

# Copyright 101

## Everything You Wanted to Know about Copyright But Were Afraid to Ask

American Library Association Annual Conference  
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*Sponsored by ALA Office for Information Technology Policy, Copyright Advisory Committee and Copyright Advisory Network Team, and Office of Government Relations Committee on Legislation, Intellectual Property Subcommittee.*

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### FAIR USE 101

The four factors determining fair use and indicators that weigh each factor in favor of fair use:

The **purpose and character** of the use: transformative, non-profit, educational

The **nature** of the copyrighted work: published, factual

The **portion** of the work used: not essential, relatively small

The **effect** of the use upon the potential market: won't prevent the owner from making \$\$

**Here's what the law (Title 17 of the *United States Code*) says:**

“§ 107: Limitations on exclusive rights: Fair use

Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 106 and 106A, the fair use of a copyrighted work, including such use by reproduction in copies or phonorecords or by any other means specified by that section, for purposes such as criticism, comment, news reporting, teaching (including multiple copies for classroom use), scholarship, or research, is not an infringement of copyright. In determining whether the use made of a work in any particular case is a fair use the factors to be considered shall include —

- (1) the purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of a commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes;
- (2) the nature of the copyrighted work;
- (3) the amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole; and
- (4) the effect of the use upon the potential market for or value of the copyrighted work.

The fact that a work is unpublished shall not itself bar a finding of fair use if such finding is made upon consideration of all the above factors.”

<http://www.copyright.gov/title17/92chap1.html#107>

**Two great resources:**

Copyright and Fair Use

<http://fairuse.stanford.edu/>

ALA Copyright Advisory Network

<http://www.librarycopyright.net/>

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“Fair Use 101” is presented by members of the OITP Copyright Advisory Committee

Marc Gartler, M.S.  
Library Director  
Harrington College of Design  
200 West Madison  
Chicago, IL 60606  
(312) 697-8021  
[mgartler@interiordesign.edu](mailto:mgartler@interiordesign.edu)

Dwayne K. Buttler, J.D.  
Professor, University Libraries  
Evelyn J. Schneider Endowed Chair  
for Scholarly Communication  
University of Louisville  
Ekstrom Library 203  
Louisville, KY 40292  
(502) 852-3128  
[dwayne.buttler@louisville.edu](mailto:dwayne.buttler@louisville.edu)