

COPYRIGHT GUIDANCE FOR ENERGIZE SUBSCRIBERS

Introduction

Copyright law exists to help authors, composers, filmmakers, performers, producers and distributors protect their intellectual property and receive a fair remuneration for the use of their work.

All youth/children's groups – even if affiliated to a not-for-profit organisation – are now treated as public venues. Merely purchasing an item does not *automatically* give the right to publicly use the music, video or writing at a public venue like a Youth or Children's group.

Copyright law gives the right of authors, composers, filmmakers, performers, producers and distributors to determine the terms on which their work can be shown at public venues. Some will detail the terms with their work, such as underneath a *YouTube* video or at the front of a book. If not free for public use, most are paid through users buying annual or event Copyright licences.

Permission provided without the need for a licence

The following are the situations where copyrighted material *may* be legally used without having to seek further permission or purchasing a licence:

- a) Sometimes material gives permission for limited use or copying by the original purchaser in public contexts such as a youth group. Such terms of use will be clearly displayed alongside the copyright owner's details.
- b) The publishers of many Bibles allow short extracts to be copied, printed and used in other works. Details are usually given at the front of the Bible with the copyright owner's name or may be found on the publisher's website.
- c) Some material found on the internet may allow free, non-commercial public use under a scheme such as *Creative Commons* – the website should make it clear if this applies and certain conditions may be given. Other than this, copyright law will apply, and although material on the internet is in the 'public domain' it is generally for personal use only.
- d) Live or recorded music can be performed or played within an 'act of worship' without the need for a licence, as long as no admission charge is made. This includes film soundtracks but does not include the public display of song words or film clips, nor the copying of type-set music. A Group can play music without a licence if it is only ever played during a time of worship and is not played during a general group session or discussion.

Permission provided by contacting the owner

You can seek permission to use a particular work directly from the copyright owner.

Permission provided by a Copyright Licence

Usually, the organisations subscribing to Energize buy 'blanket' licences from Copyright Licensing agencies. This makes the administration simpler for copyright owners and saves groups having to ask every author, composer, filmmaker, performer, producer and distributor individually for permission.

Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) is the leading agency for Christian organisations in the UK.

a) Music, sung or contemplative worship

A *CCLI Church Copyright Licence* allows you to project or photocopy/print words to songs.

A *CCLI Music Reproduction Licence* allows you to photocopy/print typeset pages from online or physical songbooks.

They can be bought for a year or for an event. Most Christian songwriters and publishers are covered, but not all: <https://uk.ccli.com/copyright-licences/authorised-lists/>. Contact the owner direct if they are not included in the list.

A group that is under the jurisdiction of one church can use that church's *Church Copyright or Music Reproduction Licences*. However, licences are not transferable outside of a licensed local church. So, if you have multiple churches involved, or are a 'detached' group, you should purchase the above for the activities that you do. Here are the latest prices and ordering links:

<https://uk.ccli.com/copyright-licences/>.

In order that royalties are distributed fairly, you have to report annually to CCLI estimating the songs and music that were projected/copied/printed. See: <https://uk.ccli.com/reporting/>.

b) Live and recorded music

Within an act of worship where there is no admission charge, you can play any live or recorded music (including film soundtracks and on TV programmes) without the need for permission or a licence.

At all other times, you will need the following two licences, even if the music is a part of a film or TV programme:

- The *Performing Rights Society for Music Licence (PRS)* is used to pay composers and writers. This licence covers a particular venue for live music performances, such as during socials, outreach events and film soundtracks. - whoever uses that venue and whenever.
- The *Phonographic Performance Limited Licence (PPL)* is used to pay recording companies and performers for playing commercial music recordings on CD, MP3 and other formats. This licence covers a particular local church or group.

If your venue is a church, a youth centre, a school or college, you should contact the manager to find out if they hold these licences. Check that they are happy that the licence covers the kind of activity you will be doing. A large camp may for example require an event licence if the activity is significantly larger than the normal activities that are licensed at the venue.

If your venue does not hold the licences, the venue owner can buy them together from:

- PPL PRS Limited – offering an annual *or* an event licence, now known as *TheMusicLicence*. See: <https://pplprs.co.uk/how-is-the-cost-calculated/>.
- CCLI – offering only an annual licence, now known as the *Playing Music Licence Manual*. This could work for Groups but would be unnecessarily expensive for a Camp or similar annual event. However, they do offer a 14-day event PPL licence, but not together with the PRS Licence. See: <https://uk.ccli.com/copyright-licences/playing-music-licence-manual/>.

c) Dramatic performances, plays and musicals

You should seek permission from the copyright owner in advance.

d) Pre-recorded films

The *Church Video Licence* allows churches/organisations to publicly show films and film scenes from 1,300 of the largest producers and studios. The showings must be free to attend and not advertised outside of the church/organisation/group.

It includes a service called *ScreenVue* : <https://www.screenvue.com> which allows you to access over 9,000 downloadable movie clips for Groups and Camps in teaching sessions for all ages.

The 1,300 film producers are: <https://ccliproduk-64f7.kxcdn.com/wp-content/uploads/authorised-producer-list-cvl-uk.pdf>

The *Performing Rights Society for Music Licence* and the *Phonographic Performance Limited Licence* mentioned earlier are also required to be able to legally play music from a film soundtrack outside of an act of worship.

Some pre-recorded films will state in the conditions of use that there is no restriction on public viewing. These can be used at a Group or Camp without infringing copyright.

The *Church Video Licence* is offered by CCLI as agents for *Church Video Licensing International* (CVLI) and the *Motion Picture Licensing Service* (MPLS). You can order here: <https://uk.ccli.com/what-we-provide/church-video-licence-screenvue/>.

e) TV and Streaming

A group can watch a programme that is not live and is from on-demand players other than iPlayer, without a special TV licence.

The group can watch live TV and also programmes on iPlayer without a special TV Licence if the device is powered by its own internal batteries and is not plugged into a mains power socket, and everyone watching has a TV Licence at home. See the “Do I need a TV Licence to watch TV away from home?” section on: <https://www.tvlicensing.co.uk/check-if-you-need-one>

Otherwise, if your venue (whether a church, a house or third-party venue) does not hold a *TV Licence*, you will need to liaise with the venue to organise one, even if you receive the programme via cable or the internet. See: <https://www.gov.uk/tv-licence>.

If the showing is outside of a domestic property, you should also contact the broadcasting or streaming service (e.g. Sky, Netflix, BT, Amazon, YouTube Live) for their permission to broadcast the programme publicly. Explain that it is not for commercial purposes and not taking away from other commercial showings, and permission will usually be granted without charge.

The *Performing Rights Society for Music Licence* and the *Phonographic Performance Limited Licence* mentioned earlier are also required to be able to legally play music in public, when it is part of a TV programme, outside of an act of worship.

A recent Law change gives producers of films within live television broadcasts the right to require direct permission before that section of the broadcast can be shown in public. If your church has a *Church Video Licence*, and the film in question is covered by this licence, the broadcast of the film can be shown in public without requiring further permission.

See: <https://uk.ccli.com/ccli-news/showing-live-television-in-church/>.

f) YouTube, Vimeo and other Video libraries

YouTube and *Vimeo*'s terms of service specify that the videos are for personal, non-commercial use unless prior written consent has been given by the licensor of the content. These details are usually found underneath the online video. Many videos are uploaded without the correct permission in the first place, so the Energize team will always seek to point you to the original, authorised version of the work.

If the content is from the official *YouTube* or *Vimeo* channel of the copyright holder or someone authorised by them, then you will normally be able to show the clip if you have the *Church Video Licence*. You just need to check that the copyright holder is on the authorised list – see the Pre-recorded films sub-section above. The channel will make it clear whether the content is for public use or not, and if you need to seek their permission first.

Some organisations that use *YouTube*, *Vimeo* or similar video libraries to distribute videos will often allow limited public use, but the terms and conditions should be carefully checked each time.

Other than the above, the public showing of videos without permission will infringe copyright law.

Further reading

- Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) offer a wealth of information about copyright and the various licences: <https://uk.ccli.com/about-copyright/fact-files/>.
- PPL PRS administer the Performing Rights Society for Music Licence (PRS) and Phonographic Performance Limited Licence (PPL), as well as the combined event TheMusicLicence: <https://pplprs.co.uk>.