

# Copyright and videos: Information for students

## In this guide

This guide covers copyright considerations when students create and use videos in their studies. Learn more in UWA's [Academic Conduct Essentials](#) (ACE) unit (required for all students).

*This guide is intended to provide general information about copyright in educational contexts. It does not provide statements of the law or specific legal advice, and may be updated from time to time.*

## Why copyright matters

### Copyright = legal rights. You're a creator, too!

Copyright refers to the legal rights held by the creator of an original work. If you create something original, whether that is a piece of writing, a creative work, software or a computer program, a product, an invention or another form of original creation, you own copyright—even if you create it as a part of your university studies.

### Respecting others' rights

A copyright holder has the right to be credited as the owner of the work and to have control over how it's used. This means that there are limits on copying or sharing work that is created by others, including material found on the internet. As a student at UWA, you are required to respect the rules of copyright.

### What you need to know about videos and copyright

You might need (or want) to create videos in some of your units. If you want to include images or music in your video, copyright rules apply. The rules are different depending on where you store the video.

**Note:** It is assumed that most students create and use digital videos, but the same guidance applies to videos recorded on DVDs, etc.

If you have a question that isn't answered here, send a query through [AskUWA](#) to get further advice.

### Uploading your own videos to the LMS or showing them in class

Sometimes unit coordinators specify how you should share a video you've created. For example, you might upload a video to the LMS unit as an assignment submission or in a wiki or blog in the LMS. If you upload a video you've created to the LMS or show it in class, you can use:

- Images created by others. You must properly [reference](#) the source.
- Music created by others, if it has been obtained legally and is properly [referenced](#).

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\*Caution! Some websites state that materials cannot be reused by others, sometimes charging a fee for use. Always check the website's terms of use before using an image or music.

## Uploading your own videos to YouTube or other services

When you use YouTube or any online service outside UWA, **different rules apply**. If you want to use images, music or any other media sources in videos uploaded to YouTube or elsewhere online, you must either own the copyright or use sources that are copyright free or openly licensed. Again, this applies to graphics and photos that you've found on the internet. You cannot include images unless the creator has indicated that it can be used openly.

In addition to complying with copyright as a UWA student, you must also abide by YouTube's [terms of service](#)—which means that you cannot upload content created by others without the copyright holder's permission.

## Sharing others' videos

Unless the creator has explicitly granted permission, you cannot download or capture other people's videos—even from YouTube or from your UWA units—to share with others.

However, it's ok to **link to** YouTube videos that other people have created or **embed** them in a website or LMS tool (e.g., blog, wiki, discussion board). Avoid linking to videos that clearly are *not* owned by the person posting, for example: full length TV shows or movies posted on YouTube.

## Using open materials with Creative Commons licences

There are lots of images and other types of material available on the internet that the creators have granted permission for others to use.

[Creative Commons licences](#) let creators give permission to others to reuse their work. Items with the following licences can be used for any purpose without seeking further permission. Just be sure to follow the requirements specified by the different licences:

- Attribution (CC BY): the original creator must be acknowledged
- Attribution-ShareAlike (CC BY-SA): the original creator must be acknowledged, and your new work must also have a CC BY-SA licence
- Attribution-NoDerivs (CC BY-ND): the original creator must be acknowledged, and the original content cannot be modified

You can also freely use material in the public domain (which means [copyright has expired](#)).

## Finding open materials

### Start here!

Search Creative Commons: <https://search.creativecommons.org/>

This search engine allows you to find images, music, and videos from several sites with open materials.

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## Finding music

(From the [WordStream blog](#))

- [MusOpen](#): Offering free music resources such as recordings, sheet music, etc.
- [Free Sound](#): A database of Creative Commons licensed audio samples and recordings.
- [YouTube](#): The king of video itself offers some free background music to use in video creations.
- [Audio Jungle](#): Royalty free audio files including loops, sound effects, and more.

## Other sites for finding images

### [Visualhunt](#)

Searches across several sites (including Flickr) to locate Creative Commons and Public Domain photos.

### [CSIRO images](#)

Science subjects. Creative Commons licensed (CC BY 3.0)

### [The Noun Project](#)

Professional looking icons and graphics. Requires a free account. Limited to 10 free licensed downloads per month, but many items are public domain.

### [Open Clipart Library](#)

Free clipart

### [British Library images](#)

Public domain maps and images from works in the British Library.

### [Pixabay](#)

Free stock photos. Note that some for-fee photos appear in the search results.

### [Flickr](#)

Limit the search to items that are licensed for reuse. Beware! Users may have uploaded infringing content, so it's best to double check.