

COPYRIGHT MATTERS



Copyright is the legal framework that allows individuals to own and profit from their creative and intellectual efforts. The fundamental principle is that creators automatically have exclusive rights over their own work. It allows authors and publishers to sell publications, musicians and composers to sell music, painters, and photographers and visual artists to sell images and reproductions of their work.

Copyright also guarantees choice. Creators can choose to sell the rights to their work or share their work free of charge. Creators can seek acknowledgement and preserve the intended integrity of their work or creators can share their work with others for purposes of change, transformation, hacks and mash-ups.



Fair Go, Fair Dealing

There are exceptions under Australian copyright law (known as fair dealing exceptions) that allow people to use copyright material without permission. These cover five areas:

- Research and study
- Review and criticism
- Reporting the news
- Legal advice
- Parody and satire

Copyrights

As a student, you can copy articles and parts of books for your own research and study. You can copy an article from a journal, magazine or newspaper. You can copy a chapter from a book or not more than 10% of the total number of pages of the book.



...and Wrongs

There are limits to how much you can copy of a book or journal. Even for educational purposes. Copying an entire textbook that's commercially available, even over a period of time, is infringing copyright. And you cannot sell copies. If a person or business is caught infringing copyright by selling copied text books or other publications, it can result in:

- Civil action from copyright owners (and having to pay money as compensation)
- Criminal prosecution (including fines and a criminal record if convicted)

Depending on the educational institution, a student caught infringing copyright can also face internal disciplinary action. This can include suspension of studies.



Infringement Impacts

Textbooks are not cheap. A huge amount of work goes into the development of educational texts from authors, editors and publishers. This includes the investment in updates, additional online support and assessment materials. Infringing copyright in textbooks does not ultimately make them cheaper. It makes producing textbooks a more difficult business to sustain.



Resources and Contacts

In Australia, copyright is governed by the *Copyright Act 1968* (Cth), available online through the Com Law and the AusLII websites.

Website: www.comlaw.gov.au/Series/C1968A00063

Website: www.austlii.edu.au/au/legis/cth/consol_act/ca1968133/

The **Digital Content Guide**: your guide to finding safe and licensed digital content – from music to movies, from ebooks to games.

Website: <http://digitalcontentguide.com.au/>

The **Australian Publishers Association** (APA) is the peak industry body in Australia for publishers of books and journals, hard copy and electronic publications. Established in 1948, the APA serves all Australian publishers large or small, commercial or non-profit, educational or trade; locally or overseas owned. The Association represents over 90% of the industry based on turnover.

60/89 Jones Street, Ultimo NSW 2007

Telephone: (61 2) 9281 9788

Email: office@publishers.asn.au

The **Australian Copyright Council** is an independent, non-profit organisation. Founded in 1968, the Council represents the peak bodies for professional artists and content creators working in Australia's creative industries and Australia's major copyright collecting societies.

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