



# Anatomy of Creative Commons Licenses



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## Three CC License Layers

Each CC License includes

- the legal code (aka, lawyer speak)
- commons deeds (aka, every day speak)
- machine readable version (recognizing the role software plays in sharing, copying, etc.)

## Four CC License Elements

There are four components, or elements that make up the CC Licenses.



= BY, or attribution



= ND, or no derivatives



= SA, or share alike



= NC, or non-commercial

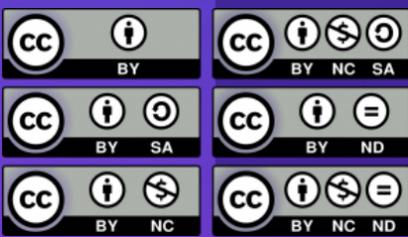


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## Six CC Licenses

The four elements combine into six distinct CC Licenses, which allow you to help users understand the uses you permit for your content. It's important to remember these licenses work in conjunction with copyright law, not as a replacement for it.



## Two Public Domain Tools

Creative Commons provides two public domain tools. One allows for creators to dedicate their content to the public domain (CC0) and the other allows for content known to be free of copyright restrictions to be marked as part of the public domain. In either case, no one is claiming copyright over the content.



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## Exceptions & Limitations

The CC Licenses do not remove, limit, or otherwise change exceptions and limitations to copyright. This includes fair use, fair dealing, or provisions for people with disabilities. If your use of CC Licensed content would be allowed because of an exception or limitation you do not need to comply with its terms and conditions. For more visit [creativecommons.org/faq](https://creativecommons.org/faq).



## Why the CC Licenses Matter

CC Licenses can help you, as a content creator, share how you're comfortable with your work being used. This is particularly important for sharing educational materials openly.



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