



**fair use  
week**

**fair dealing  
week**

## What is fair use?

**Fair Use is a four-factor exemption of U.S. Copyright Law 17 U.S. Code § 107**, which allows anyone to:

- Re-distribute
- Perform
- Electronically transmit
- Publicly display
- Create new versions of others' copyrighted works

... **without permission\***

\*When the potential use is deemed to be 'fair,' rather than 'infringing.' Only a court can decide what is truly 'fair use.'

However, U.S. law allows anyone to conduct a well-informed fair use analysis in good faith, using the **four factors**: **Purpose** (of the use), **Nature** (of the work), **Amount** (of the work used), and **Effect** (on the commercial value – potential or current) to determine if their proposed use of copyrighted material is more fair or more infringing. \*See the Fair Use Evaluator Tool in the Resources below for guidance.

### Resources

**Fair Use Week exhibit, February 22 – March 4, 2016**  
**University Libraries, Virginia Tech**

**“A Fair(y) Use Tale,” by Professor Eric Faden, transcribed video:** [youtu.be/lmOa3DFRicY](https://youtu.be/lmOa3DFRicY)

**Fair Use Week:** [fairuseweek.org/](http://fairuseweek.org/)

**Fair Use Evaluator tool – Learn more about the 4 Factors!**  
[librarycopyright.net/resources/fairuse/](http://librarycopyright.net/resources/fairuse/)

**Fair Use Week, University Libraries at Virginia Tech:** [lib.vt.edu/copyright/fair-use-week/](http://lib.vt.edu/copyright/fair-use-week/)

**Bibliography for Copyright and Fair Use:** [lib.vt.edu/copyright/fair-use-week/bibliography.html](http://lib.vt.edu/copyright/fair-use-week/bibliography.html)

**Open @ VT Blog:** [blogs.lt.vt.edu/openvt/](http://blogs.lt.vt.edu/openvt/)

**The Fair Use Week exhibit was curated and designed by:** Virginia (Ginny) Pannabecker, Anita Walz, Robert Sebek, Keith Gilbertson, and Scott Fralin; **Panel design by:** Robert Sebek; **Exhibit implementation by:** Scott Fralin. **Fair Use Week / Fair Dealing Week image** via <http://fairuseweek.org/>, CC BY 4.0 license.

This handout is licensed

