

OTHER ARTICLES

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COMING SOON

Patent FAQ

Franchising your Business

Licensing your Trademark

COPYRIGHT FAQ's

What is a Copyright?

Copyright is that branch of intellectual property law that protects the proprietary rights of authors in relation to their created works. The form in which such works are expressed may be words, symbols, music, pictures, three-dimensional objects, or combinations thereof.

What work can be protected under the Copyright Act 87?

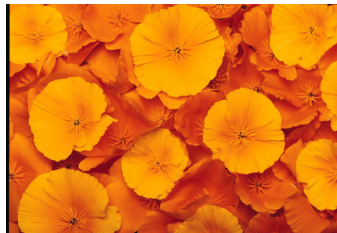
Work where sufficient effort has been expended to make it original; the work has been recorded or reduced to a material form; and the author must be a qualified person or the work must have been made in Malaysia.

Works include:

- literary;
- artistic;
- musical;

- sound recordings;
- film;
- broadcasts;
- published editions & derivative works

How can Copyright be protected in Malaysia?



In Malaysia, there is no system of registration for Copyright. The Act provides for the enforcement of the law by the Ministry of Domestic Trade & Consumer Affairs.

What is the Duration of a Copyright?

Copyright subsist during the life of the author plus 50 years after his death. However, if a work has not been published during the life time of the author, copyright in the work continue to subsist until the expiration of 50 years, following the year in which the work was first published.

What are the legal Rights of a Copyright owner?

The Copyright owner has the exclusive right to reproduce the work in any material form (including photocopying, recording, etc). Perform, show or play the work to the public (including performing a work live, or playing a recording or showing a film containing the work in a non-domestic situation).

Copyright applies to Music

Copyright applies to music when it is recorded, either by writing it down or in any other manner. With a song there will usually be more than one copyright associated with it. If you are the composer of the music you will be the author of the musical work and will have copyright in that music. The lyrics of a song are protected separately by copyright as a literary

work. The person who writes the lyrics will own the copyright in the words.

If your work is subsequently recorded the sound recording will also have copyright protection. The producer of the recording will own the copyright in the sound recording.

Composers of music may also have moral rights in their work.

Copyright is like any form of physical property in that you can buy it, sell it, inherit it or otherwise transfer it, wholly or in part. Therefore, some or all of the **economic rights** may subsequently belong to someone other than you, the first owner.