

## Copyright Time Line

<i>DATE</i>	<i>COPYRIGHT</i>	<i>TECHNICAL/POLITICAL</i>
Before ca. 1600	No copyright exists; all intellectual property is in the public domain (or more accurately, in the domain of whoever is in power; who can and does assign monopolies as patronage)	Most copying done by hand, or information passed on by oral tradition. Music Typesetting invented ca. 1470; music engraving ca. 1530.
1600's	1575 English music printing monopoly granted to composers William Byrd and Thomas Tallis; in 1596 the monopoly passes to Thomas Morley (composer) and is assigned to Thomas East (publisher) 1662 Licensing Act gives the English monopoly on printed materials to the Stationer's Company.	Printing by movable type (or music printing with engraved plates) becomes increasingly common.
1700's	1710 The Statute of Anne give authors protection for a fixed period  1787 The United States Constitution includes the phrase, "The Congress shall have power...to promote the progress of science and the useful arts, by securing for limited times to authors...the exclusive right to their respective writings..." 1790 The Copyright Act makes copyright a part of United States law, limiting the period of copyright to fourteen years with possible renewal for another fourteen years.	Great Britain formed in the 1707 Act of Union; established as one of the world's preeminent political and economic powers. The United States, as a newly independent country, places a high value on practicality and progress.
1800's	1831 Copyright Act revised, extending initial copyright to twenty-eight years. 1870 The Copyright Act revised, setting up administration of copyright by the Library of Congress 1886 Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works establishes uniform international standards for copyright	Music offset lithography printing process invented 1825  1877 Sound recording invented by Edison; 1888 sound recording improved with the invention of the Berliner Gramophone.

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1900's	1909 The Copyright Act revised; allowing renewal of copyright for an additional twenty-eight years.	The distribution of music on phonographs becomes a major market. 1911 Frances E. Clark, an early President of Music Educators National Conference, works with the Victor Talking Machine Company to explore the uses of recordings in music education.
	1976 The Copyright Act revised, extending copyright protection to the life of the author plus 50 years and codifying the idea of "fair use."	Audiotape recorders (first available in the U.S. in 1946) 1963 Cassette recorders invented 1950 Photocopying becomes commercially available Home recording and photocopying become common. Ca. 1970 photocopying has a strong impact on the distribution of printed music.
	1988 Revised Berne Convention signed by the United States.	1973 Internet Protocol developed 1976 Personal Computers developed 1980 Compact Disc invented 1995 World Wide Web launched
	1994 The Conference on Fair Use convenes to discuss fair use in the electronic environment	Ca. 1995 Software for processing music (typesetting, sequencing, "ripping and burning") becomes more commonplace. 1995 MP3 "codec" invented.
	1996 World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) convenes to bring international copyright law into the electronic age.	
	1998 Sonny Bono Copyright Term Extension Act extends copyright to life of the author plus seventy years. The act was subsequently (in 2002) upheld by the Supreme Court.	
	1998 Digital Millennium Copyright Act implements the WIPO accords.	Ca. 1998 Recorded music industry experiences severe declines in revenues, apparently caused in part by electronic file sharing.

This time line prepared as a service of the Creativity in the Classroom project developed by MENC: The National Association for Music Education with funds provided by the ASCAP Foundation, working with input from the National School Boards Association, the National Association of Elementary School Principals, the National Association of Secondary School Principals, the American Bar Association, and the United States Copyright Office. May be used or adapted freely for classroom use.