**Copyright Law and Graphics on the Web**

Today, you will read through an overview of copyright law and then participate in a group exercise. You will be presented with a number of web design scenarios in which copyright issues come into play. At the end of this lesson, you should be able to determine if an image or graphic is protected by copyright law and determine whether or not copyright law would allow an image to be used on a web page under different circumstances.

*Based on handouts from Web Design and Development. Lesson 2. University of Washington. 2005-2008.*

## Activities

1. Read the article on [Finding and Using Images form the Web](http://www.techsoup.org/support/articles-and-how-tos/finding-and-using-images-from-the-web) at techsoup.com
2. Read the web page [Legal Aspects of Webdesign: Copyright](http://www.iusmentis.com/technology/www/legaldesign/copyright/) to learn about how copyright impacts web design. Do you think images on the web are protected by copyright law?
3. Review the [interactive copyright questions and answers](http://www.cyberbee.com/cb_copyright.swf) from the Cyberbee website. How might copyright law impact your use of graphics in web pages?  
     
   **NOTE:**This resource is not currently accessible to screen reader users, or to anyone who can't use a mouse; it was also blocked on my computer. Comparable, though less interactive, information is available on the website [10 Big Myths about copyright explained](http://www.templetons.com/brad/copymyths.html)
4. Break into small groups or pairs and review the [Copyright Scenarios](http://www.washington.edu/accesscomputing/webd2/student/unit4/module1/copyright_scenarios.html) page. You will be presented with a number of scenarios and asked to decide to choose if the use is legal, illegal, or if more information is needed. Discuss the answers with your group and prepare to discuss your opinion with the class.

**Additional Resources**

[Stanford University Copyright and Fair Use Overview](http://fairuse.stanford.edu/Copyright_and_Fair_Use_Overview/index.html)

[WebD2: Copyright Law and Graphics on the Web (washington.edu)](http://www.washington.edu/accesscomputing/webd2/student/unit4/module1/lesson2.html)