



Copyright

Copyright plays an important role in the Uniting Church as we are both a creator and consumer of copyright works.

Churches and not for profits organisations do not receive any exemptions or special status under The Copyright Act 1968, and it is the responsibility of each congregation, presbytery, synod or activity of the Church to be aware of its rights and obligations under this legislation.

For more detailed information about copyright, please refer to the Australian Copyright Council.

Copyright protection

Although some group licences are available through the Uniting Church Queensland Synod Office, it is important to note:

- the Synod Office only administers these licences and does not provide advice
- one licence does not cover all works
 - check the work is included under the specific licence repertoire
- purchase of licence/s is the choice of the church or organisation
- responsibility (and liability) for copyright obligations or infringements are not covered in any way by the Synod Office.

Group licences available

The Uniting Church Queensland Synod Office administers group licences for

- CCLI—options are available to cover church copying, music reproduction, and video.

By participating in the group scheme we are able to pass on discounts of 5-10% for these licences. Licence renewals will be charged to each congregation annually via the cash remittance process.

Other individual licences are available directly from copyright collecting societies.

What is copyright?

Copyright protects the authors and creators of works, to encourage innovation of creative and educational materials and allows these creators to exploit their works commercially.

Copyright requires users of the material to obtain permission to reproduce it and to display appropriate acknowledgement, as required by the copyright owner.

Copyright legislation in Australia comes from The Copyright Act 1968 but applies to both domestic and international works.

What does copyright protect?

Copyright applies to any type of work, including art, images, lyrics, movies, music, novels, plays, poetry and extracts of any size or length.

It's also important to remember that some works have multiple creators; for example, a worship song may have the lyrics by one creator and the music by another. Permission is required from all copyright owners of the work.



The Uniting Church in Australia
Queensland Synod

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How long does copyright last?

Generally, copyright lasts for the life of the creator, plus 70 years. Where a work was not published or performed during the creator's lifetime, or the creator was anonymous, copyright lasts for 70 years from the time the work was first published or performed.

Some facts about copyright:

There are many common misconceptions about copyright, but mistakes and breaches of copyright obligations could create significant financial and reputational risk for the Church.

Keep in mind the following facts when considering copyright:

1. Formal copyright permission must be granted by the copyright owner and the work attributed to the creator. It is not sufficient to only attribute the work. (Or the work must be covered by a licence or in the Public Domain.)
2. Copyright applies to both Australian and international works.
3. Copyright applies to any type of work, including art, images, lyrics, movies, music, novels, plays, poetry and extracts of any size or length.
4. Information reproduced online is easily traceable (even if it doesn't show up on Google!).
5. Information and online resources are not necessarily free from copyright.
6. Consider what's on your website, particularly in newsletters and other attachments.
7. Creators employ companies whose sole responsibility is to monitor, track and enforce penalties for any copyright breaches.
8. Each congregation is responsible for meeting their own copyright obligations and insurance will not cover any copyright breaches.
9. No one licence covers reproduction of every type of work, so it's important to be familiar with what your congregation's licence covers.

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CCLI Toll free 1800 635 474
licensing@ccli.com.au
www.ccli.com.au/
Church copyright licence, Church video licence, Music reproduction licence available under Synod's group licence
SongSelect (online music resource) – arrange and pay directly to CCLI

CAL Toll free 1800 066 844
licence@copyright.com.au
www.copyright.com.au/

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APRA www.apra-ameos.com.au/

PPCA www.pcca.com.au/

LicenSing Online

www.licensingonline.org

Word of Life

www.freelink.com.au/wolstart.htm

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