



Copyright Tip #1:

Placing Copyrighted Articles on a Web Site

UC Davis and the California Digital Library have licensed access to various electronic resources. The right to post the fulltext of these resources to an online site is dependent upon the license agreements and the terms of copyright. This handout will give you some tips about how to proceed. For more information, contact Carolyn Kopper at 530-752-6205 or cskopper@ucdavis.edu.

Can I post the fulltext (PDF, HTML, Word etc.) of an article from an online source?

If you are not the copyright owner, do not place an article on a publicly accessible web site unless you have obtained permission. Publishers will not even allow you to place a copy of an online article on a restricted "Intranet" site without prior permission and, possibly, payment.

As an alternative, you can post the article's URL. Use the new "Copy and Paste Citation" feature on UC-eLinks to generate a persistent link to the article:

1. Go to one of the article databases (e.g. PubMed, PsycINFO, ERIC) and find the citation for the desired online article.
2. Click on the yellow UC-eLinks button for the desired full-text/PDF article.
4. Scroll down the page Click on "Copy and Paste Citation and Full-Text Link to Your Document."
5. A screen will appear with a citation for the article and a URL that can be used to link to the article..
6. Copy the URL and paste it in your document as a persistent hyperlink to the PDF of the article.
7. Someone using your website will click on the title of the article and will be taken to the UC-eLinks page. At that point use the first option, "Full-text available from [the publisher or online provider...]," to obtain the PDF of the article.

If an article is only in print, can I scan it and put the PDF version on a web site?

Yes. You can do it if all of the following guidelines are met:

1. The web page that includes the scanned PDF article must be limited to officially enrolled students.
2. You are not providing public access to the text of the scanned article on a publicly accessible web page.
3. Your use of the article meets fair use guidelines. <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/about/copyip/copy.php>
4. You are using it for only one quarter and will never use it again.

If you want to use the materials for an additional quarter, you must do the following:

You must obtain permission, and perhaps pay a fee for the use of each scanned article. You can do this by either going to the Copyright Clearance Center (www.copyright.com), or by contacting the publisher of the journal in which the article appeared. However you receive permission, it must be in writing and in your possession.

What if I am the author of the article? Do I still have to get permission or pay for its use?

Yes, probably. Many publishers require you to give up the rights to your article as a condition of publishing. Some of them will let you use the article; others will only let you use certain versions of the article. To find out the policies of various publishers, go to <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php>. If the publisher is not listed, contact the publisher directly.

As you publish articles, consider negotiating with the publisher to retain some uses of your article. The UC eScholarship Repository (<http://repositories.cdlib.org/escholarship/>) allows you to publish articles and retain full rights to your work. If you have retained full rights to your published article, consider adding it to the UC eScholarship Postprints and you can then link directly to it. For more information, go to <http://repositories.cdlib.org/postprints/about.html>.

Is there anywhere I can publish my work where I would always retain full control over it?

Yes. The University of California's eScholarship Repository. The UC eScholarship Repository (<http://repositories.cdlib.org/escholarship/>) allows you to publish articles and retain full rights to your work.

If you have already retained full rights to your published article, consider adding it to the UC eScholarship PostPrints and you can then link directly to it. For more information, go to <http://repositories.cdlib.org/postprints/about.html>

Where can I go to find out information on copyright policies at UC Davis and elsewhere?

Go to: <http://www.lib.ucdavis.edu/ul/about/copyip/copy.php>