

NEW AUSTRALIAN COPYRIGHT LAWS

PRIVATE COPYING – FORMAT-SHIFTING

For music see the fact sheet 'Private copying of music'

You are now allowed to copy certain types of material that you own for private and domestic use into a different 'format'.

Books, newspapers and periodicals (s 43C)

You can copy a book, newspaper or periodical that you own to use in a different format (eg scanning an article from a magazine onto your personal computer to keep as a reference).

Photographs (s 47J)

You are permitted to copy a photograph:

- where the copy you own is in hardcopy form – into an electronic form (for example by scanning into a computer), or
- where the copy you own is in electronic form – into a hardcopy form (for example by printing a digital file).

Videotapes (s 110AA)

You are able to copy a video cassette that you own into an electronic form (for example to a DVD).

Note: The Government will review these new exceptions by 31 March 2008.

What are the limits to the new exceptions?

- The original copy you own must be a legitimate copy.
- You cannot sell, hire, lend or give away any copy made but you can lend a copy to a member of your family or household.
- You are free to dispose of the original legitimate copy of a sound recording, but you must not keep any copy you have made from the original.
- Making multiple copies in a similar format is not allowed, either from the original copy you own or from a later copy.
- Copying computer games is not allowed.
- You are not authorised to remove any anti-copying measures applied by the manufacturer to the material you own.



Australian Government
Attorney-General's Department

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