

## Free Legal Resources

Many musicians choose to release their songs under [Creative Commons licenses](#), which give you the legal right to do things like use their music in your videos.

### What is Creative Commons?

Creative Commons is a new system, built upon current copyright law, that allows you to legally use “some rights reserved” music, movies, images, and other content — all for free. CC offers free copyright licenses that anyone can use (without a lawyer) to mark their creative work with the freedoms they want it to carry. For instance, a musician would use a Creative Commons license to allow people to legally share her songs online, make copies for friends, or even use them in videos or other compositions.

### Can I use any song with a CC license on it?

Almost — you need to make sure that what you want to do with the music is OK under the terms of the particular Creative Commons license it’s under. CC-licensed music isn’t free for all uses, only some — so make sure to check out the terms (you can find these by clicking on each song’s license icon).

Most importantly, you need to use music that is **not** licensed under a No Derivative Works license. This means that the musician doesn’t want you to change, transform, or make a derivative work using their music. Under CC licenses, synching the music to images amounts to transforming the music, so you can’t legally use a song under a CC No Derivative Works license in your video.

Also, make sure to properly credit the musician and the track, as well as express the CC license the track is under. For example, you might include text like this at the end of your video:

*This video features the song \_\_\_\_\_ by \_\_\_\_\_ available under a Creative Commons [Attribution-Noncommercial](#) license.*

Information found from <https://creativecommons.org/legalmusicforvideos>

## Royalty Free, Creative-Commons Video Clips

### 1. The Internet Archive: <http://www.archive.org/details/movies>

The Internet Archive host 100s of public domain and out-of-copyright films and clips for you to search, download and use.

### 2. US National Archives: <http://video.google.com/videoadvancedsearch>

You can use Google Video search to find works made by the Federal government which are almost all public domain and freely reusable. Use this search to find clips from NASA including lots of old newsreel footage.

**3. Flickr.com Creative Commons:** [http://www.flickr.com/search/advanced/?](http://www.flickr.com/search/advanced/)

In the advanced search options you can find creative commons videos and photos. Videos are in flash format, so you'll need a tool like TubeTV (mac) or AnyVideoConverter (PC) to download them.

**4. Vimeo Creative Commons Footage** <http://vimeo.com/creativecommons>

Here you can find all videos uploaded to vimeo under different creative commons licenses. Beware of "no-derivative" licenses. Read through what is and isn't allowed under each license.

**5. Blip.tv** <http://blip.tv/>

Video uploaders are allowed to assign multiple types of licenses to their content, including various Creative Commons styles, and then users can search on each type to make sure they are only seeing what they need.

**OurMedia.org** OurMedia is a media resource for people to upload and share their works that is run by the Internet Archive. Seeing as Archive.org is all about Creative Commons licensed works, they have carried that over to this project.

**Free Media Resources from Wikimedia.**

[http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Free\\_media\\_resources/Video](http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/Commons:Free_media_resources/Video)

## Nature Shots:

**1. US National Park Service B-Roll** [http://www.nps.gov/pub\\_aff/video/index.html](http://www.nps.gov/pub_aff/video/index.html)

Downloadable, QuickTime H.264 movie clips are available as zipped files that can be decompressed for use in video editing applications, web sites and other projects. All video clips are public domain.

**2. National Marine Sanctuary**

[https://marinelife.noaa.gov/media\\_lib/default.aspx](https://marinelife.noaa.gov/media_lib/default.aspx)

Select video clips and high-resolution still images from America's underwater treasures. Many items in the collection are in the public domain; each item includes Usage Rights.

**3. USGS Multimedia Gallery (United States Geological Survey)**

<http://gallery.usgs.gov/>

Collection of videos, photographs, and other imagery of natural hazards, climate change, animals, and natural resources. All items in this gallery are considered public domain.

## **Creative Commons, Royalty Free Music**

**Vimeo Music Store** – Creative Commons and Royalty Free Search results

[http://vimeo.com/musicstore/search/page:1/sort:index/sort\\_dir:asc](http://vimeo.com/musicstore/search/page:1/sort:index/sort_dir:asc)

**CCMixer** <http://ccmixter.org/>

dig.ccmixer is devoted to helping you find music, which is liberally licensed under a [Creative Commons](#) license so you *already have permission* to use this music in your video, podcast, school project, personal music player, or where ever...

**Free Music Archive** <http://freemusicarchive.org/curator/video>

Free Music Archive provides a library of legal audio downloads.

**Mobygratis** <http://www.mobygratis.com/>

This site is a resource for independent and non-profit filmmakers, film students, and anyone in need of free music for their independent, non-profit film, video, or short. Moby has made a selection of over 150 tracks from his huge catalog of music available to license for free, via a simple online application system.

**Jamendo** <https://www.jamendo.com/en/welcome>

Jamendo is a site filled with nothing but Creative Commons licensed albums that take advantage of all the various versions of the license. Before using any of them, make sure you understand which version the album is using.

**Freesound.org:** There is no music at Freesound.org, just tens of thousands of various sound samples for use in sampling, all of them licensed under the Creative Commons Sampling Plus License.

**Sound Cloud Creative Commons**

<https://soundcloud.com/search?q=creative%20commons>

sound cloud tracks shared under a Creative Commons license.