



FACT FILE: Recordings

Welcome to CCLI's FACT FILE on recordings. This has been created specifically for worship leaders, songwriters and anyone involved in recording music in their church. If you do not find all the information you need in this FACT FILE then please contact CCLI (details below).

WHAT IS A SOUND RECORDING?

A sound recording is a mechanical reproduction of a work on any one of a variety of formats such as CD, cassette, DVD, MP3 etc.

AGENCIES

- **Performing Right Society (PRS)** – the UK organisation representing the rights of artists, composers and music publishers in the live performance of music and in sound recordings played in a public place. This also includes music played through mediums such as radio, TV and online.
- **Mechanical-Copyright Protection Society (MCPS)** – the UK organisation representing the rights of composers, songwriters and music publishers when the music they have created is recorded for commercial and non-commercial use. This includes CDs, DVDs, TV, broadcast and online.
- **Phonographic Performance Ltd (PPL)** – the UK organisation that licenses sound recordings and music videos, on behalf of performers and record companies, for use in broadcast, public performance and new media.

WHO MANAGES COMMERCIAL SOUND RECORDING RIGHTS?

The rights in commercial sound recordings are managed by two organisations:

- The **MCPS/PRS Alliance** covers the rights of the artist, composer and publisher.
- **PPL** covers the rights of the record company/producer of the sound recording.

Commonly, the royalties from the sale of a sound recording are paid to the publisher, who in turn will pay a portion to the artist and/or composer based upon their contract agreements.

RECORDING YOUR OWN MUSIC

- You do not need a licence to record or distribute songs/music you have composed unless you have set someone else's words to music, in which case you will need permission from the author of those words, unless they are Public Domain.
- Ensure your songs have been protected by proof of ownership. Send copies of your work (words and music) to yourself by recorded delivery and keep them unopened for future reference. This establishes you were in possession of the words and music as at the date of the recorded delivery, though it will not necessarily prove you created the work.
- As the creator of a musical work you have the right to sign directly with **MCPS-PRS** or through a music administrator/publisher who will collect and administer royalties on your behalf.



CCLI
encouraging the spirit of worship

RECORDING OTHER PEOPLE'S WORK

You will require an MCPS licence if you would like to record other people's musical works. Licences available are:

- **Limited Manufacture Licence (LML)** - covers music recordings of all types and genres including both secular and Christian music. This is a commercial licence and permits you to make up to 1,000 copies of your product available for sale to the general public.
- **The Church Copyright Licence (CCL)** - includes the MCPS right for non-commercial recordings of worship services.
- **AP1 or AP2 agreements** are available from MCPS for those wishing to produce music for retail sale.
- **MCPS** also provides a number of other licences for aerobics sound recordings, marketing promotions, background music and music for use in the education sector.

ABOUT CCLI

Who we are

Christian Copyright Licensing International (CCLI) is a licensing organisation that provides copyright licences to churches, schools and organisations worldwide.

What we do

CCLI seeks to provide a means by which churches can go about their normal activities without infringing copyright law. This is achieved by making available various copyright licences, some provided on behalf of other licensing organisations, resulting in a simple, legal and affordable solution to the requirements of copyright legislation.

Our core values

- Copyright law should be obeyed
- Song writers and copyright owners should be fairly rewarded for their work.

Global recognition

- CCLI actively licenses churches and other organisations in 26 countries.
- We have global recognition from song writers and publishers.

ABOUT COPYRIGHT LAW

- Governed in the UK under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.
- Providing the copyright owner with economical and moral rights for their works for life and 70 years after their death.

For more information visit www.ccli.co.uk