

General copyright information

Copyright is an automatic right which protects all those who have created an original piece of work. The copyright owner (usually the creator of the work) has the right to control the way in which the work is used, and can prevent others using the work and exploiting it without permission. Copyright within work may be purchased, licensed or assigned.

In the UK, [the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988](#), amended by [the Copyright Related Rights Regulations 2003](#) which were developed to comply with the EU Directive 2001/29/EC, are the pieces of legislation that protect the rights of creators.

All photocopying and scanning of copyright materials must comply with UK legislation, with any licence agreements held by the University or be undertaken with the permission of rights holders.

What does copyright apply to?

The types of works protected by copyright law include:

- literary works, including novels, instruction manuals, computer programs, song lyrics, newspaper articles and some types of database
- dramatic works, including dance or mime
- musical works
- artistic works, including paintings, engravings, photographs, sculptures, collages, architecture, technical drawings, diagrams, maps and logos
- typographical arrangements
- recordings, including sound, video, film
- broadcasts
- web sites and the Internet.

Copyright lasts for 70 years after the creator's death and publishers' copyright lasts for 25 years even if the author is dead.

Orphan works

Orphan works is a term that applies to any material where information about the copyright holder cannot be traced. If you are considering using such material in your teaching, [Managing Orphan Works Briefing Paper](#), by Naomi Korn and Emma Beer, Strategic Content Alliance, IPR and Licensing Consultants, March 2011 on the JISC web site provides useful information.

Further information is available from:

[Library](#)

[Delta](#)