one could say that most university and higher education learning materials should be scientific presentations, as well as the final theses made by students.

Watch the video



freedom of panorama

# Recording buildings and permanent art

Even a photo of a building is considered a copy.

In order for tourists not being considered criminals when they are sharing their vacation photographs, most countries have a *freedom of panorama*, which means laws to allow the recording of the built environment.



The architect cannot deny the public use of a photograph of a building.  
Image: [Alvesgaspar @ Wikimedia Commons, CC BY-SA](#). Design of the parliament building: J. S. Sirén

In Finland, photography of both buildings and permanent works of art are allowed. Photos of permanent art may not be used commercially, but otherwise there are no limitations to the use of the photographs.

A “permanent work of art” means that the work is permanently affixed to its environment. Good examples are park statues and wall paintings.

private use

# We all are also private individuals

## Private use of works is allowed in Europe.

As a private individual you can copy the entire internet or your local library, should you wish to do so. But only for your private use.

Copies made for private use may never be brought to a public setting. You cannot make further copies to anyone except a few close relatives. In practice, up to 3 family members.

Examples:

- You can photocopy a book.
- You can scan or photograph a book.
- You can copy a music or movie disc you loaned from the library,.
- You can photograph works of art.
- You cannot leave a stack of photocopied papers next to a photocopy machine for others to use.
- You can record a musical performance.

All these rights only allow you to use the copies yourself in private situations.

Do remember that various establishments (movie theaters, museums, music venues) may have their own rules about recording. Breaking these rules is not against the law, but may cause a ban and other problems.

Private copies cannot be brought to a public event or given to others.

education and private use

# Education is public, but partly resembles private activity

Finnish law is very ambiguous here.

In practice, education should be considered to be public activity, which has some private use allowances based on established practice (eg. modification of musical scores or texts for teaching purposes).

parody and satire

# Rights to free expression

The freedom of expression also contains the responsibility for what you say.

Parody and satire are not separately mentioned in Finnish copyright law, but they are acknowledged from laws on freedom of expression.



Charlie Chaplin's movie the Dictator

was satire. Image: no copyright (public domain), since in USA movie trailers before 1964 were not granted copyright protection.

If an outcome is satirical or parodical, freedom of expression gives quite wide permissions to modify other works to achieve this end result. A teacher should know these stylistic methods well, though. Just making something fun is not yet parody.



# Check your understanding

1. Can you use an entire photograph as a citation?
2. Can a teacher copy content from the net on the grounds of private use? Where can the content be stored?
3. Is your own teaching primarily a private event, in the eyes of copyright?

1. A citation should be only a small part of the original. On the other hand, the image citation right allows the use of an entire image in a scientific presentation.
2. A teacher can also be a private individual. The private copies can be stored on their own computer, phone or memory stick. Storing content on a computer owned by the school is maybe still allowed, but storing them on the school's shared network drive is not.
3. The answer depends on your situation. In primary and secondary education, teaching can be justifiably considered a private event, whereas in higher education and open education, not.

# 04 permissions in education

## chapter summary

How can you use content  
made by others in  
education?

# Milloin voi toisen tuotosta hyödyntää?

exclusive right

exceptions in the law

**Distribution** (as physical copies)

copying license (photocopies)

**Making available** (eg. online)

copying license (digital copies)

**Performing** (publicly)

performance permission, tv and radio license

Copying (partially or in whole, includes the right to **distribute, make available** and **perform** the copy)

copying license (photocopies and digital copies), tv and radio license, temporary recordings, matriculation exam

**Modification** (includes the right to **copy**)

copying license (modification rights)

performances

# You can perform almost any material in school

Works may be performed as part of all teaching and learning.

Performance means eg. singing, reading out loud, playing music with instruments, and use of video projectors.



Without the right to perform works in teaching, this device could only be used to present the teacher's own materials.

Image: [Raffi Asdourian, CC BY](#)

The right to perform does not include plays or movie works. To perform plays, permission from the authors is needed, so most often plays are written by school personnel.

Since 2023 video materials can also be performed in school. If a license is available, it must be obtained. Otherwise a film may still be performed for the purposes of illustration.

recording performances temporarily

# Just for reflection

The right to perform does not include the right to make recordings.

If a teacher or student performs someone else's work, this performance is allowed, but recording or streaming to remote audiences is not. (Although see the [performance right](#) in Kopiosto's copying license.)

A separate exception allows temporary recordings to be made, exclusive for reflection. A performance may be recorded and then viewed during the same or next session, after which the recording must be deleted.

## Copycat part 1: A temporary recording



www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi/kopiokissa  
Authors: Tarmo Toikkanen and Sanna Vilmusenaho



# Make use of TV programs

The Finnish National Agency for Education agrees on a license which allows schools to perform and record tv and radio programs.

The recordings must be made by the school, not a teacher's own equipment. Recordings may be stored for up to two years, for example in the school's network drive.

The license includes:

- Yle tv channels
- MTV3 tv channel
- Yle radio channels
- Yle Elävä Arkisto online service
- Yle Areena online service

Luvan piirissä ei ole:

- MTV Katsomo online service
- Movies
- Advertisements
- Foreign series with a continuous plot

The contents of the license should be checked at the beginning of each academic year, as their content may slightly change.

The license only applies to early, comprehensive and secondary education.

# Photocopies, digital copies, and other rights

A centrally important license for education is Kopioisto's copying license.

The license includes the old photocopying license as well as the new digital copying license.

Copies made with this license may only be used in education, and can never be published to a wider audience than the study group.

The license applies to early, elementary, comprehensive and secondary institutes as paid by the Finnish National Agency for Education. Higher education institutes pay for the license themselves.

Liberal adult education can obtain somewhat similar licenses.

The contents of the licenses should be checked at the beginning of each academic year, as their contents may slightly change.

Photocopying license:

- Photocopying
- Printing

Digital copying license:

- Scanning
- Digital copying
- Remote connections
- Modification rights

The various parts of the copying license are covered in the following pages.

## Kopiosto's copying license: photocopies

# Use that printer

20 pages. Every teacher remembers this rule.

The license includes both the right to photocopy and to print.

From a single publication one can photocopy or print at most 20 pages / student / semester, not exceeding 50%.

20 pages of text or 20 images / web site may be printed and photocopied.



Image: [Mace Ojala, CC BY-SA](#)

## Limitations

Only up to 10 pages of musical scores and lyrics may be copied. Exercise and workbooks are not permitted.

Pre-primary, basic, general upper secondary	ok
Vocational	ok
Higher education	ok
ECEC	ok
Liberal adult education	ok



# Online photos

Teachers and students can copy text and images from the net and use them in their work.

Sources must be mentioned. Copies cannot be distributed to anyone outside of the study group.

The exact copying limits vary by sector between 5 and 20 images/pages. Check your own school's limitations from Kopiosto's website, since they also may change yearly.

The digital copying license was introduced in 2011 first as a voluntary license. It has developed and become standard over the years.

Pre-primary, basic, general upper secondary	ok
Vocational	ok
Higher education	ok
ECEC	ok
Liberal adult education	ok

# You can perform also to remote audiences

The normal performance permission for teaching only applies to audiences that are physically present.

To enable distance learning, this license also includes the right to stream and make recordings of performances.

Recordings cannot be distributed outside the study group.

You may stream performances to remote participants directly, or store recordings to the school's servers, but only for the use of the same study group and for the same study unit.

Pre-primary, basic, general upper secondary	ok
Vocational	ok
Higher education	ok
ECEC	no
Liberal adult education	ok

# Pedagogically justified modifications are allowed

Most foreign language teachers use timely texts as translation exercises.

Even though modification of works is a useful and acceptable way to operate in education, there was no permission to do that. The situation was remedied by adding modification rights into Kopioisto's copying license beginning the fall of 2016.

Currently it is therefore allowed to make modifications to text and images, such as translations, style changes, and visual art remixes in education. These rights do not include music.

Pre-primary, basic, general upper secondary	ok
Vocational	ok
Higher education	ok
ECEC	no
Liberal adult education	no

music's tricky role in education

# How can one use music in education?

Music is centrally important in education, but its economic value makes many permissions quite rigid.

The most important permission is the right to perform music in education. This covers singing, playing using instruments, cd player or computer, etc.

Some musical performances are clearly part of education, and permitted by the performance right. Some performances are for wider audiences and may require a separate permission.

In public schools, the municipality has paid for a license that covers music performances in any events organized by municipal workers, such as a school spring festival. In other cases, the relevant permission should be acquired from Teosto.

# Check your understanding

1. Which television sources can be performed in education?
2. What is the allowed extent of use for copies made with Kopiosto's copying license?
3. Can a single exercise be photocopied from an exercise book? How about photographing it with a smartphone?

1. Yle tv channels and Mtv3, online Yle Elävä arkisto and Yle Arena.
2. Only for teaching and studying, only within a single study group during a single study unit.
3. If the exercise does not contain other copyrighted material, the exercise itself is not a work, so it can be copied in whatever way. If the exercise contains some material (eg. a poem), copying would require a separate permission.

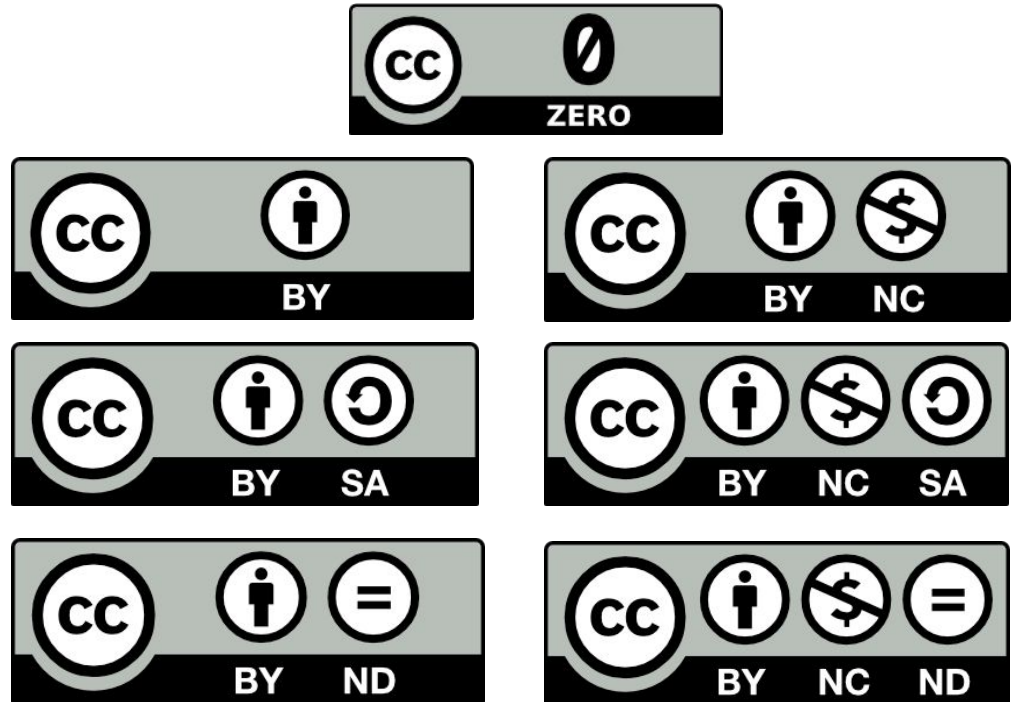
# 05 open content

## chapter summary

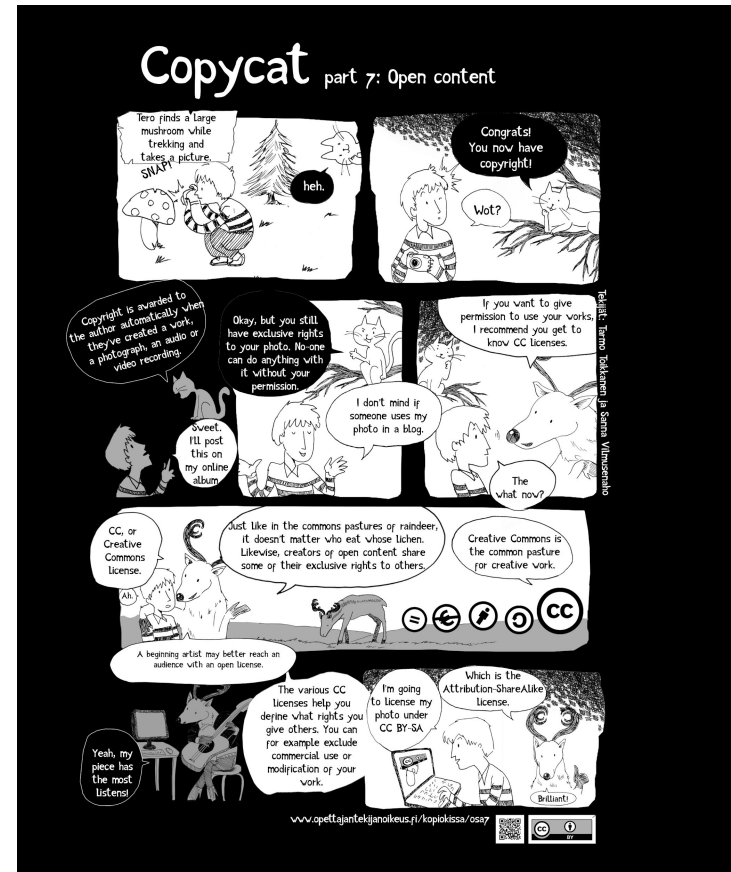
Open content can be used widely. Creative Commons is the world's most used license for open content.

# The license for open content

Creative Commons licenses are a global standard for open content sharing online. They are used by individuals, governments, foundations, universities and research institutes. CC licenses are a core part of many central services online. They have changed how the internet works. People all around the world have access to a wider selection of knowledge and culture.



# The license for open content





background of CC licenses

# History and purpose of Creative Commons

Creative Commons offers easy to use licenses for everyone, so anyone can share their creations as easily as possible.

Creative Commons Inc is a US based non-profit, founded in 2001.

Creative Commons maintains and develops Creative Commons licenses, which anyone can use without payment, registration or permit.

## Authors

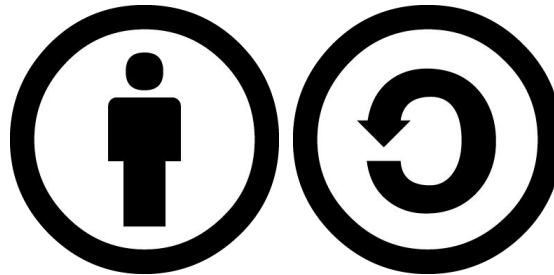
Authors can at will license their creations with CC licenses and grant the entire world certain usage rights.

## Users

Users can search for open content and use them in their own productions according to the CC license.

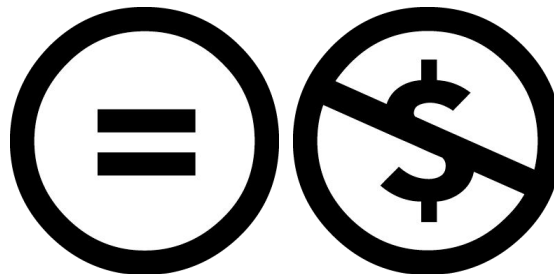
# CC licenses are composed of four clauses

Attribution (BY): The author's name and the license must be mentioned.



ShareAlike (SA): Derivatives must be licensed using the same license.

NoDerivatives (ND): License does not contain permission to alter the content.



NonCommercial(NC): License only covers non-commercial use.

## CC licenses

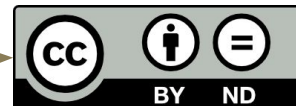
# Six different licenses (+1)

The most open CC license only requires proper attribution to the author. Can be used in any way.

The same three licenses, where commercial use is not included in the license. Public commercial use of the content is therefore forbidden.

Like CC BY, but requires derivatives to be licensed with the same license.

Like CC BY, but does not allow public use of derivative versions of the content.



CC Zero means that the author has waived all rights that they can waive according to law. In practice this means that the author does not need to be attributed, although attributing is a good practice in general.

open content

using CC licensed content

# This is how you use CC content

Watch the video



CC licenses give you the right to copy content and use them publicly in nearly any way.

It is important to remember the CC license clauses and to follow them.

The foremost clause is Attribution (BY). The author's name must be mentioned, as well as the CC license and a link to the original publication location. The video on the side is here as an example. Mentioning the video's author, the license, and a link would suffice, but since the video's music was separately CC licensed, it is mentioned as well.

Video: Sebastian Draxler & Alexander Boden, CC BY  
Music: Princess by Zero-Music, CC BY-SA



open content

















remixing

# Which CC licenses can be combined?

Since modification of CC content is allowed, various materials can be remixed together.

This table shows which licenses can be combined together (eg. an image and music).

Table source:  
<https://creativecommons.org/faq/>

	 PUBLIC DOMAIN	 PUBLIC DOMAIN	 CC BY	 CC BY SA	 CC BY NC	 CC BY ND	 CC BY NC SA	 CC BY NC ND
 PUBLIC DOMAIN	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
 PUBLIC DOMAIN	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
 CC BY	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗
 CC BY SA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗
 CC BY NC	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
 CC BY ND	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
 CC BY NC SA	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
 CC BY NC ND	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗

adding a CC license

# How to make your content open

## Anyone can use CC licenses to make their creations open.

In the published content or next to it one must only mention the CC license appropriately. The correct wording can be obtained from address <https://creativecommons.org/choose/>

For example, this materials has the following marking on the first page.

- A copyright marking is a good established way to indicate the publication year and author. CC is not an alternative to the © sign, but for the “All rights reserved” text.
- The CC license logo is a good visual way to indicate the license, but is not mandatory.
- The crucial part is to mention the specific license being used. Include the license name (not just the abbreviation). You also need to link to the license summary page, so that the license is unambiguously specified.

Copyright © 2019 Tarmo Toikkanen. This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/).



open content

adding a CC license to a printer publication

# And the same on paper

CC licenses can be used to license printed offline materials as well.

The only difference is that the license link needs to be spelled out, since a hyperlink cannot be clicked on unlike in digital content.

The example from the previous page could be written like this in a printer publication, a video, or other material where the link cannot be clicked directly.

Copyright © 2019 Tarmo Toikkanen. This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 license. To view a copy of this license, visit <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/>.



a few thoughts on licensing

# Before you license your own creations openly...

## First ensure that you have the right to license the work.

- You are the primary author and most of the content is made by you.
- Portions made by others are either
  - licensed with a compatible CC license, or
  - you have received permission from other authors to license.
- Is your creation protected by copyright or related rights? For example an explanatory illustration is not usually protected in Finland.

Be aware that CC licenses cannot be revoked. You may stop distributing with a CC license, but others can continue.

On the other hand, a CC license does not limit the copyright holder. Authors can grant additional licenses to third parties as they wish.

If you are a member of a copyright collection society (such as Kopiosto or Teosto), you have given that society the right to manage your copyrights. Check with the rules of that society whether and when you can grant permissions, such as CC licenses.



# Check your understanding

1. How does a CC license limit the author's actions?
2. What if the content is made by a group?
3. What information should you show when you are using someone else's content that is licensed with CC?
4. What additional restrictions can an author attach to a CC license?

1. It does not.
2. Unless authors agree among themselves on usage rights, their only option is to also follow the CC license, since no-one has full copyright to the work.
3. Author's name, the exact CC license (short name is enough), link to the license, and link to the original publication location.
4. Nothing.

# 06 questions and answers

## chapter summary

A collection of questions from teachers and explanatory answers to them.

# Can I use Spotify in music education?

## Not known at the moment.

Already years ago music teachers found Spotify to be a useful service for performing music. Finally the heavy CD cases could be forgotten.

Spotify was banned for years though. More recent interpretations of the law have been more favourable to the use of streaming services.

Streaming services are handy, but they also involve big money. Should schools pay for use of streaming services or would they be included in the performance right given in Finnish copyright law?

Both opinions have been presented during the years. In 2018 Spotify stated that their services cannot be used in schools without permission, but the final resolution is still unknown.

using videos

# How can I use YouTube in education?

You need to be careful with public performances, but other uses are allowed.

Videos can be linked and embedded into online content fully freely, although it's a good idea to ensure that the videos are otherwise in order and legal.

Performing a video in an educational setting is clearly allowed since 2023.

If there is a license available for the video, it must be acquired. But if a license is not available, the video can still be performed for the purposes of illustration.

Learners can in any case watch videos on their own devices either in the classroom or at home.

# How can I use online illustrations and diagrams in my learning materials?

Like in all copyright issues, for any use you are thinking of, you need to come up with the permission or license. If you want to copy image material from the net to your materials, the following methods can be applicable:

- Not original enough. Especially explanatory illustrations and graphs are not protected by copyright.
- Open license. Creative Commons licenses give you permission to copy and perform the content.
- Photocopying license. You can print out and photocopy images to students.
- Digital copying license. You can copy a maximum of 20 images per website and use them according to the license terms.
- Matriculation examination. Online images may be used in matriculation examinations.
- Performance right. In education you can perform published works. You can present images using a video projector without making digital copies.
- Review or scientific presentation. You can use images related to your presentation text as image citations.
- Ask from the author. Contact the author and ask for a permission.

## screen shots

# Can I use an image of a web site or an application?

You can, as long as you consider the copyrighted and privacy sensitive material in that image.

User interfaces of computer programs or web sites are not creative works, so they do not limit you.

If the image shows eg. photographs or copyrighted text, content like that needs to be removed or blurred. Similarly if the image shows people's faces, those should be blurred.



---

Is your copyright problem still  
without a resolution? Be in touch!

---

**Tarmo Toikkanen**

Author of “Opettajan tekijänoikeus” (Teacher’s copyright guide)

<https://www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi>

# Thank you

## contact information

[tarmo.toikkanen@iki.fi](mailto:tarmo.toikkanen@iki.fi)

[www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi](http://www.opettajantekijanoikeus.fi)

PS. This material is open content. You can distribute it whole or in pieces, or in altered form, and combine it with other content. Remember to mention this material's author, license, and publication location.

