

# Keeping you (Copy) right!

Mediasite is a great tool for creating & distributing content & presentations. It is however very important to be mindful of your obligations toward copyright and acknowledgement of ownership etc. This sheet will by no means cover all bases, but it may help answer some basic questions.

## What is Copyright?

“Copyright in the United Kingdom is a monopoly property right that automatically protects an original work from unlicensed copying, re-use & dissemination to the public”

## What are my obligations?

You have an obligation to ensure that any material you use or distribute is free from copyrighted material and / or you have received appropriate permissions to use it.

## Fair Deal?

The term ‘fair dealing’ is not to be confused with ‘fair use’. Fair use is a formal term in US Copyright law. Fair dealing allows you to use copyrighted material to support research, private study using the medium of print. There is no infringement in copying a literary or dramatic work provided it is done by a person giving or receiving instruction. This must be hand written & non reprographic.

## Creative Commons?

This is probably a term you are familiar with. Creative Commons exists to forge a balance inside the traditional “all rights reserved” setting that copyright law creates. There are around half a dozen CC licenses available, it may surprise you how much content may be available for you to use.

## Do

- Learn about copyright and your obligations
- Do not assume that if you have used material for years that you are not breaking the law
- Seek formal permissions from owners

## Don't

- Assume that no one will notice!
- Forget to credit any work that you use
- Redistribute any material without written permission

## Useful links

The [British Universities Film and Video Council website](#) is very useful. They run a very good 1 day course on Copyright for Print, Broadcast & Multimedia Production. Their book, ‘Can I copy this?’ is a very thorough and useful guide and explains the various types of usage etc.

The [Creative Commons website](#) is a wealth of useful information & guidance