

COMMON MYTHS & FACTS

Myth: If I don't download any songs or videos while I'm here, I won't get a Copyright Infringement notice.

Fact: You can get a notice for downloading/allowing others to upload content from your computer. If you have P2P software on your computer, you are most likely sharing files anytime your computer is on the network.

Myth: I turned off file sharing on my P2P program so I don't have to worry.

Fact: You cannot REALLY turn off file sharing with most P2P programs. Many install additional spyware that keep the P2P connection live. The only real solution: uninstall it.

Myth: I won't get caught.

Fact: In 2007-2008, over 340 NCCU students received DMCA notices from the RIAA.



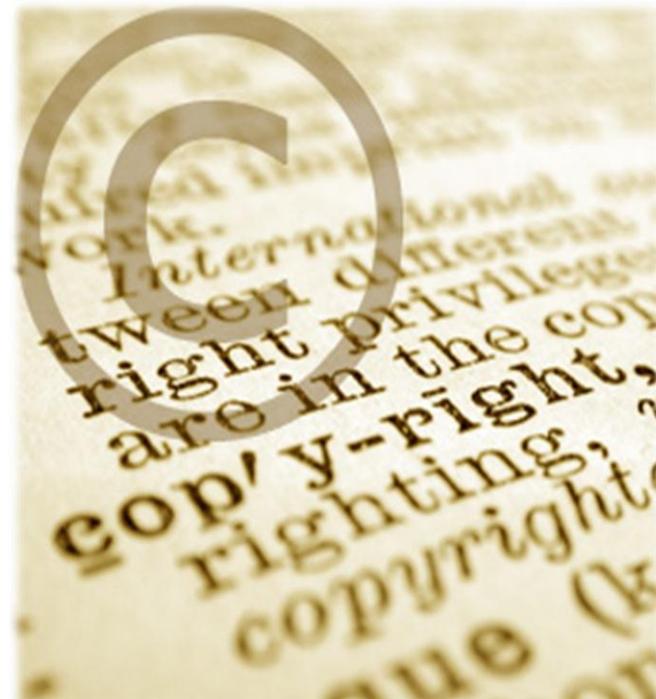
North Carolina Central University complies with the provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1998 (DMCA). It is illegal, as described in the Federal law (U.S. Copyright Act, Title 17 of the US Code, and more recently the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, 105 PL 304), to download, upload, or distribute in any fashion, copyrighted material, in any form without permission or a license to do so from the copyright holder. NCCU neither condones nor supports in any way the use of copyrighted material in ways in which it was not intended.



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What You Should Know About Copyright Infringement

NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
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WHAT IS COPYRIGHT INFRINGEMENT?

Copyright infringement is the unlawful use of any material protected under copyright law, violating one or more of the copyright owner's exclusive rights. These exclusive rights include, but are not limited to: reproduction of the work, the distribution of copies of the work and the creation of derivative forms of the work.



IT'S A SMALL
SYMBOL FOR A
BIG
CONCEPT.....
COPYRIGHT

WHAT DOES IT MEAN?

Downloading and sharing files which contain copyrighted material is against the law. A single unauthorized download or upload of copyrighted material can put you at serious risk for criminal consequences such as fines and imprisonment. The responsibility to restrict sharing and monitor the legality of your downloads lie solely with you.

WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW?

If you are suspected of a copyright violation, a DMCA (Digital Millennium Copyright Act) complaint is sent to the University from the copyright holder or a designated agent. Using the IP address listed on the complaint, ITS will inform you directly of the alleged infringement and disable your network connection.

In most cases, the suspension of your network connection is not permanent, however in order to reconnect to the NCCU network, you must sign an acknowledgment that you have received a Notice of Copyright Violation and return it to the ITS Help Desk.

In some cases, the copyright holder will offer a settlement option before pursuing any legal action. This is referred to as an



Early Settlement Letter. We recommend contacting a private lawyer to seek legal counsel at this point.

The minimum damages for sharing copyrighted material is \$750 per file. On average, violators who choose to settle their cases outside of court have been forced to pay about \$4000.

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO AVOID A COPYRIGHT VIOLATION?

- ☑ Download all music, movie and other types of files from authorized sites.
- ☑ Keep your computer password protected and never share your NCCU account information with anyone.
- ☑ Do not connect personal wireless routers to the campus network.
- ☑ Use free Internet Radio services such as Pandora or free online video services that show full television episodes to listen to music and watch tv shows.
- ☑ Take advantage of NCCU ITS partnerships to purchase discounted software.
- ☑ Visit www.copyright.gov to understand fair use guidelines.
- ☑ Look for the copyright symbol, if you see it on something do not reproduce or copy that item.
- ☑ Think about how much money you could lose paying fines for copyright infringement.