

General Personnel

Administrative Procedure - Seeking Permission to Copy or Use Copyrighted Works

The following resources are a partial list of where to begin searching for permission to copy or use copyrighted work. Whenever it is unclear who the owner is, or if the owner is a legal entity of some kind (a business or organization), be sure that the person granting permission is authorized to do so. Once it is known whom to ask, initiate contact by writing a letter, calling, or emailing. Seek written permission that clearly describes its scope. Document the receipt of an oral permission and send the owner a confirming letter or email. A copyright protects materials regardless of whether the owner cares about protection or not. Thus, if required permission cannot be obtained, the work may not be used.

1. For information regarding how to find copyright owners, contact the Writers Artists and Their Copyright Holders (WATCH) program through the University of Texas, Austin's Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at <https://norman.hrc.utexas.edu/watch/>. Phone: 512/471-8944, Email: see www.hrc.utexas.edu/contact/.
2. For a part of a book or a journal article, contact: Copyright Clearance Center, "CCC" Copyright Clearance Center, Inc., 222 Rosewood Drive, Danvers, MA 01923, Phone: 978/750-8400, Email: see www.copyright.com/about/contact/, www.copyright.com.
3. For images, contact: The Film Foundation, 7920 Sunset Boulevard, 6th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90046, Phone: 303/436-5060, Email: see www.film-foundation.org; American Society of Media Photographers, Four Embarcadero Center, Suite 1400, San Francisco, CA 94111, Phone: 877/771-2767, Email: see www.asmp.org/.
4. If the author owns the copyright in a contribution to a periodical, magazine, or newspaper, permission may be obtained through The National Writers Union, 61 Broadway Ste. 1630, New York, NY 10006, Phone: 315/545-5034, Email: see <https://nwu.org/contact-us/>, www.nwu.org; and the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, 8271 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90048, Phone: 323/782-1010, Email: see www.scbwi.org/contact-us www.scbwi.org.
5. For music, contact: American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP), 250 West 57th Street, New York, NY 10107, Phone: 212/621-6000, Email: see www.ascap.com; Broadcast Music Incorporated (BMI), 7 World Trade Center, 250 Greenwich Street, New York, NY 10007, Phone: 212/220-3000, Email: see www.bmi.com/licensing; or SESAC, 55 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203, Phone: 615/320-0055, Email: see www.sesac.com.
6. To record and distribute a musical composition recorded by someone else, or synchronize music with visual images, contact: The Harry Fox Agency, Inc. at www.harryfox.com; National Music Publishers Association, 1900 N St NW, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20036, Phone: 202/393-6672, Email: see www.nmpa.org.

7. For plays, contact:

Concord Theatricals
250 W. 57th St., 6th Floor
New York, NY 10107
Phone: 866/979-0447

info@concordtheatricals.com
<https://www.concordtheatricals.com/>

Dramatists Play Service, Inc.
440 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016
Phone: 212/683-8960

postmaster@www.dramatists.com
<https://dramatists.com/>

Anchorage Press (Plays for young people)
c/o Dramatic Publishing
311 Washington St.
Woodstock, IL 60098-3308
Phone: 800/448-7469
customerservice@dpcplays.com
www.dramaticpublishing.com

8. For news archives, check the news organization's website. Many of the largest news organizations have placed archives of their back issues online.
9. For movies, contact: the Motion Picture Licensing Corporation at <https://us.mplc.com/>, Phone: 800/462-8855, Email: see <https://us.mplc.com/customer-support/>, info@mplc.com, grants public performance rights. If the author and the publisher are known, contact them directly. If the publisher is unknown, contact: The Literary Marketplace, www.literarymarketplace.com (for books) or Ulrich's International Periodicals, www.ulrichsweb.com (for journals), both published by the R. R. Bowker Company, www.bowker.com.
10. For a changed owner where the apparent copyright owner may not be the real copyright owner, the U.S. Copyright Office, www.copyright.gov, provides online searching of its registration records and performs professional searches for a fee.
11. For software, contact the software's manufacturer at the address given on the licensing agreement.
12. For musical theater, contact: Music Theater International at www.mtishows.com, Phone: 212/541-4684, Email: see www.mtishows.com/about/contact-us; or Broadway Licensing at www.broadwaylicensing.com, Phone: 212/540-9330, Email: see www.broadwaylicensing.com/contact/.

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