Copyright Factsheet



Protects the creators of original work
Exists automatically - does not need to be asserted
Applies the moment an original work is created
Does not exist in an idea but in the expression

Copyright Prohibits

Copying; Issuing copies to the public; Renting or lending to the public; Performing, showing or displaying to the public; Broadcasting, adapting or amending

Copyright Exceptions?

Some limited copying is permitted for research and private study; criticism and review; and reporting.

More Copyright Facts

Normally the individual or group who created the work will exclusively own it. However if work is produced as part of employment it may belong to the employer or commissioning party.

Moral Rights, i.e. the right to be asserted as the creator; to prevent derogatory treatment; and to prevent publication; also exist to protect the reputation of the creator(s).

Duration of Copyright

Literary, Dramatic, Musical, Artistic and Film work



from the end of the calendar year in which the last remaining author or the work dies. If the author is unknown then 70 years from the date the work was created or published.

Sound recordings, Broadcasts and Cable programmes



from the end of the calendar year in which the work was created, or, if the work was released within that time - 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was first released.

Typographical arrangements of published editions



from the end of the calendar year in which the work was first published.