

# LIBRARY RESOURCES



med.UND.edu/library 701.777.3993

# Reusing images you find on the internet

## *without breaking the law*

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Use this guide to safely re-use images you find on the internet without violating copyright law

## Why can't I just grab any image off google and put it in my power point?

- If an image is copyrighted, that means it is **illegal** for you to re-use it anywhere. Really.
- That said, you could argue that your re-use falls under the only legal exception for using copyrighted works, “**Fair Use**”, if you plan to use the work for purposes like:
  - criticism
  - news reporting
  - scholarship
  - comment
  - teaching
  - or research
- You can also re-use images without worrying about fair use if the image you're re-using has one of the six **creative commons licenses**, not a traditional copyright license.
  - creative commons is a type of legal license that allows creators to specify how their works may be re-used by folks like you. Anyone can assign a creative commons license, simple by stating it somewhere on their work:



re-use, and they or

CC BY NC: only non-corporate entities



can re-use, but they

CC BY SA: anyone can re-use, they must



he can re-use, but they it

CC BY SA: anyone can re-use, they must



they must cite the



and they themselves

the CC license on their

new work



and they themselves

the CC license on their

new work

However, even if your re-use does qualify as Fair Use, **you still need to cite the original creators** of that image!

## How do I cite images in my presentation?

- cite images in a presentation just like you would in an article or paper, using an accepted citation style like APA, AMA, Vancouver, or MLA
- **On a poster** you can either:
  - place the image citations directly beneath your images
  - or use a figure number to refer to the citation located in a references section elsewhere on your poster
- **In a presentation** you can either
  - place image citations directly beneath your images (don't make them so small that they're illegible)
  - or follow common convention and include a references slide at the end of your presentation as well as offer to email your references to your audience.

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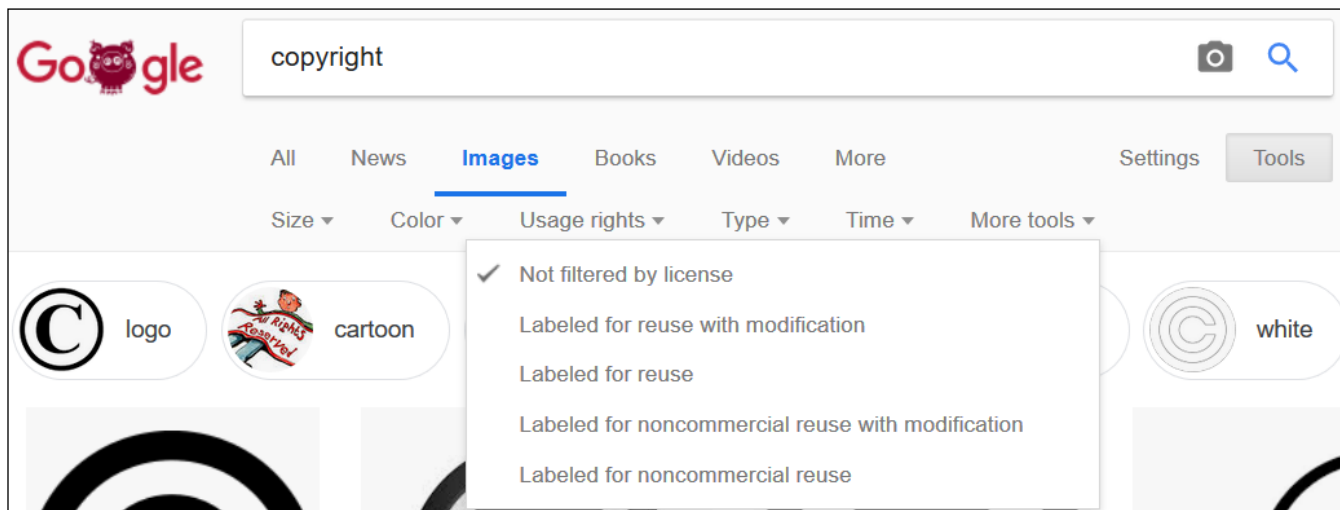
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### Where can I find images that I'm allowed to reuse?

There are many websites and search engines that let you browse creative commons-licensed images or images that are in the public domain.

- **Google** has special search filters to find images that allow reuse. Simply click “Images”, then “Tools”, then “Usage rights”, and select what you want.



- **Pixabay** and **Tumblr** are just two of many websites that have collections of creative commons images. There are different kinds of creative commons licenses, so be sure to check to the right of each image to see what kind of re-use is allowed. (commercial, non-commercial only, etc.) Licensing info on Tumblr is on the right beneath the image.
- **Flickr** has a section of their site called The Commons, which is a conglomeration of many institutions' photos, all of which are in the public domain (think universities and libraries and museums).
- **Wikipedia** also has a long list of public-domain image websites
- **Government websites** have images that are owned by you, the people, so you can use them

### If you're looking for medical images specifically:

- **The National Library of Medicine** runs two open-source image databases, MedPix, and Openi. These images are highly specific and medical in focus, but there are lots of them. You can re-use these images any way you like, just be sure to cite them: <https://medpix.nlm.nih.gov/home> and <https://openi.nlm.nih.gov/> They also have a website with historical images: the History of Medicine Digital Collections.
- **The National Institutes of Health** has a Tumblr page, with images organized into themed “albums”: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/nihgov/albums>
- **The CDC** maintains an online collection of public health images, the Public Health Image Library, or PHIL: <https://phil.cdc.gov/default.aspx>
- **University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill** has a digital collection of the numerous historical colored woodcuts in the library's first edition of De humani corporis fabrica libri septem: <https://dc.lib.unc.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/vesalius>