

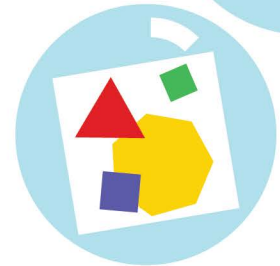
# Copyright vs. Plagiarism

Many people are confused by the difference between **copyright** and **plagiarism**. Some even think they are the same thing. Although there are similarities, they are different ideas and have very different consequences.

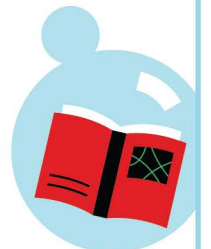


## Here's what you need to know...

**Copyright** protects a piece of work, like a novel or a song, from being used by other people without the copyright holder's permission. When somebody uses a copyrighted work without permission or legal exemption (such as use of parody or criticism), that is copyright infringement.



**Plagiarism** is when you use somebody else's work or ideas in your own work, without giving credit to the original author.

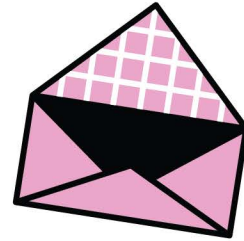


Something can be both plagiarism and copyright infringement at the same time; it can also be just one or the other.

## What's the difference?

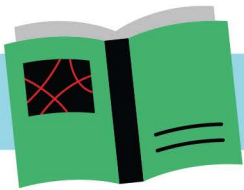


Copyright is a legal protection and deliberately infringing it is against the law. Plagiarism, while not a legal issue, is an ethical issue and can have severe consequences for your career or education.

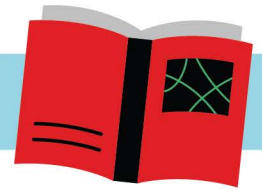


Copyright infringement denies the copyright holder from receiving the money they may be entitled to. Plagiarism denies the original author the credit they deserve for their work.

Plagiarism is about copying ideas. Copyright infringement is usually when that idea has been expressed in a document, recording or image.

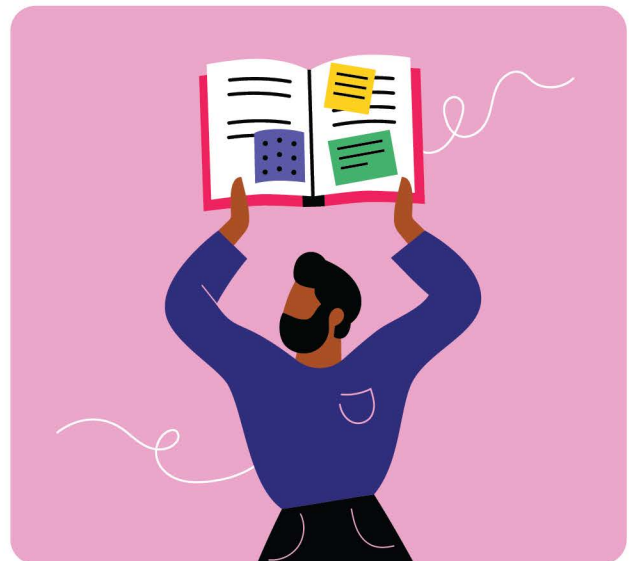


## Real life examples



**Plagiarism:** You include a paragraph from Oliver Twist in your own work (which has an expired copyright) and try to pass it off as your own.

**Copyright infringement:** You include verses from a copyrighted poem in your poetry anthology book and credit the original author, but don't have permission from the copyright holder or a legal exemption.



**Both:** You include verses from a copyrighted poem in your poetry anthology without permission from the copyright holder or legal exemption, and you also try to pass it off as your own work.