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100% Effective Natural Hormone Treatment
Menopause, Andropause And Other Hormone Imbalances
Impair Healthy Healing In People Over The Age Of 30!

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By Craig Lock

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What is copyright? No one can reproduce your work without your permission – not even a personal letter. How much of a writer's work can be legitimately used? A poem of 40–50 words is generally considered to be OK. Usually one is not allowed to copy substantial amounts of another writer's work without their express permission.

* But then what is meant by the word "substantial"? It is widely open to interpretation and opens up a literary and legal "minefield" (that's a metaphor, by the way!).

There are no hard and fast guidelines about the rule of copyright. The following is a rough 'rule of thumb':

You can take approximately 300 words from a book or any other lengthy work of writing. You can also quote 150 words from a magazine article. Fifty (50) words quoted from a newspaper article is generally considered to be "fair use" without requiring either permission or a fee. Copyright lasts 50 years after your death.

You can use what is termed 'fair dealing' in writing reports, or researching material. I always advise acknowledging sources in your reference section (the bibliography – I tried very hard to bring in that impressive long word) .

It's all very unclear – the entire subject of copyright; so I won't say too much. My simple words of advice are:
Just use your common sense and

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discretion (if you have some)... and be HONEST by following your heart. Don't copy other author's material and purport (nice word, eh?) to be the author. One should not paraphrase a substantial amount of another author's writing, nor use that writer's points (or theme of their writing) without due ACKNOWLEDGMENT. Hint hint!

If you get into a dispute (oops!), there are specialised trade and copyright lawyers (or solicitors as they call them here in 'civilised' NZ) in the big centres. If in doubt, get advice...then DON'T infringe copyright.

Send requests to use "borrowed" material to the permissions editor of a magazine, newspaper or book publisher. Book publishers usually have a small department which deals solely in this. Give them as much information as possible about your article or book, your publisher, as well as other books or articles written by you. Tell them what quotes you want to use and why and so on. Say you will give them due acknowledgement in your writing. They'll usually oblige.

There is sometimes a small fee payable. Always acknowledge the sources of your quotations – then you've kept your word, your side of the "bargain".

Also keep copies of your correspondence in the event of an unlikely dispute.

Now a bit for Kiwis (and Brits)...

No one can reproduce your work without your permission. New Zealand law closely follows British law. In NZ copyright is usually protected for 50 years after the author's death. If a book is published posthumously (nice long word that), copyright extends for 75 years after the time of the author's death. After that the work can be freely used by anyone. No hope for me then... but perhaps my great great grandchildren!

As from 1989, New Zealand copyright law requires 3 copies of every NZ publication to go to the National Library in Wellington. One of which goes to the Alexander Turnbull Library, one to the National Library for bibliographical purposes, while the third is kept at the Parliamentary Library in the capital in Wellington.

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Sometimes a publisher might want copyright in exchange for a fee. My advice: It's your work of art. So always retain your copyright... unless you are in dire financial straits, like this aspiring (and perspiring) writer. *

In the next lesson (and article) we will look at the subject of plagiarism . Wow, that's a big word and I hope I spelt it correctly (especially for you "slick Americans")!

No , I don't mind you using my material and I feel, it may be very hard for another "writer" to closely copy my rather "wacky style of hopefully informing and entertaining at the same time".

Anyway, isn't "imitation the sincerest form of flattery"?

Craig Lock is an author of numerous books and the creator of the ORIGINAL online creative writing course. <http://www.nzenterprise.com/writer/creative.html>

How Copyright Protection Works

By Paul Thomas

What does copyright protect? Copyright is a type of intellectual property law, and it protects original works of authorship including dramatic, literary, artistic works and musical, and such as poetry, movies, novels, songs, computer software and architecture. Copyright does not protect ideas, facts, systems or methods of operation, though it may protect the way these things are expressed.

How can I copyright my website? The original authorship that appears on a website may be protected by copyright. This includes artwork, writings, photographs and other forms of authorship protected by copyright. Actions for registering the contents of a website can be found in Copyright Registration for Online Works.

How about copyright and my domain name? Copyright law does not protect domain names. The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers that is a nonprofit organization that has understood the responsibility for domain name system management is administrating the assignation of domain names through recognized registers.

How about copyright to a slogan, logo, name or title? Copyright does not protect titles, names, slogans or short phrases. In a few cases these things may be protected as trademarks. Get in touch with U.S. Patent & Trademark Office on phone 800-786-9199 for additional information. Nevertheless copyright protection may be obtainable for logo artwork that contains enough authorship.

Can I protect my ideas? Copyright does not protect systems, concepts, ideas or methods of doing

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something. You may convey your ideas in writing or drawings and claim copyright in your explanation, but that copyright will not protect the idea itself as revealed in your written or artistic work.

Copyright protection and unpublished work. Publication is not required for copyright protection. It can be done with unpublished work as well.

Architecture copyright protection? Architectural work became subject matter to copyright protection on the 1st of December 1990. The copyright law defines architectural work as "the design of a building embodied in any tangible medium of expression, including a building, drawings or architectural plans." Copyright protection extends to any architectural work created on or after Dec. 1, 1990. Any architectural works that were incomplete and embodied in unpublished plans or drawings on that date and were constructed by December 31, 2002, are entitled to protection. Architectural designs embodied in buildings constructed prior to December 1, 1990, are not entitled for copyright protection. See Copyright Claims in Architectural Works

Much more information about Copyright Protection

<http://www.copyright-protection-e.com>

on this

website. See for your self.



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