

Downloading Music and Other Files

The question below was sent yesterday, and I realized I was not clear in my presentation on page 8 of the 2004-2005 booklet.

Those sites listed are just some of the current ones. In general, they are **not legal**. It is your responsibility to read the "fine print" to determine what they really are. Unless it is a site with special arrangements (stated) just for schools, if a site tells you their **downloads are free**, it is a sure thing that it is NOT LEGAL. It is a PtoP (Peer-to-Peer) site connecting thousands of users who 'share' what they have with everyone else who is a 'member', not just music, but pictures, movies and application software.

I can't give you a list of LEGAL sites, as they change constantly. But I can tell you that most of them are **Illegal**. This would, as far as I can tell, include www.winmx.com.

However, **for classroom use only**, you may use any of these sites to download music for playing short pieces (30-45 seconds), according to the court rulings over the past several years. This does not seem to apply to any other school use. **It is classroom use only**.

Visit www.wtvi.com/teks/02_03_articles/copyright.html and read the article "Copyright 101 for Educators".