**Circumventing Technology Protection Measures**

**Circumvention: What am I allowed to do?**

**What are Technological Protection Measures?**

There are two types of Technological Protection Measures (***TPMs***):

1. ***Access Control TPMs***– these are used to control access to copyright content. Some examples include:
   * password control systems (eg a ‘members only’ password which limits access to special content on a website to authorised members)
   * payment systems (eg where you have to pay a fee to access certain content on a website such as Choice website where certain content is restricted to people who paid for access to them)
   * time access controls (eg a technology that manages how long you can access copyright content such as some movie download sites which allow you to ‘rent’ and watch a movie for a period of time (eg 24 hours).
2. ***Copy control TPMs***– these prevent users from copying copyright content. Some examples include:
   * a software lock that prevents you from making a copy of a computer program
   * encryption measures stored on the disk containing a movie or CD which prevent you from copying the movie or songs on the disk
   * a technology that ‘locks’ documents to prevent them from being [copied](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/copy/) (eg the function that ‘locks’ a PDF document to stop you from making a copy.

**Rules applying to TPMs**

Until very recently, schools and TAFEs were almost never permitted to circumvent (eg disable or remove) Access Control TPMs. However, following copyright law reforms that came into effect on 22 December 2017, schools and TAFEs are now permitted to circumvent Access Control TPMs for the following purposes:

* making a copy under the [Statutory Text and Artistic Works Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/statutory-text-and-artistic-works-licence/) or the [Statutory Broadcast Licence](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/statutory-broadcast-licence/)
* making a copy under the [flexible dealing exception](https://smartcopying.edu.au/flexible-dealing/) in s 200AB of the Copyright Act
* making a copy under the [organisational disability exception](https://smartcopying.edu.au/guidelines/library-exam-and-disability-copying/disability-access-exceptions/) in s 113F of the Copyright Act or
* making a copy under the [fair dealing for disability exception](https://smartcopying.edu.au/guidelines/library-exam-and-disability-copying/disability-access-exceptions/) in s 113E of the Copyright Act.

Schools and TAFEs are **not**permitted to circumvent an Access Control TPM for **any other purpose** (eg a teacher or student making a copy for their own [fair dealing](https://smartcopying.edu.au/glossary/fair-dealing/) purposes).

Schools and TAFEs are allowed to circumvent Copy Control TPMs.

For further information, contact your [local copyright manager](https://smartcopying.edu.au/contact-us/).