

QUICK GUIDE TO CREATIVE COMMONS

LIMITS AND EXCEPTIONS

Creative Commons licences work within copyright law. Copyright exceptions like fair dealing in Australia and fair use in the US still apply.

IMPORTANT TERMS

- Share: you can copy and redistribute.
- Adapt or Remix: you can remix, transform, or build upon the work.
- Attribution: you have to give credit to the creator of a work.

Four Elements

Four elements are used to create Creative Commons licences.

- BY (Attribution): You must give appropriate credit.
- SA (ShareAlike): If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you must distribute your contributions under the original licence.
- NC (NonCommercial): You may not use the material for commercial purposes.
- ND (NoDerivatives): You may not remix, transform, or build upon the material.

THREE LAYERS

Creative Commons licences are built on three layers for different audiences.

- Legal code: for lawyers, enforceable in courts.
- Human-readable: for the rest of us.
- Machine-readable metadata: for discoverability.

TWO PUBLIC DOMAIN TOOLS

- The CC0 badge indicates the creator has waived all rights to an item and it's free to use unconditionally.
- The Public Domain Mark can be used to indicate a work is in the public domain after its copyright has expired.

Six Licences

The four elements combine into six licences.

CC BY – Attribution only (least restrictive).

CC BY-SA – Attribution, ShareAlike.

CC BY-NC – Attribution, NonCommercial.

CC BY-NC-SA – Attribution, NonCommercial, ShareAlike.

CC BY-ND – Attribution, NoDerivatives.

CC BY-NC-ND – Attribution, NonCommercial, NoDerivatives (most restrictive).



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