



Citing Creative Commons-Licensed Flickr Images

Introduction

In the history of copyright, there have been two designations, public domain and copyright. Works in the public domain, such as U.S. government materials can be used freely by anyone. Copyrighted works can only be used with permission of the copyright owner(s). *Note:* it is not necessary to designate a work as copyrighted. It is automatically so, unless otherwise stated.

Creative Commons (<http://www.creativecommons.org>) provides multiple intermediate licensing possibilities. Many creators of web materials are using Creative Commons. Flickr, the photosharing website (<http://www.flickr.com>), has provided users with the ability to apply Creative Commons licensing to the images posted there as well as the ability to keyword search the Flickr site for Creative Commons images.

This handout explains how to search for and appropriately cite Creative Commons-licensed images found on Flickr.

Search for images

Note: it is not necessary to have an account on the Flickr site to search for or use images.

1. On the Flickr site, click the Search button (do not enter a keyword).
2. In the next screen, to the right of the Search button, click Advanced Search.
3. Enter your keyword(s), content/media types, and date range (optional).
4. Check Only search within Creative Commons-licensed content.
5. When you get the results, select and click on an image.
6. Click the Actions dropdown box and select All Sizes.
7. To the right of License (at the top), click the link Some rights reserved.
8. Read the Creative Commons license information applied to the image.
9. As long as the license permits, you may post the work on your page.

Download image

1. Select the image size you wish to download.
2. Right click that image and Save Image As (Firefox) or Save Picture As (Internet Explorer).
3. Navigate to the folder where you wish to save the image and click Save.

Cite image

1. Copy the URL for the image.
2. Paste it underneath the image in your web page.

Tip: Do not make the link active. If you do, viewers may click the link and leave your web site. (You want them to stay on *your* web site.)