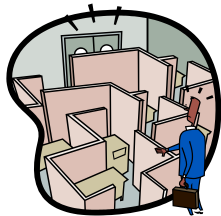


Navigating Creative Commons Licensing

Hamilton Conference of the United Church of Canada - 2014



How to understand Creative Commons (CC) rights on original works as users and as creators.

- ◆ **What is 'Creative Commons'?**
- ◆ **How do I protect my original works—prayers, photos, sermons, liturgies, or curriculum—when I share them or when I post them on the internet?**
- ◆ **I want people to be able to use my resources, but I want some control over how they might be adapted. How do I do that?**
- ◆ **What are those weird symbols? What do they mean?**
- ◆ **When I use materials, what things can I adapt and change and what things am I not allowed to change?**

Introducing Creative Commons and Copyright

What is copyright and why does it matter?

<http://wiki.creativecommons.org>

[FAQ#What is copyright and why does it matter.3F](#)

Copyright law grants exclusive rights to creators of original works of authorship. The internet has meant copyright law is becoming more relevant and complicated than it was twenty years ago. Infringing copyrights—even unintentionally or unknowingly—can lead to liability. Using other people's materials or sharing your own now requires some understanding of copyright law.

What do I need to do to get a copyright?

Copyright in most jurisdictions attaches automatically without need for any formality once a creative work is fixed in tangible form (i.e. the

minute you write/create something, or take a photo etc)....Although you do not have to apply a copyright notice for your work to be protected, it may be a useful tool to clearly signal to people that the work is yours, and how they may or may not use it. It also tells the public who to contact about the work.

Creative Commons (CC)

is a global non profit organization that enables sharing and reuse of creativity and knowledge through the provision of free legal tools for those who want to encourage reuse of their works by offering them for use under generous, standardized terms; those who want to make creative uses of works; and those who want to benefit from this symbiosis. **CC licenses are legal tools that creators and other rights holders can use to offer certain usage rights to the public,**

while reserving other rights.

Those who want to reserve all of their rights under copyright law should not use Creative Commons licenses but use copyright © which grants to creators a bundle of exclusive rights over their creative works. When copyright expires, the work enters the **public domain**. CC licenses offer creators a spectrum of choices between retaining all rights and relinquishing all rights (public domain), an approach called "Some Rights Reserved." Creative Commons is similar to a self-help service that offers free, form-based legal documents for others to use.

The CC buttons/logos (next panel) are a shorthand way to convey the basic permissions associated with material offered under CC licenses. Creators and owners who apply CC licenses to their material can download and

apply those buttons to communicate to users the permissions granted in advance. You will notice that many United Church Resources now use CC licencing so that congregations may adapt, share and use the materials as long as they credit the church.

<http://creativecommons.org>



Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 License.

Inside

- *Information for Licensors*
- *Information for Licensees*
- *Links and Resources*
- *Common Licenses*

Creative Commons Basics

There is a core suite of six CC copyright licenses. It is important to identify which of the six licenses you are applying to your material, or which of the six licenses has been applied to material that you intend to use, and in both cases the specific version.

All licenses require that users provide attribution (BY) to the creator when the material is used and shared. Some licensors choose the BY

license, which requires attribution to the creator as the only condition to reuse of the material. The other five licenses combine BY with one or more of three additional license elements: NonCommercial (NC), which prohibits commercial use of the material; NoDerivatives (ND), which prohibits the sharing of adaptations of the material; and ShareAlike (SA), which requires adaptations of the material be released under the same

license.

CC licenses may be applied to any type of work, including educational resources, music, photographs, and many other types of material. CC does not recommend its licenses for computer software and hardware. Also, works in the worldwide public domain may be marked with the Public Domain Mark.



For Licencees - Those seeking to use other people's materials

Before you use CC-licensed material,

review the terms of the particular license to be sure use is permitted. If you wish to use the work in a manner that is not permitted by the license, you should contact the rights holder (often the creator) to get permission, or look for an alternative work that is appropriately licensed. If you use material in a way that is not permitted by the applicable license and your use is not otherwise permitted, the license is automatically terminated and you may be liable for copyright infringement.

Be aware that

creative works sometimes incorporate works owned by others ("third party content"). Ensure you have permission to use any third party content contained in the work you want to use.

If you are looking for Creative Commons material,

a CC Search may help. Use the directory of organizations and individuals who use CC licenses, or look for a search filter for material licensed using CC's licenses. Search results may sometimes be misleading, so confirm that the material is actually CC content.

Be careful not to imply any sponsorship,

endorsement, or connection with the licensor or attribution party without their permission.

When you are using a work that is an adaptation

of one or more pre-existing works, you may need to give credit to the creator(s) of the pre-existing work(s), in addition to giving credit to the creator of the adaptation.

Copyright is the "right to copy."
Copyright does not protect an
idea, but rather an expression of
an idea... it is a federal statute,
and found in the federal statute,
The Copyright Act.



For Licensors- those seeking to protect/share their original work

Before applying a Creative Commons License be aware of the following:

Irrevocability:

Applying a Creative Commons license to your material is a serious decision. When you apply a CC license, you give permission to anyone to use your material for the full duration of applicable copyright and similar rights. Once you apply a CC license to your material, anyone who receives it may rely on that license for as long as the material is protected by copyright and similar rights, even if you later stop distributing it.

Type of license:

When determining which of the six CC licenses to apply, consider what you hope to achieve by sharing your work. Consider any obligations that may affect what type of license you apply such as licensing requirements from a funding source or an employment agreement.

Scope of the license:

The licensor of materials you are using in your work should have marked which elements of the work are subject to the license and which are not. For those elements that are not subject to the license, you may need separate permission.

Know your obligations to work you may have used or adapted in your own creative work, and provide attribution.

Determine what, if anything, you can do with adaptations you make to someone else’s work.

Choose your media: Online, offline and third-party platforms (YouTube, etc.) have different methodologies to follow. Read the directions on the CC site and follow them carefully. Legally the options are the same. The difference is in equipping online material with metadata which enables CC-equipped search engines to find it.

CC offers resources on the best practices for marking your material and on how to mark material in different media.

Cost: There is **no cost**. CC offers its licenses, code, and tools to the public free of charge, without obligation. You do not need to register with Creative Commons to apply a CC license to your material; it is legally valid as soon as you apply it to any material you have the legal right to license.

...For further and more detailed information -

http://wiki.creativecommons.org/Before_Licensing

and

<http://wiki.creativecommons.org/FAQ>

Links and Resources

Creative Commons. Org
<http://creativecommons.org/>
 Mission, licences, Case Studies, Global Network

Creative Commons Search Engine
 Explore—Look for CC works
<http://search.creativecommons.org/>

Creative Commons Music Communities
<http://creativecommons.org/music-communities>

Public Domain Tools
<http://creativecommons.org/publicdomain/>

Creative Commons Music Communities <http://creativecommons.org/music-communities>

Creative Commons Canada
<http://creativecommons.ca/about>
The affiliate that supports Creative Commons in Canada. It is a collaborative initiative between the Samuelson Glushko Canadian Internet Policy and Public Interest Clinic (CIPPIC), BC campus, Athabasca University.

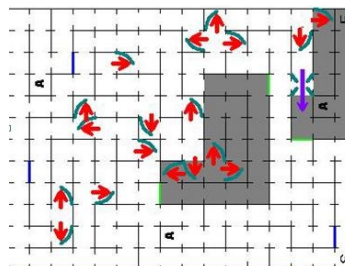
Choosing a licence - Canadian tool:
<http://creativecommons.org/choose/>

Learn about Creative Commons with a free online CC course—at **P2PU** (a free ‘open’ web University)
<https://p2pu.org/en/groups/get-cc-savvy/>

Learn OPEN practices at the School of Open
Open: Universal access to and participation in research, education, and culture (open access, open source software, their communities and the movement)
<https://p2pu.org/en/schools/school-of-open/>



Clarifying the maze of Creative Commons Licenses



Maze by Gregory Stewart - Own work. Licensed under Public Domain via Wikimedia Commons

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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.



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