

Duration of copyright - The 1988 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act states the duration of copyright as:

- i. For literary, dramatic, musical or artistic works - 70 years from the end of the calendar year in which the last remaining author of the work dies. If the author is unknown, copyright will last for 70 years from end of the calendar year in which the work was created, although if it is made available to the public during that time, (by publication, authorised performance, broadcast, exhibition, etc.), copyright will run for 70 years from the end of the year that the work was first made available.
- ii. Sound Recordings - 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was created, or, if the work is published, or otherwise made available to the public by the rights owner within that time, 70 years from the end of the calendar year that the work was first published or made available.
- iii. Films - 70 years from the end of the calendar year in which the last principal director, author or composer dies. If the work is of unknown authorship: 70 years from end of the calendar year of creation, or if made available to the public in that time, 70 years from the end of the year the film was first made available
- iv. Typographical arrangement of published editions - 25 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was first published.
- v. Broadcasts and cable programmes - 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which the broadcast was made.
- vi. Crown Copyright - Crown copyright will exist in works made by an officer of the Crown, this includes items such as legislation and documents and reports produced by government bodies. Crown copyright will last for a period of 125 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was made. If the work was commercially published within 75 years of the end of the calendar year in which it was made, Crown copyright will last for 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which it was published.
- vii. Parliamentary Copyright - Parliamentary copyright will apply to work that is made by or under the direction or control of the House of Commons or the House of Lords and will last until 50 years from the end of the calendar year in which the work was made.

Acts restricted by copyright

It is an offence to perform any of the following acts without the consent of the copyright owner:

- i. Copy the work.
- ii. Rent, lend or issue copies of the work to the public.
- iii. Perform, broadcast or show the work in public.
- iv. Adapt the work.