

Copyright

Protecting Creations



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INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OFFICE

Copyright protects original artistic works e.g. music, literature, pictures or film, both as created and as performed. It also protects original digital works, e.g. websites or computer programmes. It even protects school essays!

Without Copyright

Work could be used without permission, (others could even profit from it).



Origin

The owner must be able to show when the work was created.



Automatic Right

Copyright is automatic: there is no registration process in Ireland.

Immediate

Copyright exists from the moment a work is created.



INDICATES THAT
COPYRIGHT IS
BEING ASSERTED

Why is it important?

- Prevents unauthorised usage, adaptation, translation or exhibition of work
- Protects against counterfeiting
- Encourages creativity
- Creators control their own work

How long does it last?

- Copyright duration varies depending on the nature of the work. For example, copyright on books ends 70 years after the author's death.
- When copyright expires, the work then enters the 'public domain'

Tips

Ask permission before using someone's work

Always credit the original creator

It's always OK to use your own material



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