

# Audiovisual resources and author rights

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Audiovisual resources are those that contain visual and/or auditive elements. There are several kinds of them: images (photographs, drawings, maps, diagrams, etc.), sound (music, speech, etc.) and video.

**Any audiovisual resource on the Internet IS PROTECTED BY AUTHOR RIGHTS.** The fact that it's available on the web doesn't mean that the rights conferred to its author by law (reproduction, distribution, public communication, etc.) are not fully in force.

To learn more about author rights we recommend you to see the web page **Propietat Intel·lectual i accés obert**: [www.uab.cat/propietat-intellectual](http://www.uab.cat/propietat-intellectual)

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Seleccioneu l'idioma: ▼

Tecnologia de Google Traductor



**PROPIETAT INTEL·LECTUAL I ACCÉS OBERT**

RESOLEU ELS VOSTRES DUBTES

Aquest web conté un recull de preguntes més freqüents (PMF) que aporten informació en matèria de propietat intel·lectual i accés obert, de caràcter orientatiu i sense que es puguin considerar, en cap cas, assessorament jurídic per part de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Hi podeu accedir fent una cerca a la casella o bé navegant per les carpetes temàtiques. El web ha estat preparat i redactat en Català, tot i que s'ofereix la traducció a l'Espanyol i a l'Anglès, les quals són meres traduccions automàtiques realitzades amb programari de traducció automàtica que podrien contenir imprecisions respecte la versió catalana.

Cerqueu les paraules que defineixen la vostra consulta, en català. Si escriviu una paraula o una frase entre cometes, als resultats només s'inclouen pàgines amb les mateixes paraules en ordre idèntic al contingut de les cometes.

## 1. Images

As we said before, images that you find on the Internet are protected by author rights and, therefore, it's recommended not to use photographs from *Google Images* without any filter, or similar search engines.

As far as Google is concerned, after making a search of images, filter the results with the option **Search tools** and then, choose **Usage rights**: there, you can filter by license type and get only images whose author rights have been given up.

The available options to include images in your works without risk of infringing author rights are:

- a) **Using images whose author rights have been given up:** currently there are good quality images that have been freed of author rights. In this document you will find a [list of free repositories](#) that you can find useful as a starting point, but on the Internet you will surely find lots more. However, if you are interested in a particular image you will always have to find out which license applies to that image.
- b) **Image banks: fee-charging** repositories where you can find very good quality images whose author rights have been properly taken into account. Some image banks are iStockPhoto, GettyImages, Shutterstock, BigStock, Fotolia, etc.
- c) **Do your own images** (photographs, for example).

There is much written on the Internet about this topic; we give you here two clear explanations in Spanish:

### **Cómo usar imágenes en Internet de manera legal – Guía Básica**

<https://www.ciudadano2cero.com/derechos-imagenes-internet-copyright-copyleft-fair-use/>

### **3 opciones para usar fotografías “legales” en tus presentaciones**

[www.presentable.es/consejos-practicos/3-opciones-para-usar-fotografias-legales-en-tus-presentaciones](http://www.presentable.es/consejos-practicos/3-opciones-para-usar-fotografias-legales-en-tus-presentaciones)

## **1.1. Image repositories**

Should you choose the first option of the three above, **using images whose author rights have been given up (open access)**, we list here some large image repositories. These photo libraries are free of charge and hold a large number of open access images that you can use in your works. You should always find out about their license.

**10 Best Websites For Free Vector Art Downloads.** Websites of vector graphics. Remember to read the licenses for each database.

[www.makeuseof.com/tag/10-best-websites-free-vector-art-downloads/](http://www.makeuseof.com/tag/10-best-websites-free-vector-art-downloads/)

**Los 18 mejores bancos de imágenes gratis de 2021.** From Epyme

[epymeonline.com/mejores-bancos-de-imagenes-gratis/](http://epymeonline.com/mejores-bancos-de-imagenes-gratis/)

**31 free public domain image websites (use with care).** Image websites with CC0 (public domain).

[99designs.es/blog/resources/public-domain-image-resources/](http://99designs.es/blog/resources/public-domain-image-resources/)

**Banco de imágenes y sonidos ITE.** Developed by the Spanish Ministry of Education, it contains images, video, sounds, animations and illustrations with Creative Commons licenses. Read the [terms of use](#)

[recursostic.educacion.es/bancoimagenes/web](http://recursostic.educacion.es/bancoimagenes/web)

**British Library.** More than 1 million images of 17th-19th century books in public domain. In [Albums](#) you can see them grouped thematically

[www.flickr.com/photos/britishlibrary](http://www.flickr.com/photos/britishlibrary)

**CC Search.** Find content you can share, use and remix. This search engine will help you find images; then you should find out about each image license.

[search.creativecommons.org](http://search.creativecommons.org)

**Fantasy Art Design.** Fantasy, science fiction, and surreal art. With Creative Commons licenses

[fantasyartdesign.com/](http://fantasyartdesign.com/)

**Flickr.** Here you can store, arrange, search, sell and share online photographs. There are [images with a CC license](#). You should also check which license applies to each image.

[www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com)

**Foter.** Free stock photos. You can search, manage and add photographs with a CC license available in other sources in blogs, forums, web pages, etc. It also has the information on the CC license for each photograph.

[foter.com](http://foter.com)

**FreeImages.** Images that [may be used in projects, web pages and publications](#) as long as the author is acknowledged.

[www.freeimages.co.uk](http://www.freeimages.co.uk)

**FreeImages.** Includes free and photographs that need to be paid for. Each image includes its license

[www.freeimages.com/](http://www.freeimages.com/)

**FreeImages.** Includes free and photographs that need to be paid for. Each image includes its license

[www.freeimages.com/](http://www.freeimages.com/)

**Freepik.** Large database of images (vectors, photos ...). For personal or commercial use with attribution. Each image carries its license and indicates how it should be assigned.

<https://www.freepik.es/>

**FreeRange.** For personal or commercial use; but they do not allow redistribution. Read the [license](#)

[freerangestock.com](http://freerangestock.com)

**Getty Images.** You can use images from Getty Images on your non-commercial websites for free by embedding them

[www.gettyimages.es/resources/embed](http://www.gettyimages.es/resources/embed)

**Iconfinder.** Large commercial icon data base with a selection of free icons. You can [browse through free icons](#) or limit the search to them. Each icon includes its license

[www.iconfinder.com/](http://www.iconfinder.com/)

**Imagebase.** Free stock photography. You can use their images for nearly [any purpose](#).

[www.imagebase.net/](http://www.imagebase.net/)

**Kaboompics.** it allows to search by color and it provides a complementary palette of colors in the photo. Read the [license](#); it allows all kinds of uses but not distribution

[kaboompics.com/](http://kaboompics.com/)

**Life of pix.** High resolution public domain images

[www.lifeofpix.com/](http://www.lifeofpix.com/)

**Magdeleine.** Photos with [public domain](#) and others that require attribution

[magdeleine.co](http://magdeleine.co)

**MorgueFile.** [License](#) and [terms of use](#)

[morguefile.com/](http://morguefile.com/)

**Noun project.** Powerful database of icons and photos with CC-BY or **Public Domain** licenses

[thenounproject.com/](http://thenounproject.com/)

**Old book illustrations.** Most of the images are public domain. More information about [licenses](#)

[www.oldbookillustrations.com/](http://www.oldbookillustrations.com/)

**Openclipart.** You can use their images for nearly [any purpose](#)

<https://openclipart.org>

**Pexels.** Good quality photos in the public domain. [License](#)

[www.pexels.com/](http://www.pexels.com/)

**Pixabay.** High quality photos with license CC0 (**public domain**). [License](#)

[pixabay.com/](http://pixabay.com/)

**Public Domain Pictures.** Images with license CC0 (**public domain**) can be downloaded in different

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qualities (some of payment). [www.publicdomainpictures.net](http://www.publicdomainpictures.net)

**Public Domain Vectors.** Large collection of public domain vector graphics. Formats eps, .svg, .ai and .cdr  
[publicdomainvectors.org/](http://publicdomainvectors.org/)

**Smithsonian Open Access.** This institution has placed in the **public domain** 3 million images from its digital collections. [Terms of use](https://www.si.edu/OpenAccess)  
<https://www.si.edu/OpenAccess>

**Stock Vault.** Each image includes its own license. Some images require a fee.  
[www.stockvault.net](http://www.stockvault.net)

**StockSnap.io.** Photos with license CC  
[stocksnap.io/](http://stocksnap.io/)

**Unsplash.** High quality photos with license CC0 (**public domain**) [License](https://unsplash.com/)  
[unsplash.com/](https://unsplash.com/)

**Urwing.** Icons in PNG and SVG format. Its [license](#) allows all kinds of uses  
[uxwing.com/](http://uxwing.com/)

**VisualHunt.** Search engine of CC licensed images. Each image includes its license  
[visualhunt.com/](http://visualhunt.com/)

**Wellcome Collection.** Images about the history of medicine with CC license.  
[wellcomeimages.org](http://wellcomeimages.org)

**Wikimedia Commons.** Images (animations, diagrams, drawings, maps, photographs, etc.), videos and sounds (music, speeches, pronunciation...). For each resource it gives a license.  
[commons.wikimedia.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org)

**Wikipedia public domain images.** Lists collections of public domain images. You need to check the license for each page.  
[commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Free\\_media\\_resources/Photography](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Free_media_resources/Photography)

**Dipòsit Digital de Documents de la UAB.** Repository that stores the University scientific, academic and institutional production. It gathers a great diversity of supports, topics and types of documents: posters, photographs, etc. You need to check the license for each document.  
[ddd.uab.cat](http://ddd.uab.cat)



**Important!** Remember that you can **ask for permission directly to the author** telling him/her what do you want the image for.

As **ADVERTISING MATERIAL** is concerned there are also interesting resources:

**Advertising collections:** developed by Duke University. These collections include databases with press adverts as photographs, videos and sounds: [Ad\\*Access](#) (USA and Canada adverts 1911-1955), [Emergence of Advertising in America: 1850-1920](#), [AdViews](#) (USA TV adverts 1950-1980), etc. Although each collection has its license materials, you can download for academic or research purposes.  
[repository.duke.edu/dc](http://repository.duke.edu/dc)

**Europeana:** millions of documents from national libraries, archives, museums and European audiovisual organizations. You can find historical ads in various formats (search for "advertising").  
[www.europeana.eu](http://www.europeana.eu)

**Galleries:** Page of the Communication guide. You will find virtual advertising galleries (with historical commercials), propaganda, design and posters. Remember to check the copyright  
[www.uab.cat/web/subject-guides/communication/advertising/galleries-1345768714577.html](http://www.uab.cat/web/subject-guides/communication/advertising/galleries-1345768714577.html)

## 1.2. Inverted search: from image to source

You can find a photograph on the Internet without a watermark or no information about the name of the author, so that you cannot know which is its license. In this case you can do an inverted search that is, using the image to perform the search and obtain in this way its original source. Some of the resources that make possible this kind of search are:

**TinEye.** You can either introduce the URL of a particular image or upload the file. The image is searched in the database, retrieving those images that may match with it. When it finds similar records the database shows where the image is originally hosted.

[www.tineye.com](http://www.tineye.com)

**Google Images.** The inverted search is integrated to its classic image search like in TinEye: with a URL or uploading an image you can retrieve different versions. It's useful to trace the original author of the image and also to protect one's own works by checking whether it's been made public by other people.

[images.google.com/](http://images.google.com/)

## 1.3. Maps

For maps and aerial photographs (to use them as illustrations as well as to use them as a base and add your information), you can use some free resources:

Catalonia:

**Institut Cartogràfic i Geològic de Catalunya.** Maps and aerial photography, at low and high resolution. Old and modern material from all over the world can be found.

[www.icgc.cat/](http://www.icgc.cat/)

For further information:

<https://www.icgc.cat/L-ICGC/Informacio-publica/Transparencia/Reutilitzacio-de-la-informacio>

Spain:

Centro Nacional de Información Geográfica

Ancient and modern series of high resolution. They can be freely used, but always citing the source. You can find all the information related to the "User licenses" section of the main web page.

[centrodedescargas.cnig.es/CentroDescargas/](http://centrodedescargas.cnig.es/CentroDescargas/)

Rest of the world:

There is a diversity of resources that gather maps and ancient and modern images. Pay attention to the information on author rights on each page.

Perry-Castañeda Library Map Collection

[www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map\\_sites/map\\_sites.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/map_sites/map_sites.html)

Information on author rights: [www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/faq.html#3.html](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/faq.html#3.html)

**David Rumsey Map Collection (historical maps).** Images may be reproduced or transmitted, but not for commercial use.

[www.davidrumsey.com](http://www.davidrumsey.com)

Further information: [www.davidrumsey.com/about](http://www.davidrumsey.com/about)

**Visible Earth** (satellite images). It can be used free of charge, including for commercial purposes in some cases. It is necessary to see the casuistry of each document.

[visibleearth.nasa.gov](http://visibleearth.nasa.gov)

Further information: <https://visibleearth.nasa.gov/image-use-policy>

## 1.4. Images obtained from subscribed resources

If the image is obtained from an electronic resource paid by the UAB, the license has to be taken into account. You can see the **conditions of use of electronic journals and databases** subscribed by the University at this webpage:

[www.uab.cat/web/our-collections/databases-and-other-electronic-resources-1345738248433.html](http://www.uab.cat/web/our-collections/databases-and-other-electronic-resources-1345738248433.html)

## 2. Sounds and music

We list below some interesting websites that contain sounds and music:

**13 Fantastic Places to Find Background Music for Your Video Content.**

<https://buffer.com/library/background-music-video/>

**50+ Sites to Download Free Sound Effects for Almost Everything.**

[www.hongkiat.com/blog/download-free-sound-effects/](http://www.hongkiat.com/blog/download-free-sound-effects/)

**Audionautix:** music under license CC-BY. Search options for genre, *mood*, tempo

[audionautix.com](http://audionautix.com)

**Banco de imágenes y sonidos ITE:** developed by the Spanish Ministry of Education, it contains images, video, sounds, animations and illustrations with Creative Commons licenses.

[recursostic.educacion.es/bancoimagenes/web](http://recursostic.educacion.es/bancoimagenes/web)

**CCMixer.** Remixes and samples licensed under Creative Commons licenses. Each sound has its specific license.

[ccmixter.org/](http://ccmixter.org/)

**CCTRAX:** music under license Creative Commons

[cctrax.com/](http://cctrax.com/)

**Europeana:** European Union digital library that includes video and sound files. Many of the resources are public domain. Once a search has been made, it allows you to select by media type

[www.europeana.eu](http://www.europeana.eu)

[classic.europeana.eu/portal/en/collections/music](http://classic.europeana.eu/portal/en/collections/music)

**FindSounds:** free sounds search engine that may (or may not) have copyright.

[www.findsounds.com](http://www.findsounds.com)

**FMA:** free Music Archive. Sounds with CC licenses

[freemusicarchive.org/](http://freemusicarchive.org/)

**FreeSound:** Universitat Pompeu Fabra project under [CC license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/); each sound has its specific license.

[www.freesound.org](http://www.freesound.org)

**Internet Archive- Audio:** recordings, music, old radio programs, reading books. Licenses Creative Commons and public domain

[archive.org/details/audio](http://archive.org/details/audio)

**Jamendo:** Provides free music download and streaming for Internet users, while allowing artists to sell commercial licenses of their music for commercial use. In the free part (Jamendo music) you'll find songs whose rights have been transferred by authors under [CC license](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/); each album includes its specific license.

[www.jamendo.com](http://www.jamendo.com)

**Legal music for videos:** list of websites to find music with CC licenses

[creativecommons.org/legalmusicforvideos](http://creativecommons.org/legalmusicforvideos)

**Sound Bible:** each sound has its specific license

[soundbible.com](http://soundbible.com)

**Sound Jay:** it states clearly the [terms of use](#).  
[www.soundjay.com/](http://www.soundjay.com/)

**Television tunes:** Archive with more than 32,000 theme songs, especially from US television; the songs can be downloaded in MP3, but before doing it you should read the [copyright information](#).  
[www.televsiontunes.com/](http://www.televsiontunes.com/)

**Wikimedia Commons:** images (animations, diagrams, drawings, maps, photographs, etc.), videos and sounds (music, speeches, pronunciation...). For each resource it gives a license.  
[commons.wikimedia.org](http://commons.wikimedia.org). Wikimedia commons Audio Files:  
[commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Audio\\_files](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Category:Audio_files)

**Zapsplat.** sounds and music. There are two types of [license](#); a license of its own and another of **public domain**.  
[www.zapsplat.com](http://www.zapsplat.com)

At the end of Section 1.1. *Image repositories* you will find webs with **ADVERTISING MATERIAL**: video and sound adverts, press adverts with photographs and/or posters.

### 3. Other resources

In addition to images and sounds, there are other open access contents you can access if you are interested, for example:

**Open.Michigan wiki:** Open Content Search  
List of resources that contains materials with CC license that may be re-used, within their terms of use. It includes images, icons, audio and music, video, software, teaching material, books, medical resources, etc.  
[webservices.itcs.umich.edu/mediawiki/openmichigan/index.php/Open\\_Content\\_Search](http://webservices.itcs.umich.edu/mediawiki/openmichigan/index.php/Open_Content_Search)

**Smartcopying** : the Official Guide to Copyright Issues for Australian Schools and TAFE  
Guides about how to search resources with CC license in different websites (Google, Youtube, CC Search Portal).  
[www.smartcopying.edu.au/open-education/creative-commons/creative-commons-information-pack](http://www.smartcopying.edu.au/open-education/creative-commons/creative-commons-information-pack)

If you have any doubt you can ask for it in **Pregunt@**, the virtual information service of the UAB Libraries: [www.uab.cat/libraries/pregunta](http://www.uab.cat/libraries/pregunta)

June 2021 edition  
Digital version: [ddd.uab.cat/record/108435](http://ddd.uab.cat/record/108435)

