

## 1.7 How long does it last?

Copyright protection applies for a finite period of time. This period varies, depending on the type of subject matter and when it was created.

From 1 January 2005, the period of copyright protection for most works increased. This period of protection will apply to all works that were still in copyright on 1 January 2005 and those works that were created after 1 January 2005. To determine if a work was in copyright on 1 January 2005, you will need to apply the pre-1 January 2005 copyright periods.

The tables below set out the current and pre-1 January 2005 term of copyright protection.

### Current term of copyright protection

#### a. Works

Types of Copyright Material	Current Term
Literary Works	Lifetime of author plus 70 years
Artistic works (except photographs)	Lifetime of author plus 70 years
Dramatic works	Lifetime of author plus 70 years
Musical works	Lifetime of author plus 70 years

#### b. Works-Exceptions

Types of Copyright Material	Current Term
Photographs	Lifetime of author plus 70 years
Unpublished literary (other than computer programs) or dramatic works	70 years from end of year work first published (whenever that may be)
Unpublished engravings	70 years from end of year work first published (whenever that may be)
Pseudonyms and anonymous names	70 years from end of year work first published

#### c. Subject matter other than works

Types of Copyright Material	Current Term
Sound recording and films	70 years from end of year material first broadcast, exhibited or published
Published Editions	25 years from end of year work first published

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**Pre-1 January 2005 term of copyright protection (use this table to determine if a work was still in copyright on 1 January 2005)**

#### d. Works

Types of Copyright Material	Previous Term
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Literary Works	Lifetime of author plus 50 years
Artistic works (except photographs)	Lifetime of author plus 50 years
Dramatic works	Lifetime of author plus 50 years
Musical works	Lifetime of author plus 50 years

e. **Works-Exceptions**

Types of Copyright Material	Previous Term
Photographs	50 years from end of year photograph taken
unpublished photographs	50 years from end of year work first published (whenever that may be)
anonymous works	50 years from end of year work first published

f. **Subject matter other than works**

Types of Copyright Material	Previous Term
Films	50 years from end of year film first released
Sound Recordings	50 years from end of year recording first released
Published editions	25 years from end of year work first published

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