

FAQ

Is this just about CDs, or can I also copy films, e-books etc?

The exception will apply to any copies you have bought, other than computer programs. So, for example, it will allow you to format shift an ebook you have bought from one device to another. However, you should note that media, such as DVDs, can still be protected by technology which physically prevents copying.

CIRCUMVENTING SUCH TECHNOLOGY REMAINS ILLEGAL.

So will I be able to copy a music streaming service or a book I have borrowed?

No, the exception will only apply to copies you own, so will not allow copying from borrowed or rented copies, on-demand streaming services or broadcasts.

What if a DVD or other media is protected by copy protection technology?

Media such as DVDs are often protected by anti-copying technology to guard against copyright piracy, and this is protected by law. Copyright owners will still be able to apply this protection. However, if copy protection is too restrictive, you may raise a complaint with the Secretary of State.

IT REMAINS ILLEGAL TO CIRCUMVENT SUCH TECH.

Making copies for family at home is perfectly reasonable, why does the Government want to outlaw it?

It is already unlawful to make copies at home for friends and family, and this will continue to be the case following the change of the law. Creators have a right to be paid for their work, so the law will not allow people to get content for free by copying from friends and family. If a copy made for your own use is given to a friend, this will also be a copyright infringement.

EXCEPT FOR ON-DEMAND SERVICES, INCLUDING DOWNLOADS

OR IF YOU ALLOW A FRIEND TO ACCESS

YOUR PERSONAL COPY IN THE CLOUD

? for your own ~~use~~ personal use.

~~Physical~~
Am I able to give away or resell media, such as CDs, that I have made personal copies from?

Yes, but you will ~~infringe copyright~~ if you retain any personal copies that you have made. Therefore, if you wish to give away or sell a CD you should first delete any personal copies you have made from it.

Quotation

What's changing?

Currently it is an infringement of copyright to take a quotation from one work and use it in another without permission from the copyright owner, unless it is done for the purposes of criticism, review or news reporting.

The law is being changed to allow quotations to be used more widely without infringing copyright, as long as the use is fair (in law, the use must be a "fair dealing", see the box below) and the source of the quotation is acknowledged. It is ultimately for the courts to determine whether use of a quotation is fair dealing, which will depend on the facts of any specific case, but short quotations which are justified by their context are more likely to be considered fair than long and unnecessary ones. For example, the use of a title and short extract from a book in an academic article discussing the book may be considered fair, and be permitted under this exception, whereas the copying of a long extract from a book, without it being justified by the context, is unlikely to be permitted. You may benefit from this law if you are an author, academic, or even just a casual blogger.

For further information see: Exceptions to copyright: Education and Teaching