

Playing Music in the Classroom

The *Copyright Act* includes an exception for educational institutions that permits the performance of **sound recordings** in the classroom without arranging or paying for public performance rights.

*Refer to Section 29.5(b) of the *Copyright Act*.

The term **sound recording** refers to recordings of music and song as well as spoken performances like the recording of an orally delivered lecture and the narration of a novel in an audiobook.

The performance of **sound recordings** in the classroom without arranging or paying for public performance rights is conditional upon the following:

- The copy of the **sound recording** being performed must be a legal copy.
- The **sound recording** can only be performed for educational purposes.

*Entertainment purposes will require arranging and paying for public performance rights.

Sound recordings that are **publicly available on the Internet** can be reproduced, performed, and communicated to students in your classroom or through FOL.

Your college's Fair Dealing Policy permits the reproduction and communication of up to 10% of an audiovisual work **BUT** most compact discs are protected by technological protection measures like digital locks and it is illegal to break or circumvent them.

You can ask for permission from the copyright owner to convert an audiovisual work from its compact disc format to a digital file so that you can post it to your college's learning management system.

If granted permission:

- You will likely be required to pay a fee.
- You will only be permitted to make the digital file available to a specified number of students.
- You will only be permitted to make the digital file available for a specified period of time.

If you are not granted permission:

- You will not be permitted to convert the **sound recording** from its compact disc format to a digital file.

For more information, please contact Meaghan Shannon, Copyright Services Officer at:
m_shannon2@fanshawec.ca or extension 4346.