

CC0 is a separate tool that allows you to release your work to the public domain. current version is 4.0.

Newer versions have clearer language but are not substantially changed. The refers to the version of the license. CC licenses also include a number. This you can use a work.

A CC license means you allow anyone to share or adapt your work as long as they follow the terms you specify. There are a variety of CC licenses that include different combinations of these terms. Learning the symbols & abbreviations to the right will help you determine how

You may have seen a CC license statement that looks something like this: **Licensed under CC 4.0 BY-NC-SA.** What does that actually mean?

What do those letters mean?

Why use CC?

CC licenses are build on a philosophy of freedom of information and creativity. They exist to help create a world where creative work is shared for the public good, and everyone gets to benefit.

Understanding CC licenses can open up access to thousands of works that you have permission to distribute, modify or use for free!

As a creator, using CC licenses for your works lets you contribute to that pool of shared resources and give back to the global creative community.

This zine and other informational zines I make are shared under CC licenses so that they can continue to be shared as a free, public resource!

CC license terms, summarized:

BY - Attribution: You must credit the original creator. All CC licenses include this.

ND - No Derivatives: You may not make changes or derivative works. Only the original version can be distributed.

NC - Non-Commercial: You may not use the work or derivatives of the work for commercial purposes.

SA - Share-Alike: You may make derivative works, but you must share them under the same CC license the creator used.

CC0 - This is a statement that you reserve no rights and are releasing your work to the public domain.

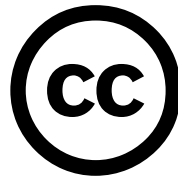
What is the Creative Commons?

Creative Commons is a nonprofit organization that creates tools to enable a global "commons" of creative work and ideas, that everyone can take part in.

One of those tools is a set of licenses that creators can use to define what people can legally do with their creative work.

These licenses are a simplified way of communicating copyright permissions. They're designed to make it easy to allow others to share, modify or build off of your work while reserving the rights you want to.

What is the Creative Commons? and how can I use it to make stuff?



an introduction for creatives
by Maggie Watson

How can I use CC licenses for my creations?

1. Decide which terms, if any, you want people to follow when using your work.
2. Pick the license that includes those terms.
3. Name the license (using icons/abbreviations or a longer explanation) in the copyright statement on your work. Link to the full license if possible.

That's it!

Note that CC licenses are irrevocable—once you release certain rights to the public (i.e. the right to make alterations to a work) you can't take them back. Be certain you are okay with the terms you choose before you share or publish under a CC license!

How can I use someone else's creations under a CC license?

1. Read their license statement and understand what uses are and are not permitted.
2. Follow those rules when you share or adapt the work.

That's it!

Read the full version of the license at creativecommons.org if you need clarification. There are plain language explanations that go over the terms in more detail. Always refer to Creative Commons as the definitive source of information on CC licenses!

Go forth and have fun making stuff with the Creative Commons!

I am an artist, not a copyright lawyer, and I am not affiliated with the Creative Commons organization. Please consider this zine a layperson's introduction to the Creative Commons, not legal advice. If you'd like to learn more about CC directly from the source, go to creativecommons.org.

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