



A GUIDE FOR MUSICIANS

WHAT RIGHTS DO COPYRIGHT OWNERS HAVE?

THE COPYRIGHT OWNERS HAVE A NUMBER OF EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO:

- MAKE COPIES OF THE TRACKS;
- PERFORM THE TRACKS IN PUBLIC;
- AND COMMUNICATE THE TRACKS TO THE PUBLIC.



WHO OWNS THE COPYRIGHT IN A PIECE OF MUSIC?

THERE IS GENERALLY MORE THAN ONE OWNER OF COPYRIGHT IN ANY GIVEN MUSICAL TRACK:

THE **COMPOSER** WHO WROTE THE MUSIC OWNS COPYRIGHT IN THE MUSICAL WORK.

THE **LYRICIST** WHO WROTE THE LYRICS OWNS COPYRIGHT IN THE LITERARY WORK.

THE **ARTIST** WHO PERFORMED THE MUSIC OWNS COPYRIGHT IN A SOUND RECORDING OF THEIR LIVE PERFORMANCE.

THE **MAKER** OF THE RECORDING (TYPICALLY A RECORD COMPANY) OWNS COPYRIGHT IN THE SOUND RECORDING.

CAN I RECORD A COVER VERSION OF A SONG?

IF YOU WANT TO RECORD A COVER OF A SONG YOU MUST GET A LICENCE FROM THE OWNER OF THE MUSICAL AND LITERARY WORKS (USUALLY THROUGH AMCOS) FOR THE REPRODUCTION OF THOSE WORKS.

DO I NEED ANY LICENCES TO PERFORM AT A CLUB OR OTHER VENUE?

IF YOU ARE PERFORMING COVER VERSIONS OF SONGS THEN GENERALLY THE VENUE (FOR EXAMPLE, THE CLUB, HOTEL, NIGHTCLUB OR RESTAURANT) NEEDS A PUBLIC PERFORMANCE LICENCE FROM APRA IN ORDER TO ALLOW YOU TO PERFORM THE MUSIC IN PUBLIC. HOWEVER, IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE YOU ARE PERFORMING AT A VENUE THAT WOULD NOT ORDINARILY REQUIRE A LICENCE, YOU MAY NEED TO GET AN APRA PUBLIC PERFORMANCE LICENCE IN YOUR OWN RIGHT.

WHAT IF MY CD IS GOING TO BE DISTRIBUTED FOR FREE?

IT DOESN'T MATTER WHETHER OR NOT YOU ARE MAKING A PROFIT FROM YOUR CD, YOU NEED PERMISSION TO RECORD OR COPY SOMEBODY'S MUSIC.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

APRA AMCOS

ARIA

MUSIC RIGHTS AUSTRALIA

PPCA

WWW.APRAAMCOS.COM.AU/

WWW.ARIA.COM.AU

WWW.WHYMUSICMATTERS.ORG/

WWW.PPCA.COM.AU/

CAN I COPY OTHER ARTISTS' MUSIC FROM THE INTERNET?

THE BASIC PRINCIPLE IS THAT YOU CANNOT COPY OR DISTRIBUTE MUSIC INCLUDING FROM THE INTERNET WITHOUT THE PERMISSION OF ALL RELEVANT COPYRIGHT OWNERS. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF LEGITIMATE DOWNLOAD SITES IN AUSTRALIA, GO TO THE DIGITAL CONTENT GUIDE TO FIND THEM.

HOW DO I PROTECT MY MUSIC?

WHEN YOU CREATE A PIECE OF MUSIC A WHOLE SYSTEM OF LEGAL RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS COMES INTO PLAY. COPYRIGHT ALSO GIVES ARTISTS, COMPOSERS, PUBLISHERS AND PRODUCERS VARIOUS RIGHTS OVER THE COPYING, DISTRIBUTION, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNICATION (INCLUDING OVER THE INTERNET) OF THE MUSIC THEY HAVE CREATED.

MUSIC RIGHTS AUSTRALIA CAN OFFER ADVICE ABOUT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION. WE WELCOME INFORMATION FROM ARTISTS OR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO MAY BE AWARE OF COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT OF THEIR OR OTHERS' MUSIC.



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