

# Copyright



# Class schedule

Class	Topic
9/10	Introduction
9/17	Copyrights
9/24	Trademarks
10/1	Patents
10/8	Digital futures





Gorski's Design



Gymboree's Design

#### Copyright Or Trademark?





#### Girl Scouts IP Badge

Girl Scouts Get A Badge In Intellectual Property Maximalism



## Review

- Article 1, Section 8, gives Congress the right to establish copyright laws.
- Copyright laws
  - Established basic framework for definition and process
  - Extended copyright to non-written works
  - Established copyright duration
  - Extended definition to include new types of works, new uses, and electronic distribution



# What is copyrightable?

- Original works
  - Creator need only establish that the work was not copied.
  - Multiple independent creations are possible
    - See later about "subconsciously knowing"
- In a tangible form
  - Originally intended for print
  - Now includes digital expressions



# What can be copyrighted?

- ▶17 U.S.C.A. § 102. Subject matter of copyright
  - (1) literary works;
  - (2) musical works, including any accompanying words;
  - (3) dramatic works, including any accompanying music;
  - (4) pantomimes and choreographic works;
  - (5) pictorial, graphic, and sculptural works;
  - (6) motion pictures and other audiovisual works;
  - (7) sound recordings; and
  - (8) architectural works.



# **Exclusive rights**

- § 106. Exclusive rights in copyrighted works
- To make copies
- To prepare derivative works
- Distribute copies, including transferring ownership, renting, leasing, electronic forms, etc.
- Perform the work in public
- Exceptions for academic use and others
  - § 110. Limitations on exclusive rights: Exemption of certain performances and displays





First Sale Doctrine

Kirtsaeng v. John Wiley & Sons, Inc.



# Who owns that selfie?





## What does © mean?

#### Registration

- Establishes a public record of the copyright
- Required if you sue for infringement
- Makes copyrighted material available through the Library of Congress
- Two best copies within three months of publication

#### Notice

- the symbol © (the letter C in a circle), or the word "Copyright", or the abbreviation "Copr."; and
- the year of first and, if applicable, latest publication of the work
- the name of the owner of copyright in the work
- § 401. Notice of copyright: Visually perceptible copies



# Why you might be confused ...

"Optional registration fulfills mandatory deposit requirements."

U.S. Copyright Office - Mandatory Deposit (FAQ)

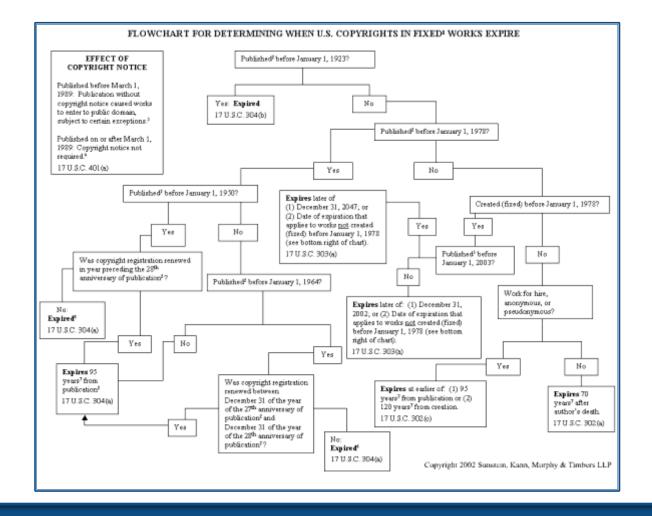
- The use of the copyright symbol does not establish your copyright.
  - It's your work. You already have that right.
  - It only serves notice that this is a copyrighted work.
- The lack of notice does not necessarily mean that the work isn't copyrighted.
  - It might mean that it isn't.
  - It might mean that you don't care.



# The registration process

- How it works
  - U.S. Copyright Office Online Services (eCO: Electronic Copyright Office)
- How much does it cost?
  - How much do you have?
  - U.S. Copyright Office Fees
- How long does it take?
  - Electronic filing 4-5 months
  - Paper filing 15 months





#### What is the duration of a copyright?

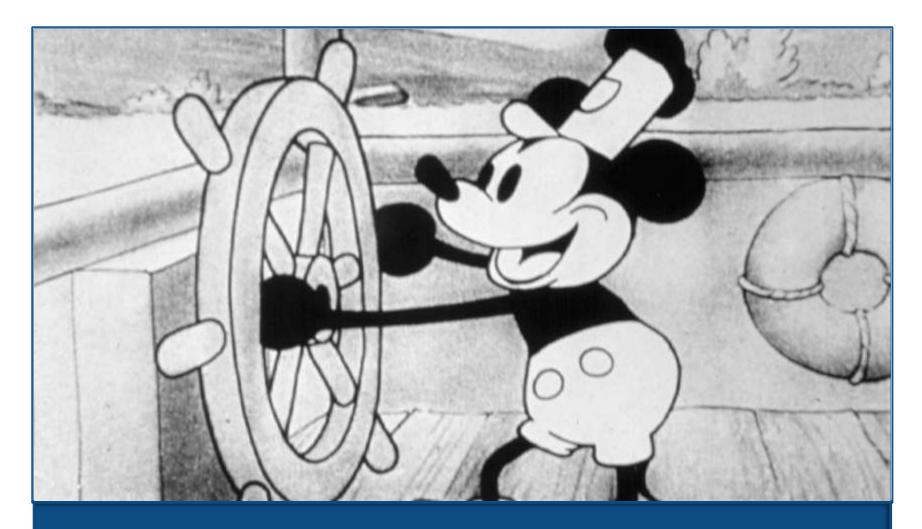
It depends ...



# What happens after a copyright expires?

- Public domain
  - Items whose copyright periods has lapsed
  - Where the author failed to comply with registration procedures
  - The work is published by the U.S. Government or states.
- No restrictions on use

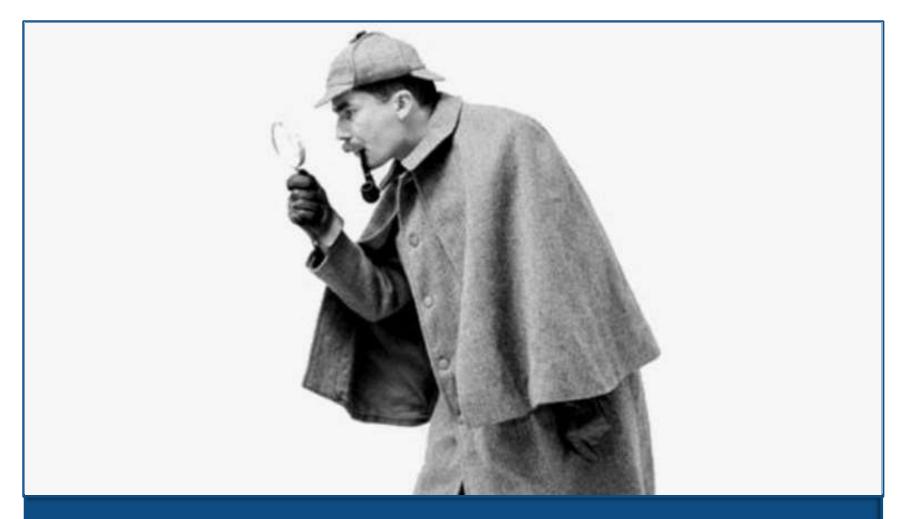




Free Mickey in 2023

How Mickey Mouse Keeps Changing Copyright Law





## Mystery solved

Judge Posner Solves Sherlock Holmes Copyright Case



# Infringement

- Did copying occur?
- Is it impermissible?
- Infringement of musical works
- Infringement of literary works
- Innocent infringer
  - Intent
  - Motive
  - Burden of proof
    - The owner must prove willfulness
    - The innocent offender has the burden of proof regarding profits

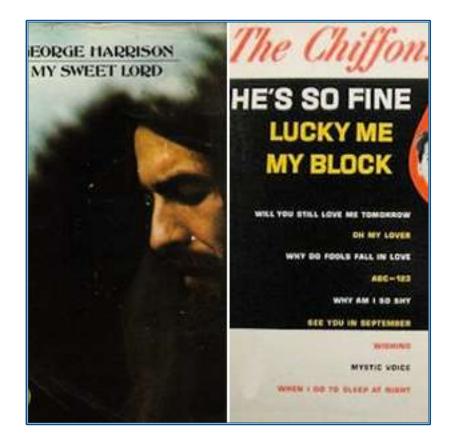




Copyright infringement

Us





#### **Unconscious infringement**

Bright Tunes Music Corp. vs. Harrisonsongs Music, Ltd.





#### Novel defense: I was too drunk and wasted

Robin Thicke in a deposition about <u>copyright infringement case</u>



## Remedies

- Preemption
  - Federal copyright law preempts state laws
  - § 301. Preemption with respect to other laws
- Injunctive relief
- Damages and profit
- Impoundment
- Criminal penalties
- Eleventh Amendment immunity
  - States are immune from suits for copyright infringement except for a pattern of infringement



# Copyright trolls

- Definitions
  - 1. Companies that buy the assets of another company for the purpose of bringing suit against third-parties.
  - 2. Companies that allege copyright infringement for the purpose of intimidation, settlement, and profit.
- Copyright Trolls: The Meaner Stepsister of Patent Trolls | IPWatchdog.com | Patents & Patent Law



## **Fair Use**

- § 107. Limitations on exclusive rights: Fair use
  - 1. The purpose and character of the use, including whether such use is of commercial nature or is for nonprofit educational purposes
  - 2. The nature of the copyrighted work
  - 3. The amount and substantiality of the portion used in relation to the copyrighted work as a whole
  - 4. The effect of the use upon the potential market for, or value of, the copyrighted work



## Academic fair use

- Generous provisions for academic use
- Copying
- Performance
- Demonstration
- Issues regarding amount, purpose, and profit
- Assumption College Policies



# How can you record someone else's song?

- Mechanical license the right to record
- Performance rights the right to perform in public
- Statutory Royalty Rates for a mechanical rights



# Parody and sampling

- Parody
  - 2 Live Crew's sampling of Roy Orbison's "Oh, Pretty Woman"
  - Campbell v. Acuff-Rose Music, 510 U.S. 569 (1994).
- Licensing of samples
  - Manu Dibango Soul Makossa
  - Michael Jackson "Wanna be Startin' Something"
  - Rihanna Don't Stop The Music
  - Court Rejects Dibango's Claims

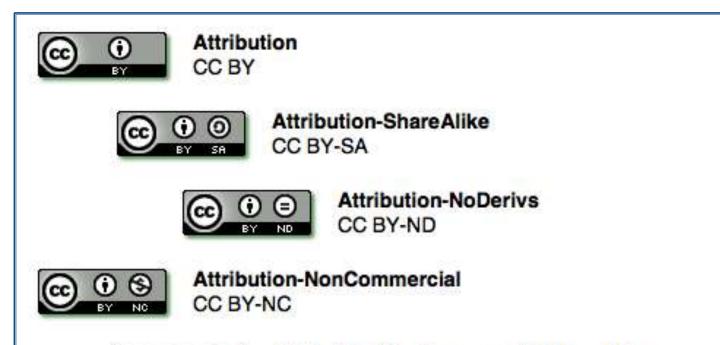




### Can I be sued for plagiarizing myself?

John Fogerty – <u>The Old Man Down the Road</u>







Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike CC BY-NC-SA



Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs
CC BY-NC-ND

#### **Creative Commons**

How to force an copyrightable item into the public domain



# Applying fair use

- Remember the four tests:
  - How is it used?
  - What is the nature of the copyrighted item?
  - How much is used?
  - What is the economic impact of the use?
- Each of the following has some case law associated with the use



## May I show a YouTube video?

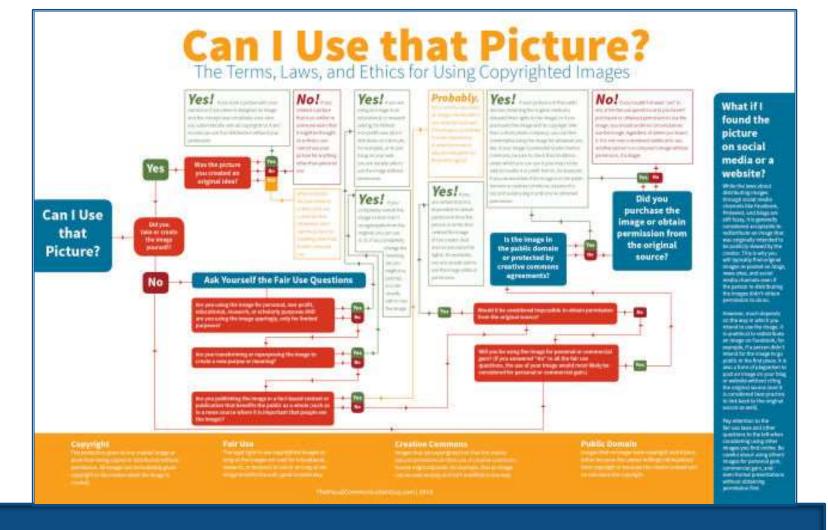
- How is it used?
- Nature of the item?
- How much?
- Economic impact?
- Conclusion:
  - It appears to pass the tests for fair use
- "You shall not download any Content unless you see a "download" or similar link displayed by YouTube on the Service for that Content."



# May we sing Happy Birthday?

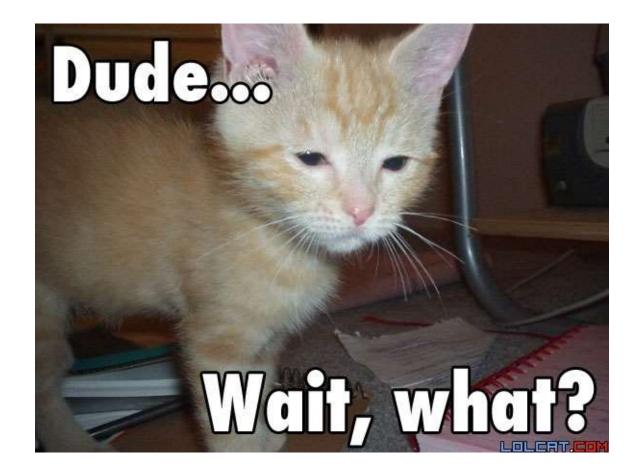
- The song was copyrighted in 1935 by Clayton F. Summy Company, working with the melody's authors.
- The copyright term should have ended in 1991.
- The copyright acts of 1976 and 1998 extend the duration to 2030.
- 'Happy Birthday to You' Copyright Challenged in Class Action





#### Can I Use that Picture?





# Questions?





#### Next week

The who, what, when, where, why, and how of trademarks